



# LANDIS ARBORETUM

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

Esperance, New York

FALL 2006

VOLUME 25, NO. 4

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### Man on a Mission:

## O'Connor Named Executive Director

by Nolan Marciniac

"It's been a more challenging position than any I've ever had," newly named Landis executive director Thom O'Connor stated.



Given that he has had more than forty years of experience in the communication field, including working for many high-profile international corporations in New York City, that says a lot.

By all accounts,

O'Connor is up to the challenge.

While O'Connor and the Board are still working to formulate a strategic plan to take Landis into the 21st Century, the new director says that, in general, his personal goal is "to improve on the foundation by building on the past and to take the Arboretum to a new level." To that end, he aims to create new interest in the Arboretum and thereby establish a new constituency, increasing the number of members, volunteers, and, most critically, financial contributors.

So far, he's worked assiduously to "put a human face on the Arboretum," insisting on personalizing every transaction with the public so that Landis is recognized not only as the community's "backyard" but also as "a nationally known commodity." Landis will continue to host the plant sales and other events that have become part of its tradition.

But noting the Landis Arboretum's unique "power to pull people into the incredible energy of this place," O'Connor mentioned new opportunities such as a 5K run on the grounds, which would bring area schools to the Arboretum. Stocking the ponds will mean a fishing derby for children and families. An extensive renovation of the Meeting House is another possibility.

But a partnership with the Schoharie ARC is perhaps the project which excites O'Connor the most. The ARC is national organization of and for people with mental retardation and related developmental disabilities and their families. Landis staff is currently working with ARC volunteer Dr. Maria Kuethe to develop a program which will connect these developmentally delayed adults with the natural world by integrating them into the Arboretum's volunteer work force.

O'Connor is also actively pursuing grant monies, media coverage, and partnerships with other institutions such as the Cornell Plantations and the Berkshire Botanical Gardens, and, locally, the Old Stone Fort, Howe Caverns, as well as a host of area and Capital District businesses and organizations. He maintained that "partnerships are critical... 'it takes a village' to run the Arboretum. The synergy that results can create something that is greater than the sum of its parts."

Recognizing the importance of the volunteers, O'Connor confesses to being "awed" by the number of "people who are passionate about this place."

O'Connor recognized the Arboretum's potential at the end of a long day in August, when Alex and Melissa Dupin were married on the grounds—another first for Landis. After the ceremony, he witnessed kids playing croquet and tossing a Frisbee. Couples, still in their wedding attire but barefoot, relaxed on the lawns, and guests, some in heels, wandered the trails as the sun set on the Schoharie Valley. For the first time in his short tenure, he realized "what this place might be. It's not just a display garden for plants. That day the Arboretum came alive for me."

Thom O'Connor is someone who, by his own admission, "can't tell a bird from a bush," but he brings a new and vital vision to the Landis Arboretum.

**O'Connor confesses to being "awed" by the number of "people who are passionate about this place."**

*You are invited to attend the 2006*

*Landis Holiday Festival Dinner & Auction*

*at Howe Caverns on Tuesday, December 5 from 4:30 - 8:30 pm*

This year, the Landis Arboretum offers a leisurely entry into the gift-giving season.

Starting with a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres, this early evening festive fundraiser will proceed to a tantalizing three-course dinner and hand-made

desserts prepared by SUNY Culinary students under the direction of acclaimed Chef Joanne Cloughly. This special evening at Howe Caverns will include—

• A silent and LIVE AUCTION, highlighted by bidding for a personal chef to prepare a gourmet meal in the winning bidder's home/office.

- Optional reduced-rate group tours of Howe Caverns will be available to guests, courtesy of General Manager John Sagendorf, who donated the space to the Arboretum for the event.
- The Tisch Family Trio will provide music.

*Continued on page 2*



THE LANDIS ARBORETUM NEWSLETTER is published quarterly for its members. The Arboretum's mission is to foster the appreciation of trees and other plants and their importance in our environment.

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The Arboretum is located one and one-half miles north of Route 20 in Esperance. Follow the signs from the village to Lape Road. The Arboretum is one-quarter mile straight ahead. Visit our website for more information and directions.

