The history of plant collection management at Laurelwood Arboretum goes back more than 60 years to when Dorothy and John Knippenberg decided their commercial rhododendron nursery would eventually become a public park and began to redesign the property to make room for additional varieties of plants.

Dorothy kept meticulous handwritten records of her plans and purchases. These records were expanded by Howard Aschoff, a Rutgers Master Gardener and volunteer at Laurelwood. He added maps, photographs and extensive records of Laurelwood’s plant collections, all of which he donated to the arboretum when he moved from New Jersey.

In recent years, a Plant Identification Committee was established with Rutgers Master Gardener Betty Montagne as chairperson. This group created a Native Tree Tour and Exotic Tree Tour for the arboretum. At the same time, Rutgers Master Gardener Joe Di Giacomo began working to identify and document Laurelwood’s rhododendron collection. Both Betty and Joe turned to Dorothy’s and Howard’s historical documentation to support these projects.

Last year, the committee designed a computer-based Plant Identification System. With horticultural assistance from Executive Director Elaine Fogerty, the group developed a computer database to catalog the arboretum’s plant records.

Plant Collection Management is an ongoing effort that entails monitoring the condition and inventory of all plant groups in the arboretum. Some special collections, such as rhododendrons, date back many years and are unique to Laurelwood. Other newer collections include the Native Plant Garden and a wide array of native and exotic trees.

“This is one of our most important programs at Laurelwood,” said Elaine Fogerty. “A comprehensive program of plant collection management has become the recognized standard of excellence for arboretums around the country.”
I would like to become a Friend of Laurelwood Arboretum.

Please complete and send to FOLA, PO Box 2433, Wayne, New Jersey 07474-2433. Make checks payable to Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum or FOLA.

Name________________________________________________________________________
Address_______________________________________________________________________
City State Zip __________________________________________________________________
Telephone___________________ E-mail____________________________________________

We do not share this information with any other organization.

Annual Membership: Individual/Household: ___$25 Individual/Household 5-year: ___$125
Nonprofit organization: ____$50 Lifetime: ___$500 Small Business/Corporate: ___$100

I would like to support Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum with a donation.

Please make checks payable to Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum or FOLA. Enclosed is a tax-deductible donation of $______________.

Please complete if your employer has a Matching Gift Plan: My donation will be matched by ____________________________________________________________________________.

If this is a memorial or “in honor of” donation, please include the name and address of the party to be notified of your gift: ____________________________________________________________________________.

Thank you!

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Thank you!

Dogs in Laurelwood Arboretum

Just a friendly reminder that all dogs in Laurelwood Arboretum must be leashed 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.

No smoking or fires in the arboretum!

Please help us protect Laurelwood’s trees, plantings and wooden structures from the danger of fire.

For up-to-date information about programs and events, go to www.laurelwoodarboretum.org

Knippenberg Center for Education

Open April through November Tuesdays through Sunday noon to 4 pm

From the President

It is very exciting to be involved in an organization where so much is happening all the time. Throughout the year we host a variety of educational programs, community activities, tours, and fundraisers. Our executive director has developed a Horticultural Master Plan designed to ensure high standards of excellence and dedication to the Knippenberg legacy of landscaping, garden design, horticultural practices and collection care. Our hardworking Plant Collection Management committee is making excellent progress in identifying, photographing, cataloging and computerizing Laurelwood’s extensive plantings—an effort that is essential to establishing our reputation as an arboretum par excellence. All this while our dedicated staff and volunteers pull weeds, restore gardens, tend new plantings, and maintain the arboretum’s infrastructure. Our membership has grown to more than 350, and we have more than 150 active volunteers. As we move forward in 2017, please take a quick look below at last year’s accomplishments.

I am very grateful for the enthusiasm and support of our members, donors, staff, and volunteers.

Thank you,

Alice Moskowitz

Upcoming Programs

4th Thursday of every month – 2:30 pm
GARDENERS’ JOURNAL
Lively discussion of horticultural topics

Saturday, June 17th at 2 pm
ALL THE PRESIDENTS’ GARDENS
Program by Marta McDowell
Free for FOLA members/$15 non-members

Saturday, July 22nd (raindate 7/29) 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
PLEIN AIR WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP
Presented by artist Andrea Geller
$75 Fee – Registration required. Call 973-831-5675.

