The Sensory Garden at Laurelwood Arboretum.

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Friends of Laurelw ood Arboretum (FO LA) is m oving ahead w ith plans for the
Knippenberg E ducation C enter. “W e have a pressing need for an indoor space for
educational programs, community events and meetings, as well as for
handicapped-accessible restrooms,” said FO LA President Jim  McH ugh. “The
center will serve as a place to w elcome visitors and offer maps, brochures, and
other information.”

There will be a resource library for the many historical documents and
photographs from John and Dorothy Knippenberg. Much-needed storage space
will also be included in the initial phase of the project.

A new greenhouse is integral to the plans for the center, but it will only be erected
when funds becom e available. As construction progresses, the arboretum’s parking area
will be enlarged to accommodate additional vehicles. The required handicapped-
parking spaces will be provided at the entrance to the center.

In the second phase of construction, we plan to rebuild the arboretum’s existing
“upper” greenhouse on Home Hill, which was originally erected in the 1930s. The
structure, where our staff and volunteers work, is in an advanced state of
deterioration. We have made many temporary repairs to the structure, the heating
system, and the plumbing, but it continues to deteriorate. When rebuilt, the
greenhouse will continue to serve as the principal work area for maintaining and
propogating the arboretum’s plantings.

Why does the arboretum need the new center?

At the present time there is no sheltered space for visitors other than the small
covered pavilion. Information, brochures, and maps are provided at the wooden
notice board at the entrance to the arboretum. There is no indoor gathering place
for FO LA’s educational programs, and there are no restroom facilities in the
arboretum (other than a portable toilet).

FOLA has an extensive collection of horticultural reference materials, as well as
photographs and archival material relating to the Knippenbergs’ ownership of the
property and the development of the arboretum. In the absence of suitable library
or storage space, these are kept temporarily in private homes.

All of these challenges – and more – will be met by the
Knippenberg Education Center.
Dear Members,

The past year was one of both accomplishments and challenges. With the help of the Wayne Lions Club and the Passaic County Board of Freeholders, we completed our Sensory Garden and had a wonderful dedication in the fall. Everyone agrees that the garden looks spectacular. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped plant the garden, planned the dedication, and continue to maintain this special area. We look forward to welcoming people with disabilities, as well as many other visitors to the arboretum, to be inspired by this uniquely beautiful space.

Now we are moving forward with plans for the Knippenberg Education Center, which will serve as an educational and environmental center for the arboretum. When completed, it will provide a welcome center, meeting space, educational greenhouse, resource library, display and storage areas, and restrooms.

The challenges we faced in 2012 were mostly caused by Mother Nature. Hurricane Sandy felled 15 large trees and damaged many nearby plantings. Our horticultural staff and FOLA volunteers, along with Wayne Township employees, worked long and hard to clean up the debris. Now most of the arboretum has been restored and is as beautiful as ever.

We continue to explore strategies for dealing with the problem of silting in the park’s waterways caused by debris from the runoff from surrounding roads. We also need to address damage by deer and voles and must improve security to prevent vandalism and the ever-present theft of valuable plantings.

In the coming months we will launch a Capital Campaign that we hope will provide the funds we need to complete the Knippenberg Education Center and greenhouse. We continue to seek grants from foundations and contributions from individuals and local businesses. Such donations support our mission to preserve, promote, and improve Laurelwood’s outstanding collections and unique gardens and to provide opportunities for horticultural appreciation and education.

As in the past, we owe special thanks to Wayne Mayor Christopher Vergano, the Township Council, and the Wayne Parks and Recreation Department for their ongoing support of FOLA’s efforts and for cooperating with us to maintain and preserve this unique property.

Jim McHugh
FOLA President

To learn more about FOLA’s 2012 Year in Review, please read our annual report at www.lauralwoodarboretum.org.

Board of Directors

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Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum hosted its annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on Saturday, March 16. The program featured a talk and slide show about landscape design presented by Elaine Fogerty, county agricultural assistant, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Passaic County.

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum (FOLA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Our mission is to preserve, promote and improve Laurelwood Arboretum and to provide opportunities for horticultural appreciation and education through public programs, volunteer participation and outreach activities.

Volunteers who have logged 50 hours or more. From left, back row: Alex Fadynich, John Crowell, Bill Mains, Volunteer Coordinator Deb Bryant, Horticultural Manager Joan Scott-Miller, Roland Reynolds, Jean Pisatowski, Sunny Brennan and Carol Huber. Front row, Nancy Fadynich, Jane Van Eeuwen, Tina Calfano, Kathy Hetherington, Mary Riley, Jean Reynolds and Bonnie Joachim.