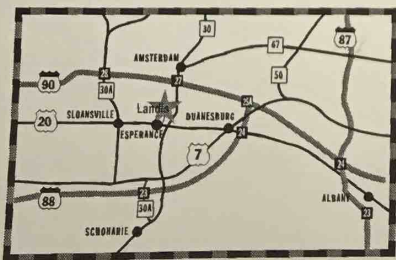


Photo by Fred Breglia

# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

by Barbara Brabetz

The leaves are changing color and falling to the ground. The chipmunk searches for the last nut to stash away for bitterly cold nights ahead. The smell of snow is in the air. These are Nature's signs of transition.

This autumn brings other changes to the Arboretum. We say farewell and thanks to Sonja Javarone as she retires as president, volunteer director, and board member. Sonja is changing as well—to stalwart supporter and volunteer. The Arboretum is fortunate to welcome Thom O'Connor to our family. As a marketing consultant in early 2005, he helped bring the Arboretum out of the shadows and into the local limelight. As our new executive director, Thom will increase public awareness of the Arboretum across the Northeast.

As the snow melts, the Arboretum will be working to implement a new, easy-to-use database of the Arboretum's holdings. We will be one of thirteen arboreta nationwide working with Plant Collections, a shared system that enables information from multiple institutions to be integrated into a comprehensive inventory, a crucial first stage in coordinating a continent-wide approach to plant preservation. Thanks to Boyce Tankersley, Director of Living Plant Documentation, we have received a grant of \$4,500 to update our computer network and software.

Before the leaves emerge, the Arboretum will be abuzz with new faces. This spring we will begin an innovative program that will enable clients of the ARC to participate in the horticulture activities at the Arboretum and to learn marketable

*Continued on page 4*

## THANK YOU

TO STERLING INSURANCE FOR THEIR GENEROSITY.

*Holiday Festival—continued from page 1.*

- the highly anticipated drawing of the winning ticket for a "fully dressed" 2006 Harley Davidson Softail® Deluxe Motorcycle, valued at \$17,000. It can be seen at NBT Bank (Duanesburg).
- and the beautiful hand-stitched Storm at Sea quilt donated by Sonja Javarone.

Tickets sales at \$60 each are expected to be brisk. The dinner menu and detailed invitation to this memorable fundraising event will be mailed to all members in time to include this evening to your holiday calendar of "must do" events.

## THANK YOU

TO ALL WHO GENEROUSLY CONTRIBUTED GIFTS AND MORE THAN THEIR SHARE OF TIME.

**Catskill Mountain Foundation**, for 800 copies of the May issue of the Catskill Mountain Region *Guide* which included a five page article about the Arboretum.

**Barbara Brabetz**, for opening her home to all volunteers for a BBQ—a great success, despite the inclement weather.

**Lawson Harris**, for Thursdays doing financial work above the call of duty.

**Miller Printing**, of Amsterdam which meets our ridiculous deadlines, no matter what!

Landis staffer **Randy Proctor**, who combined security concerns, some idle lumber, and a little volunteer time to construct a secure tool cabinet in our treasured 19th century barn. "We need to safeguard every piece of equipment we have," says Randy. Now there's a place and a hook for smaller gas-powered equipment such as hand drills, powers saws, and easily "lost" hand-tools.

**Aanen Aanenson**, of Amsterdam, who donated the new picnic tables.

**Jeff Schworm**, for the plant donations.

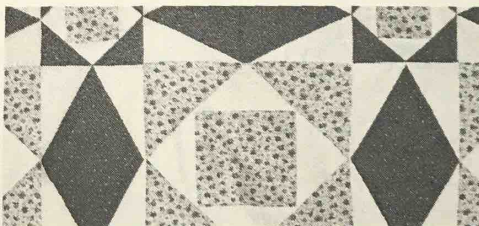
**Mike Urban**, for producing a large map of acres of the Arboretum with land-use proposal.

**Kintz Plastics** of Howes Cave, which created and donated 50 tee shirts with Arboretum signature for Plant Sale.

WAMC's **Susan Arbetter**, for publicizing the Plant Sale on three separate Vox Pop programs. (WAMC/Northeast Public Radio is a regional public radio network serving parts of seven northeastern states.

**John M. McKeeby**, Executive Director, Schoharie River Project, for supporting for Tire Fest and bringing 14 much-needed volunteers from his organization.

**Corky Wilber Christman**, of Duanesburg who donated an original, signed edition of Fred Lape's 1935 epic of the west, *Roll on Pioneers*, "... a story of strong men... strong women [and]... the price of human life that lies behind the history of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Hollywood."



**THE SIXTH ANNUAL RAFFLE QUILT**  
Tickets for the quilt are still available!  
It could be yours... Buy a raffle ticket!