Sunday, August 6th at 4 pm
JAZZ CONCERT in the Knippenberg Center
Steve Alexander and the Jazz Generation
$15 Donation

Annual Plant Sale

11,831 volunteer hours
15,000 estimated visitors to Laurelwood
2 fundraisers
9 monthly e-newsletters
21 children’s programs
10 scout programs
208 rhododendrons identified
5 community events
6 native plant programs
1 Eagle Scout project completed
5 public tour days
11 educational programs for adults
2 William Paterson University interns
1 Eagle Scout project completed
5 public tour days
11 educational programs for adults
2 William Paterson University interns

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Ten-year volunteers for Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum, from left: Patricia Engrissei, Bonnie Joachim, Sara McHugh, Sunny Brennan, Barbara Hegranes, Jim McHugh, Joan Scott-Miller, Margaret Kersten and Alice Moskowitz. Not pictured: Nancy Alexander, Ken Burke, Helene Christie, Alex and Nancy Fadynich, Ruth Hayden, Barbara Hegranes, and Kasey Lal.
**Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum**

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum is dedicated to preserving and maintaining Laurelwood Arboretum. Contributions from individuals and businesses are used to replace damaged trees and plantings, enhance the horticultural displays, maintain the bridges and pathways, and promote horticultural education through a menu of tours, programs and activities. None of this would be possible without the support of our generous donors.

There are many ways you can support our work—from contributing to our annual Give the Gift of Green fund drive to making a gift in honor of someone special or making a bequest as part of your estate plan. If your employer has a matching gift program, you can increase your impact. 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 or donate online at www.laurelwoodarboretum.org

**Give the Gift of Green Campaign**

Our annual Give the Gift of Green Campaign allows us to preserve and beautify Laurelwood’s gardens and develop new and innovative programs for all ages.

**Tribute Gifts**

Donations “in memory of” or “in honor of” are a thoughtful way of expressing condolences or congratulations while at the same time supporting our efforts to preserve and maintain Laurelwood Arboretum. We will send the person you name a note to let them know of your gift.

**Patio Pavers**

Commemorate an occasion, celebrate a special person or simply show your support by donating a patio paver for the Knippenberg Center for Education. You can download a patio paver donation form at www.laurelwoodarboretum.org

**Bench Program**

A limited number of bench sites are available in Laurelwood Arboretum as memorials or in honor of a person or event. We will acknowledge the donation of a bench with a personalized plaque. For information, please call 973-831-5675 or send an email to info@laurelwoodarboretum.org.

**Naming Opportunities**

A number of naming opportunities are available for the Knippenberg Center, the greenhouses, and other special projects in the arboretum. Please call us at 973-831-5675 to discuss these.

**Bequests – a Gift for the Future**

Remembering Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum in your will ensures that generations to come will benefit from the preservation of 30 acres of unique natural habitat that is home to treasured woodlands, plantings, and wildlife. Bequests can be made in the form of a specific gift of cash or a percentage of the remainder of an estate. Retirement assets or life insurance may be included in a bequest.

The arboretum will use bequests as you designate. If you specify it, a bequest of more than $25,000 can be treated as an endowment, and the funds will be invested to grow over time. We suggest that you contact your attorney, financial advisor, or estate planner to determine the most prudent way for you to make a charitable bequest.

**Gifts in Kind**

Donations of supplies, services, and/or equipment regularly used by FOLA can help reduce the expenses of maintaining Laurelwood Arboretum. Examples of products and services that may be accepted include:

- Horticultural tools, supplies, and plant materials
- Heavy-duty equipment for use in the arboretum
- Printing services
- Advertising, public relations, or graphic design services
- Food and catering services

To discuss in-kind donations, please contact us by calling 973-831-5675 or send an e-mail to info@laurelwoodarboretum.org.

This fall, Rutgers Cooperative Extension will once again offer a program for those who wish to become Rutgers Master Gardeners. Anyone with an interest in gardening and a commitment to volunteer service can become a Rutgers Master Gardener. To apply for the next class or for more information, please call 973-305-5740 or go to rmeapc.org.

Local artist Andrea Geller will teach a plein air watercolor painting workshop at Laurelwood Arboretum on Saturday, July 22 (raindate July 29) from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. There is a $75 fee for the workshop, and registration is required. To register, call 973-831-5675. A supply list will be available to those who register.

“Plein air painting refers to painting outdoors,” Geller explained. “Laurelwood Arboretum is serenely beautiful, so it is a natural place to hold a plein air watercolor painting, ‘en plein air.’” The workshop is designed for both the curious beginner and the more advanced painter who would like to gain a better understanding of the process involved in creating paintings that are inspired by the natural world.

At the beginning of the workshop, Geller will discuss basic color theory, color mixing strategies and brush techniques specific to the watercolor medium. She will also talk about methods of developing strong compositions that simplify and express the artist’s vision. The group will paint outdoors from direct observation, focusing on nature’s shapes and colors. There will be one-on-one guidance throughout the morning. A discussion of the paintings will be held at the end of the workshop.

Geller balances her career between painting and teaching studio art classes on the college level. After studying fine arts at Cornell University for two years, she completed her bachelor of fine arts degree at William Paterson University. Geller has had a successful freelance career as an illustrator and graphic designer.