On one of the hottest days of summer, a group of intrepid volunteers posed behind the piles of weeds they had pulled from one of Laurelwood Arboretum’s garden areas. The group included Passaic County Master Gardeners, Honor Society students from Wayne Hills High School, and FOLA volunteers.
Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum jump started its 2013 membership year in February with a talk entitled, “Berries, Bark, and Blooms.” Guest speaker was Kathleen Salisbury, team leader of education at Duke Farms in Hillsborough, N.J., president of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey, and an adult education instructor at the New York Botanical Garden. She is also an advisor to the FOLA Board of Directors.

Kathy’s talk focused on exploring the diverse world of native plants for year-round garden interest. “Even a small landscape can be filled with enticing textures, beautiful blooms, and gorgeous berries all year long if one learns how plants change throughout the seasons,” she explained. Kathy also talked about the diversity of native plants in New Jersey and the many reasons to plant species that are native to this area.

More than 65 people attended the program, which was a special Thank You to FOLA members and the Master Gardeners of Passaic County, who have done so much to support our efforts to preserve and maintain Laurelwood Arboretum.

As we watch the transformation of the arboretum’s landscape through the seasons, we are ever aware of all the friends who make what FOLA does possible. They represent a constituency that supports our mission and helps to secure the future of Laurelwood Arboretum as a unique horticultural preserve. FOLA depends on membership support in our efforts to create programs that engage visitors of all ages and to maintain and improve the arboretum.

We are pleased to report that FOLA membership now totals more than 350. We have 12 Lifetime Members and hope to see that number grow in the future. We are particularly proud of our rate of membership retention, which reflects a strong base of support for FOLA. We also appreciate the fact that many members make contributions to FOLA over and above FOLA dues.

When you walk through the arboretum and see our gardeners and volunteers trimming shrubs, digging weeds, and replacing plantings, you see your membership at work. When you attend an educational program, you see what your membership helps FOLA offer to the community. As a benefit to you, with your FOLA membership card you can get discounts on your purchases at local establishments and free admission at gardens and arboreta around the country.

We hope those of you who have not yet renewed for 2013 will rejoin. Please use the form below to send in your dues. If you have already rejoined, pass the form on to a friend or use it for a gift membership or an additional donation.

Thank you for your support!

Alice Moskowitz
Membership Chairperson

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To join FOLA or renew your membership, please fill out this application and send to FOLA, PO Box 2433, Wayne, NJ 07474-2433.

Name __________________________ Address __________________________
City __________________________ State __________________________ Zip code ____________
Telephone __________________________ E-mail address __________________________

We do not share this information with any other organization.

Annual Membership:
Individual: ___ $25 household ___ $50 nonprofit organization ___ supporting $250
Lifetime membership _____ $500

Dues and donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the law.
Your FO LA membership entitles you to benefits at gardens across the United States through the American Horticultural Society (AHS) Reciprocal Admissions Program. Benefits may include free admission, free parking and/or discounts at shops or events at a network of over 270 botanical gardens, arboreta, and conservatories located in 45 states, as well as Canada, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Cayman Islands. To save, show your FO LA membership card next time you visit another garden or arboretum.

In addition, FO LA membership includes the following benefits:

• Free admission to FO LA educational programs
• Free subscription to our annual FO LA newsletter
• 20% discount at Chef Express
• 15% discount on plants at Max is Back (plants only)
• 10% discount at FO LA plant sales
• 10% discount at participating local establishments:
  - Blooms of Wayne
  - Chestnut Ridge Nursery
  - Gro-Rite
  - Riverside Nursery
  - Strawberry Blossom Farms

AND…

The satisfaction of supporting the activities of this unique horticultural conservancy.
Members of Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum recently attended a Garden Symposium sponsored by the Master Gardeners of Mercer County. The theme of the event was, “Gardening for the Future.”

Michael A. Dirr, PhD, a leading expert on trees and shrubs for landscapes and gardens, spoke on the topic, “In Praise of the Noble Tree.” Noble Trees are immense in stature, span generations, and are architecturally elegant, inspiring, and spiritual. Trees known as Noblettes include smaller flowering trees.

There are many issues to consider when choosing landscape trees, said Dr. Dirr. These include:

- Aesthetic considerations, such as screening and property value enhancement
- Environmental concerns, including shade protection, wind abatement, and storm water mitigation
- Health or psychological benefits

A key message in Dr. Dirr’s talk was the importance of environmental awareness — that we should all be environmental stewards and look to the future when selecting trees and plants. His Noble Tree vision is to preserve these green giants and replant with “trees for the ages” that transcend generations.