**ONLY 300 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD!**  
Win a chopper—that's not just for guys!  
\$100 takes it all! The ultimate right-sized bike and waiting for you. Tickets still available.



# WISH LIST

## Equipment Wish List

- DR) We are looking for the following items (or estimated dollar amount to purchase items).
- 20 sheets of 3/4 in. exterior grade plywood (\$??)
  - 20 sturdy "carpenter's" sawhorses
  - 10 pairs of snowshoes
  - Laptop computer
  - Picnic tables and benches (\$250)
  - DR brush mower (\$2,500)
  - Hardback rakes, shovels, loppers, and mulch fork (\$200)
  - Trowels and other small gardening tools (\$200)
  - Troy Built hand cart (\$200)
- And always, the large tractor—
- A John Deere 790 (or machine of equal quality) 4wd, 30hp, with backhoe and loader (\$20,000)
  - Snow blower
  - Used toner printer cartridges

## Project Wish List

We are looking for volunteers familiar with the following tasks (or equivalent dollar amount to complete these projects).

- Plumber for odds and ends (\$300)
- Mechanic to work on our pickup trucks
- Stone walls around the greenhouse and walls around perennial garden need rebuilding. (\$800)

## Education Wish List

- Animal skins in good condition
- Wildlife guides
- Insect collections
- Compasses, trowels, pond ID books
- Bird seed (sunflower hearts, suet, or niger seed)
- Tree identification books
- Leaf identification books
- White enamel pans
- Tall rubber boots
- Walkie-talkies
- Environmental science tools
- GPS for bluebird nest monitoring
- Art supplies

## Donations

- \$3,000 (ea.) for printing new and updated brochures (determined by quantity)

# HORTICULTURIST'S CORNER

by Fred Breglia, Director of Horticulture and Operations and Thom O'Connor, Executive Director

## Renovation of Historic Quarry Garden



Photo of Fred by Sonja Jaturone

Early in the history of the Landis Arboretum, founder Fred Lape excavated stone

from a bedrock ledge located above parking lot and information kiosk. He used the stone to construct many of the stone walls that visitors see at the Landis Arboretum today. Over time, the removal of stone created a small pit, which immediately caught Lape's fancy as a potential asset to the Arboretum and point of interest to visitors. With his vision as his guide, he continued to remove stone to create and extend walkways and walls around an area that naturally became known as the Quarry Garden. Over time and with limited help and funds, however, the area fell into disrepair.

This year, the Landis Arboretum's Horticulture Committee launched an initiative to reclaim the Quarry Garden as an important attraction for visitors. With the aid of SUNY Cobleskill plant science intern and Landis Arboretum's gardener Erin McKenna, Grounds Maintenance Staff Randy Proctor, and the assistance of summer interns, work has been done to reclaim and restore the Arboretum's historic Quarry Garden. Stone walkways have been re-set and expanded, brush has been cleared from the Quarry and surrounding areas, and the re-setting and construction of the stone walls are now nearly complete. Thanks to Art Coleman and Bill Valpone for helping me climb and prune all of the trees around the Quarry, as well as for their continued help with pruning the rest of the Arboretum's specimens. Special thanks to Erin McKenna for donating innumerable hours working on redesigning and planting the Quarry Garden. Erin has also given countless hours to maintaining our Van Loveland Perennial Garden. In addition, she has propagated and donated many plants to our plant sales and to our gardens.

The front of the Quarry has been designated as a rock garden, which will be used to showcase numerous sun-loving, dry-site plants, including some very interesting dwarf conifers.

The back (northern) side of the site is more of a woodland garden, highlighting ferns, woodland poppies, and other woodland plants.

On your next visit to the Landis Arboretum be sure to visit our historic Quarry Garden and see a part Landis Arboretum that has not been opened to the public in a very long time. Take care while walking on the newly constructed paths because some stones may still be a little loose. Wear sturdy footwear or hiking boots.

## Tire Fest

Saturday, September 30, 2006, was a classic fall day with sunny skies and cool temperatures. Forty-seven "tire-less" volunteers, including Landis Board members, students from area schools and colleges, and fourteen members of the Schoharie River Project (Burtonsville). Volunteers worked seamlessly to collect and purge the Arboretum of an estimated 2,000 abandoned tires. Because of the good weather and numerous volunteers, the Saturday event surpassed last year's tire count by more than 1,000 tires. The clean-up was made possible in part from a grant from the Iroquois Pipeline's Land Enhancement and Acquisition Fund. The tires will be hauled to a recycling plant.

