



# LANDIS ARBORETUM

T H E N E W S L E T T E R

Esperance, New York

WINTER 2007

VOLUME 26, NO. 1

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## Highlights of 2006



### DINNER-AUCTION NETS FUN, FUNDS

by Thom O'Connor

The Landis Arboretum holiday dinner-auction drew close to 100 participants to the dining room of the Café at the Caverns on Tuesday, December 5. By the time the festive evening ended, 80 donated items from more than 60 Capital Region businesses and supporters of Landis—coupled with raffle drawings for a 2006 Harley-Davidson Softail® Deluxe motorcycle, a donated hand-sewn quilt, and a bidding war for the professional services of Chef Michael DeSalvatore—netted the Arboretum nearly \$15,000 in sorely needed operating funds.

The Tisch Family Trio provided musical accompaniment to the event. The students of SUNY Cobleskill's Culinary Arts Hospitality and Tourism

Department under the direction of Chef JoAnne Cloughly provided the creative energy and culinary flair behind the creative three-course dinner for this signature event for the

Arboretum. Cloughly heads the newly energized kitchen at Howe Caverns.



Photo by Gloria Van Dwyne

### EDUCATION IN REVIEW

by Susan Carver

2006 saw positive strides in education and outreach here at Landis—in large measure due to overall increased marketing efforts at the Arboretum. Our public programs grew from 296 people in 2005 to 444 people in 2006. Toddlers to octogenarians enjoyed a myriad of programs taught either by hired instructors or Landis staff and volunteers. Star parties, led by the Albany Area Amateur Astronomers (AAAA), continue to be very popular program series. I hope you get a chance to spend an evening observing the sky with the AAAA members. They have a great love of the night sky and incredible telescopes to view it with. The moons of Saturn await you!

Programs for schools and youth groups also expanded in 2006 from three in 2005 to eight in 2006, attracting 282 people to Landis. We provided programs for the Duaneburg Elementary School, Sharon Springs Central School, Woodlawn School (Schenectady), Schoharie 4-H, summer program in Jefferson, SUNY Cobleskill, Canajoharie Central School, and a Brownie Girl Scout troop from

**"Having the professional skills and quick humor of a professional auctioneer was invaluable in reminding us why we were all there..."—Bonnie Keller, event chair**

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(below, left) Stan Hurban of Esperance, winner of the Harley and friend. (below, right) Landis's *Hike Back in Time* program in November drew a large group of intrepid hikers who viewed 400 year-old trees in the ancient forest at the Arboretum.

Photos by Anne Donnelly