The following is a list of Laurelwood’s trees mentioned in Dr. Dirr’s presentation:

- **Acer rubrum** – Red Maple
- **Betula nigra** – River Birch
- **Carpinus caroliniana** – American Hornbeam
- **Cercis canadensis** – Redbud
- **Fagus grandifolia** – American Beech
- **Magnolia stellata** – Star Magnolia
- **Magnolia acuminata** – Cucumber Magnolia
- **Nyssa sylvatica** – Tupelo
- **Quercus alba** – White Oak
- **Quercus bicolor** – Swamp White Oak
- **Taxodium distichum** – Bald cypress

Dr. Dirr is a professor of horticulture at the University of Georgia. Among his many publications is *The Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, a reference text used at Laurelwood Arboretum.

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**Rutgers Master Gardener Classes**

**Now Registering**

Many of the volunteers who work so faithfully and energetically at Laurelwood Arboretum first joined FOLA’s horticultural team while attending the Rutgers Master Gardener training course. They began volunteering to fulfill the requirement for certification and have continued working at Laurelwood far beyond the required 70 hours.

This fall, Rutgers Cooperative Extension will once again offer a training program for those who are interested in gardening and wish to become Rutgers Master Gardeners.

Anyone with an interest in gardening and a commitment to volunteer service can become a Rutgers Master Gardener. No previous education or training is required. To apply for the next class or for more information, please call 973-305-5740 or go to www.mgapc.org.

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**Wanted: Email Addresses**

If you haven’t been receiving FOLA flyers about current events and activities, please send your address to alicemoskowitz@gmail.com. We will not share this information with any other organization.

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**No smoking or fires in the Arboretum!**

Please help us protect Laurelwood’s trees, plantings and wooden structures from the danger of fire.
Many Ways to Support FOLA

Fundraising is a key activity for most nonprofit organizations. Until now, FOLA has focused on building our organization and developing meaningful programs and activities. We have exciting plans for the future and need to seek additional resources that will allow us to implement them.

This year, for the first time, we embarked on a Give the Gift of Green fundraising drive to raise funds to supplement our grant from Wayne Township and to support FOLA’s educational programs and activities. We also plan to launch a Capital Campaign that we hope will provide the funds we need to complete the Kippenberg Education Center and greenhouse. At the same time, we are stepping up our efforts to seek donations from local businesses and grants from foundations and corporations.

There are many ways you, as an individual, can support the work of Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum. You can make a donation, purchase a gift membership, or make a tribute donation in honor or in memory of someone special. If your employer has a matching gift program, any donation you make will be matched. You can also make a bequest to FOLA in your will.

To donate, please choose the way that most suits your personal needs and interests. You can mail donations to FOLA, Box 2433, Wayne, NJ 07474-2433.

Contribute to our annual appeal

Your gift to this year’s Give the Gift of Green Campaign will help us to continue to preserve Laurelwood Arboretum as an historic site and to develop new and innovative programming for all ages. Thank you to the many members who have already contributed!

Gifts In Memory Of or In Honor Of

Donations to Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum are a thoughtful way of expressing condolences or congratulations while at the same time supporting our efforts to preserve and maintain Laurelwood Arboretum. Donations in any amount are welcome. Make checks payable to FOLA and send to PO Box 2433, Wayne, NJ 07474-2433.

For gifts of more than $50., our Living Tribute of Flowering Plants in Laurelwood Arboretum program will provide a certificate suitable for framing or photo notecard to designated recipients. Donations can honor or memorialize individuals or commemorate special events. These gifts will support the purchase, planting and maintenance of flowering plants in the arboretum. For information, please call 973-202-9579 or send an email to info@laurelwoodarboretum.org to request a donation form.

Wish List

- Gift cards from area hardware stores and nurseries
- Folding chairs for events
- Bottled water for volunteers
- Garden carts for plant sales
- Garden tools for volunteers
- Lawn mower
- Newsletter printing
- Digital projector
- Party tent
- Wood chipper
- Bob Cat
- Back hoe/front loader

In addition:

- $100 provides perennial plants or Spring-blooming bulbs
- $250 funds an educational program
- $500 provides plants for the Sensory Garden
- $1,000 pays for a summer intern

TD Bank Affinity Program Helps Support FOLA

If you have an account at TD Bank or are planning to open one, you could be supporting FOLA without it costing you any money. TD Bank donates funds to nonprofits through its Affinity Program. Donated money comes from the bank, not from customers’ accounts.

To participate, tell your TD bank officer that you would like to have your account coded as a FOLA donor. The FOLA code is AF248. The bank will then make an annual donation to FOLA on your behalf. No money ever comes from your account.

For more information, call us at 973-202-9579 or send an email to info@laurelwoodarboretum.org

Dogs in Laurelwood Arboretum

Just a friendly reminder that all dogs must be leashed in Laurelwood Arboretum, in accordance with Wayne Township’s leash law. Dog urine severely damages plantings, and dogs that wander off the arboretum’s paths may trample delicate shrubs and flowers. Thank you for your cooperation.