## What's next?

- The Arboretum's Fall Workfest will take place on Saturday, October 28, when dozens of volunteers help ready the Arboretum grounds and buildings for the winter weather ahead.
- The Winter Holiday Dinner & Auction is scheduled for Tuesday, December 5, at Howe Caverns. See page 1 for more information.



Tire-less volunteers taking a break at one of the new picnic tables donated by Aanen Aanenson.



Tire Fest volunteers pose in front of some of the more than 2,000 tires removed from the Arboretum.

Photo of Tire Fest volunteers by Anne Donnelly



## LANDIS PORTRAITS

by Nolan Marciniac

A series about the people behind the plants at the Arboretum



### Lisa Murphy

Lisa Murphy grew up in Alaska, where she composted herring and used seaweed to mulch the family garden. She took a degree in microbiology in Oregon, settled in Southern California, lived in Japan, came to Upstate NY with an Irish husband—and found the Landis Arboretum, that “hidden little wonder with multimillion dollar views.”

In her gardening life, she's had to adapt a lot and learn even more. She discovered that there are compensations for the growing conditions of Southern California, with its Mediterranean climate “where everything grows.” She misses being able to grow lavender and rosemary as perennials to be sure, but the change of the seasons in the Northeast delights her, winter especially. It's nothing short of miraculous, she asserted, to see the same place be transformed by the cycle of the year.

The ginkgo emerges as common denominator. The tree links her past with her present. Lisa inherited an 80-year-old ginkgo at her home in Oregon and learned to love the ginkgo not only on the West Coast but especially in Japan, where she lived for more than three years and where its ancient history is celebrated. In the fall, she said, the color of the parasol-shaped leaves is most beautiful, and then the tree drops all of its leaves all at once to form a gold-colored carpet. Like haiku.

Right now, her gardens are very much “a work in progress.” She's had to learn the basics of the Northeast perennial garden and vegetable gardening in raised beds, and Landis has been an invaluable resource.

Two years ago, Lisa saw a sign for the Landis spring plant sale. Ever since then, she's served as a volunteer. Volunteering gives her an opportunity for “picking brains” to acquire “people knowledge.”

For Lisa, Landis seems to be the still point in her travels.



### Janet Vinyard

A former hospice nurse, she turned to her garden “to fill the soul” when it had been depleted. The corrective to death, Janet Vinyard said, is life. Nature contains both the end and the beginning. And everything natural, she maintained, is beautiful.

“There's just something about kneeling in the hot—or cold—dirt and watching...and then later gazing into the flower...and wondering,” she mused.

Janet served as librarian for the North American Lily Society for a good number of years and loves the contact she has had with people all over the world. Her interest in lilies began with her placing a \$40 order in a catalogue and following up on a note: “If you want to learn more about lilies, contact...” She raised lilies for the florist trade and, when she realized that she never saw her plants bloom, began to engage in hybridizing.

In 1992, her husband saw a sign for the Arboretum's spring plant sale and, when they visited, she immediately pronounced it “a great place.” She could think of no more fitting background for her daughter's high school graduation portraits than Landis. (Janet took the photographs herself.)

Then she began volunteering at Landis, at first working in the greenhouse to propagate plants for the spring plant sale. “There's nothing longer than February and March,” she said. Although she's convinced that she has more plants than she needs or wants, every plant sale convinces her that “there's always room for one more plant.”

An inveterate gardener, Janet said that one of the best things about volunteering at Landis is that “it takes me out of my own garden” and introduces her to a new circle of friends... We start talking about plants and go from there.”

Besides, she said, thinking of her experiences at Landis, “All that beauty—we should give something back.”

*From the President's Desk—continued from page 2.* skills for the future. We're very excited to begin this new partnership and can only speculate what wonderful fruits it will bear.

As the animals awake from their winter slumber, the Arboretum will be the place to experience new events and programs—educational offerings for kids of all ages, a 5-K Family Fun Run, a fishing derby, and a foray into hosting weddings and special events. In addition, plans already are under consideration to revitalize our signature

plant sales, increase attendance at our festive Garden Party, expand activities for the Lape Day Celebration, and broaden our sphere of alliances and influence in order to extend visibility of the Arboretum as never before.

Transition is not only a time of change, but also rebirth. Please renew your commitment to all that makes the Landis Arboretum so special. Please join us for a program or event or consider volunteering for an hour or two. You'll be reborn!

## Landis Staff Readies “Guide for Guides”

by Anne Donnelly

The Arboretum staff has completed a “guide for guides,” hoping to make touring Landis an informative and educational experience for groups.

The tours of the “Arboretum Trail,” beginning and ending at the Farm-house, will take approximately an hour and cover the Fred Lape Trail, most of the Woodland Trail, and the Great Oak Trail. Tours will be offered not only to “VIPs,” but also to groups with special interests and visitors who may be uncomfortable walking the grounds alone. Landis anticipates that these tours will provide a source of additional income.

The guide is patterned after the introductory tour of the Arboretum that Fred Breglia, Landis arborist, gave to newly appointed Landis executive director Thom O'Connor on a four-wheeler. Thom had the foresight to carry a tape recorder with him and then transcribed the tape. Anne Donnelly has taken the transcription through several revisions. Thom O'Connor, Sonja Javarone, and Ken Hotopp have also contributed edits.

The script is not laden with scientific nomenclature, but it is rather a narrative intended to provide a baseline which the tour guide may customize according to the interests of the group.

All guides will be asked to note questions asked during the tour, as well as to suggest recommendations. The Arboretum will request that participants complete an evaluation form after their tour.

For those members interested in serving as guides, the script is available in the Arboretum office in both hardcopy and CD format.





## FOCUS ON EDUCATION

Susan Carver

The past two months have been exciting months for educational programs here at Landis.

We hosted a Project Learning Tree (PLT) workshop in late September. PLT is a 34-year-old environmental education program which provides an activity guide for teachers of kindergarten through grade 8. Workshop participants, who included DEC foresters, a SUNY Cobleskill student, informal educators, and teachers, explored tree-focused poetry, land use, math, social studies, and other subject areas.

In late September, Landis had an outreach table at the New York Power Authority in Blenheim for the Wildlife Festival and at Esperance Fun Day. Thanks go out to Trina Bassoff and Thom O'Connor for staffing those outreach events.

In the middle of September, three SUNY Cobleskill Wildlife Management labs hiked to the Ancient Forest to survey the trees in a small plot and measured the 'diameter at breast height' of the trees in the plot. During our hike, we found lots of red eft (the terrestrial stage of the Eastern newt), the smallest red-backed salamander we had ever seen, and many neat looking mushrooms.

In early September, Sy Lloyd, a retired high school science teacher and collector of wildlife skeletons, brought a SUV load of animal skeletons with his wife Jan to Landis for the "Bones, Them Bones" program. Based on the skeletal evidence, Mr. Lloyd told some amazing stories about the lives of several animals. One was the story of a Canada goose that had a broken leg reset at the wrong angle. Another was the tale of an 11-month-old deer that died of starvation because of its poor teeth.

George Steele's family nature programs continue to be popular and lots of fun. We look forward to the programs that George will be offering next year.

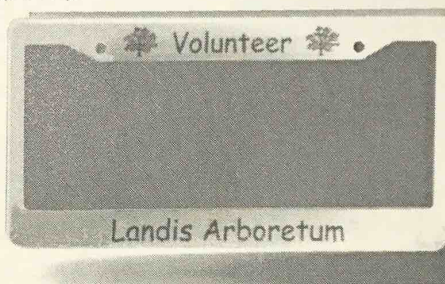
Hopefully you have received a copy of the September 2006-February 2007 *Coming Attractions*. As you may have noticed, Landis is offering many more programs this late fall and

winter than ever before. We hope to see you at one of these programs.

Should you have any program ideas for the next program cycle, please let us know either at [landisfun@midtel.net](mailto:landisfun@midtel.net) or 518-875-6935.

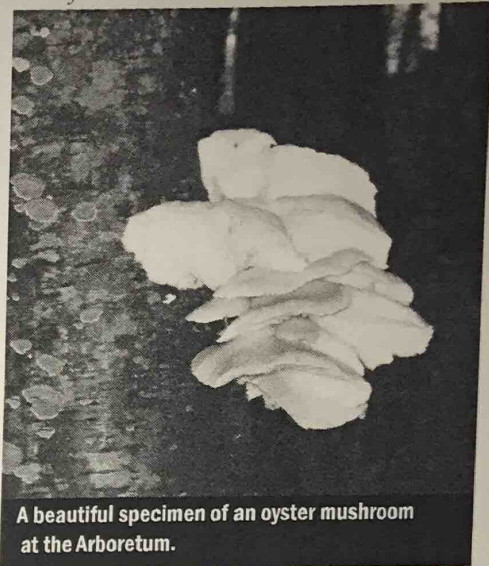
### Volunteer News

On Sunday, October 1, between all the raindrops, the Board of Trustees served a tasty supper to about 30 Landis volunteers at the home of Board President Barbara Brabetz. Following the meal, each volunteer received a certificate of appreciation and the new cool "Volunteer—Landis Arboretum" license plate frame. If you are a Landis volunteer and were unable to attend the event, please stop by the office to pick up your license plate frame. (below).



If you have some free time before the end of the year, please consider donating some of that time to Landis:

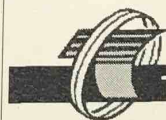
Photo by Susan Carver.



A beautiful specimen of an oyster mushroom at the Arboretum.

- We always need help with buildings and grounds: the Fall Workfest would be a good introduction.
- The Holiday Party Committee, to help plan and staff this enjoyable holiday event.
- Office help.
- Planning and teaching educational programs.

The Acorn Gift Shop needs volunteers to help operate the shop on weekends. Weekday volunteers are also needed for the shop and to help in the office. Call **518-875-6935** for more information.



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A Boatload of Thanks *by Bonnie Keller*

## Fall Plant Sale Volunteers

**Landis is grateful to the following people who put in hundreds of hours helping to make the Fall Plant Sale a rousing success!**

Bern Allanson  
Edith Balogh  
Linda Bevins  
Paul Blair  
Barbara Brabetz  
John Brust  
Warren Burton  
Mim Butzel  
Margaret Carabelliera  
Prof. Maria Clement  
and SUNY Cobleskill  
Floriculture Students  
Dick and Marion  
Clowe  
Art Coleman  
Dominique DiResta  
Cathy Foster  
Ben Fox  
Alan French  
Jack Fritz  
Marie Giokas  
Mike and Sue  
Gutbezahl  
Lawson and Priscilla  
Harris

Bob Hennig  
Amy Holowka  
Katie Horn-Scarpulla  
Ken and Marion  
Hotopp  
Tom Horton  
Amy Howansky  
Diane Janhowski  
Sonja Javarone  
Bonnie Keller  
Judith Lott  
Nolan Marciniac  
Erin McKenna  
Claudia McLaughlin  
Suzanne Meeker  
Ron Neadle  
Gina Nielson  
Gil and Gladys O'Brien  
Thom O'Connor  
Bob and Carole Olsen  
Jerry Peters  
Barbara Pollock  
Rena Powell  
Jeanne Post-Sourmail  
Meryn Pritchard  
Jeff Schworm  
Beth See  
Viktoria Serafin  
Skala Family  
Jane Smith

Nate Smith  
Penny Steffen  
Chuck Stevens & Boy  
Scout Troop 501  
Colleen Towle  
Scott Trees  
Grace Trees  
Donna Vincent  
Janet Vinyard  
Mary Beth Vought  
Christopher Whitman  
Toine Wyckoff  
Nick Zabowsky

### Book Sale.

Thanks to Ben Fox for new shelving, to Catnap Books, Edith Cumini, Environmental Clearinghouse of Schenectady, Herm Finkbeiner, Bob and Carol Olsen, Owl Pen Books, Andrew Paige, and Merv Pritchard, and Larry Sombke, for two boxes of his book *Beautiful Easy Flower Gardens*, (retail value \$24.95 each); and to Donna Vincent for sheets.

### Bake Sale.

Thanks to the following for providing goodies: Virginia Alkemper  
Paul Blair  
Jane Corby  
Marie DiCristofaro-Smith  
Marie Giokas  
Priscilla Harris  
Bonnie Keller  
Jodi Krause-Proctor  
Gina Nielson  
Robbie Paine  
Penny Stefan  
Donna Vincent  
Toine Wyckoff  
**A special thanks to —**  
Anne Donnelly and Bonnie Keller, who provided the resources to give the volunteers lunch during the plant sale and to Donna Vincent for arranging that everyone was well fed.

## Native Plant Committee Report

*by Ed Miller*

The committee's planting has been completed for the year. This year, only a few new species have been added to the collection since we are very close to our goal of having all NYS's native woody plants. Even with relatively high survival rates, with 200 species in the collection, keeping up with attrition has kept us busy.

We've also removed a few species after we discovered that the nursery suppliers had sent us alien species (e.g., Asiatic bitter-sweet) instead of the natives. This year, we—intentionally—planted Norway spruce so that visitors could compare it to the native red and white species. We might have left the Oriental bittersweet for a similar comparison, except that it is so invasive.

Three very noticeable changes this year include: rebuilding the bog garden, constructing a new bridge on the spur trail, and raising the two remaining sections of the Willow Pond Trail. The entire trail system is now well drained and can be easily mowed as part of normal maintenance.

The new bog garden is an improvement over the old. The plastic tank has been replaced with a log structure lined with a rubber sheet. It should prove flexible enough to resist the freezing action that caused the old tank to develop leaks. It looks better too. All the grassy sedges were discarded, making the bog plants much more visible. There is a surprising diversity of both woody and herbaceous species. Our cranberries are now ripening, and we should have four species of orchids blooming next year, if they survive the winter.

The bridge on the spur trail was constructed because the 12-inch culvert washed out during the spring and summer rains. The new bridge can be easily seen from the main trail and should encourage visitors to look more closely at our native wetland plants.

The trail has also been raised at the point where the Acorn Trail leaves the Willow Pond Trail, and drainage has been improved. The trails are seeded and mulched and should be very attractive by spring.

We've had a significant number of visits by botanical groups this year. The educational potential of the Arboretum's native plant collection is beginning to be realized.

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# WORKSHOP AND SPECIAL EVENT REGISTRATION

NAME		PHONE	
ADDRESS		CITY	
		ZIP	
Workshop/Event	Date	Number of members attending @ \$ = \$ subtotal	Number of nonmembers attending @ \$ = \$ subtotal
			\$Total
Payment Method : Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Please make payable to Landis Arboretum Credit Card: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard			
Card number		Exp. Date	
Signature			<b>Total \$</b>

## CALENDAR Upcoming Events

For registration and information call 518-875-6935 or e-mail landfun@midtel.net. Or use the registration form above, enclose payment, and mail to: Susan A. Carver, Education Director, Landis Arboretum, Lape Road, Box 186, Esperance, NY 12066-0186

All events take place at the Arboretum unless noted.

**Family programs** with nature educator George Steele begin at the Arboretum Meeting House. Programs are free, and no registration is necessary. Donations are greatly appreciated. Programs are held rain or shine.

### Tuesday Ticklers

The Landis education staff will lead programs exploring nature with children 4 and 5 years old. These programs are designed to tickle a child's curiosity about the natural world with hands-on activities. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy after the program. Registration required. \$4 per member child; \$5 per non-member child.

**\*Advance payment and registration** is required for all general classes and workshops, trips and Horticulture Certificate classes. For your convenience, payment can be made with Visa or MasterCard.

## OCTOBER

**\*22 (Sunday) 1-4pm**  
WORKSHOP

Helping Wildlife in Winter

An indoor/outdoor discussion of how to

help resident wildlife population survive in winter. Dress for weather. Workshop leader: Trina Bassoff. \$10 members, \$13 non-members. Presented by NYS Habitat for Wildlife

**28 (Saturday) 9am-3pm**

### FALL WORKFEST

Help us get the grounds ready for winter. Meet other volunteers. Lunch will be provided. Tools provided, or bring your own gloves and pruners. Quality tools and gloves also available in the Acorn Gift Shop.

**\*29 (Sunday) 1-4pm**

### WORKSHOP

Plants and Their Personalities

Explore the diverse uses of wild plants through each season. During this time of harvest, learn how to identify, harvest, prepare, and store these plants. Program will include wild snacks and tea, as well as samples of salves, lotions, and crafts. \$15 members, \$17 non-members. Workshop leader: Mira Nussbaum, Pinerock Center.

**28 (Friday) 7-8:30pm**

### FAMILY PROGRAM

Halloween Owl Prowl

Join us as we prowl the Arboretum's woods listening for owls. We'll start with a talk about owls and their behavior—then it's into the woods to listen for owls. Free. Donations requested.

## NOVEMBER

**\*4 (Saturday) 1-5pm**

### WORKSHOP

The Sixth Sense: Awaken Your Intuitive Mind

We have inherent perceptual abilities beyond our five physical senses that we are not taught to recognize and develop. You'll learn simple methods to use

this awareness in landscaping, gardening, healing, and relationships. \$10 members; \$13 non-members. Workshop leader: David Yarrow, Turtle Eye Land Sanctuary.

**\*5 (Sunday) 1-3:30pm**

### WORKSHOP

Hike Back in Time

Landis education staff will lead a hike into to visit remnant of an ancient forest, featuring 400-year-old trees and a 175-year-old grapevine. We will discuss ancient forest ecology and ways of identifying this rare forest. Hot beverages and homemade goodies will be served after the hike. Registration required. Free

**\*7 (Tuesday) 10:30-11:30am**

### TICKLER: Birds

Registration by November 3.

**17 (Friday) 8pm**

### 25 (Friday) 8pm

ALBANY AREA ASTRONOMERS Star Party

**\*27 (Monday) 4-6pm**

### WORKSHOP

Make a Holiday Wreath

Create your own holiday wreath under the guidance of Plantscapes owner and Landis trustee Donna Vincent. Donna will provide the fresh balsam, ribbon, pinecones, and red berries for the wreath. Additional decorations will be available at an extra fee. Registration by November 20. \$25 members, \$30 non-members

## DECEMBER

**\*5 (Tuesday) 5-8:30pm**

### HOLIDAY FESTIVAL DINNER AND AUCTION

A Winter Celebration at Howe Caverns

A three-course dinner and dessert prepared by the culinary department of SUNY Cobleskill under the direction of Chef JoAnne Cloughly. The live auction will culminate in bidding for a personal chef to prepare a gourmet meal in the winning bidder's home/office. Landis is requesting donations for the auction. This is an important fund-raising event and enjoyable occasion. More information will be available in a separate mailing.

**\*5 (Tuesday) 10:30-11:30am**

Tickler: Ready for Winter?

Registration by December.

**13 (Friday) 8pm**

Winter Solstice Celebration

**15 (Friday) 8pm**

ALBANY AREA ASTRONOMERS Star Party

## JANUARY

**14 (Sunday) 1-3pm**

Second Sunday Snowshoe

**\*16 (Tuesday) 10:30-11:30am**

Tickler: Snow

Registration by January 12.

**21 (Sunday) 1-4pm**

Winter Tree Identification

## FEBRUARY

**\*5 (Tuesday) 10:30-11:30am**

Tickler: Animal Tracks

**11 (Sunday) 1-3pm**

Second Sunday Snowshoe

**21 (Wednesday) 11-1pm**

Animal Tracks: Tracking by Snowshoe

## MARCH

**11 (Sunday) 1-3pm**

Second Sunday Snowshoe

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## DO YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING EARLY!

**The Acorn Gift Shop,**  
located in the Arboretum's farmhouse,  
is the perfect place to pick up unusual gifts for your  
favorite gardener or anyone who likes nature.

### Gift Items

We will have lots of new items for children and adults, including—

- quality pruning tools
- Arboretum tote bags and t-shirts
- photographs and prints
- mud gloves
- finger puppets,
- specialty soaps,
- gardening books
- children's books.

### Gift Idea

Buy a membership for a friend or relative.  
A year's individual membership starts at \$35. Please check the  
membership brochure enclosed in this issue.

**Stop by, browse, buy, and say hello.**

The Gift Shop will be open from 10–4 on Saturday and Sunday.

Regular hours are Monday–Friday, 10 am to 3:30 pm.

Someone in the office will assist you.

**All proceeds from the gift shop help the Arboretum.**

## Did you know...facts about Landis

### The numbers—

- No admission charge. (\$5 donation suggested)
- 548 acres in Schoharie and Montgomery Counties
- 6 miles of trails.
- 40 acres of plantings from around the world.
- 2 old-growth forest groves with trees over 300 years old and 275-year old grapevine!

### The news—

- Landis is the only arboretum (public garden of trees and shrubs) in the region.
- Open daily dawn until dusk.
- The place for hiking, native tree and shrub research, picnicking, bird watching—and more.
- Landis offers botanical drawing, programs for pre-school children, and star gazing. Many of the programs we offer are free.
- The Winter and Spring Calendar of Events will be out in late January, early February.
- Landis has the best-looking trustees, staff, interns, and volunteers. The perennial gardens, vistas, special collections, and trails aren't bad either!

**Come see for yourself!**

For information call 518-875-6935 or email [landisfun@midtel.net](mailto:landisfun@midtel.net). Visit our website at [www.LandisArboretum.org](http://www.LandisArboretum.org).

**Make a donation or become a member anytime—see the enclosed brochure for membership information.**

**You can donate stock, or pay by credit card, cash, or check — and remember us in your estate planning..**

**Thank you  
Landis Arboretum**