**Board of Directors**

Alice Moskowitz, President
Jim McHugh, First Vice President
David Kooistra, Second Vice President
Ruth Hayden, Recording Secretary
Bill Lauber, Treasurer

Dawn Healey Bill Mains Mary Jo Sichak
Regina Imperato Sara McHugh Rick Wild
Margaret Kerstner Linda Ransom

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.

**Artist Andrea Geller To Offer Plein Air Workshop at Laurelwood**

www.laurelwoodarboretum.org

**Knippenberg Center Office Manager, Pam Himeles**

**Newly elected members of the Board of Directors of Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum are, from left, Mary Jo Sichak, Regina Imperato, and Linda Ransom.**

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Applause for Our Intrepid Volunteers

by Linda Ransom, Volunteer Coordinator

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum’s mission, to connect people with nature, could not be pursued without our dedicated volunteers. With only five part-time seasonal employees, volunteers are essential to everything we do.

And our volunteer program is thriving! Our volunteers include students, scouts, corporate groups, Rutgers Passaic County Master Gardeners and local residents of all ages. In 2016, volunteers donated 11,831 hours of their time. This represents a value of $315,888, based on the nationally accepted volunteer hourly rate.

Our program not only supports Laurelwood’s mission, but reflects the breadth and diversity of our volunteers’ interests. Some help preserve and beautify the gardens; others manage our organization; and still others plan our educational programs and community activities. Just to mention a few:

- **Our outdoor volunteers, who meet from 9 am to noon on Tuesdays and Fridays, April through October, plant our beautiful Sensory Garden each spring, where visitors can see, smell, touch, hear and even taste the plantings.**
- **Our site management crew keeps the walking paths clear, the bridges safe and the older greenhouse in repair.**
- **Our Educational Greenhouse is a wonderful spot for hands-on learning experiences in the garden arts for all ages, led by knowledgeable volunteers.**
- **Our public relations and graphic design teams get the news about our programs out to the public with press releases, newsletters, brochures, and flyers.**
- **Our tour guides open the eyes of visitors to the beauty all around them at Laurelwood.**
- **Our Plant Collection Management Committee documents the arboretum’s trees, shrubs and plantings for their historical and horticultural value.**

These are just some of the many things our volunteers do for Laurelwood Arboretum. And while doing all this, they learn, make friends and have fun.

To learn more about volunteering at Laurelwood, please call 973-831-4675 or send an email to info@laurelwoodarboretum.org.

Volunteer Opportunities

**Outdoors**

**Work in the Gardens:** Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 am to noon, April through October. Meet in the pavilion. Work and learn while working in the arboretum’s gardens.

**Site Management and Construction:** Work with the site manager and other volunteers to improve the arboretum’s bridges, buildings, drainage and infrastructure and/or help maintain our vehicles.

**Knippenberg Center Greeter:** Greet visitors and offer information and materials.

**Tour Guides:** Share your knowledge and enthusiasm for Laurelwood. We provide tour guide training.

**Weddings/Photo Shoots:** Facilitate weddings and photo shoots at Laurelwood, as needed.

**Indoors**

**Program:** Help plan and execute educational programs for children and/or adults.

**Fundraising:** Help plan and execute our fundraising efforts.

**Development:** Work with this newly formed committee on an effort to solicit major gifts from individuals and businesses.

**Plant Collection Management:** Assist in the effort to identify and monitor the arboretum’s plant collections.

**Plant Sale:** Help plan and/or assist at our annual plant sale.

**Graphic design:** Create brochures and other print materials as needed.

**History:** Review/organize historical materials about Laurelwood Arboretum and the Knippenberg legacy.

**Information Technology:** Support and troubleshoot the Knippenberg Center computers.

**Membership:** Help plan membership retention and outreach efforts.

**Photography:** Take photographs, as needed and/or help organize the photo collection.

**Marketing/Public Relations:** Help publicize our programs and activities.

Works by Bob Shine Exhibited at the Knippenberg Center

Photographer and artist Bob Shine has been affiliated with Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum since its earliest days. His love of Laurelwood started when he discovered this beautiful oasis in his own town of Wayne. He could often be found, camera and/or paintbrushes in hand, walking through the gardens, taking pictures and creating beautiful works of art. This spring, a group of Bob’s favorite photographs and watercolors were on display at the first-ever exhibit sponsored by Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum ArtWorks in the Knippenberg Center for Education.

Members Make a Difference

by Diane Bromberg Stern, Membership Chairperson

Your Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum membership card is much more than a passport to discounts and other benefits. It says that you are an essential part of the team that keeps Laurelwood Arboretum vibrant, dynamic, and beautiful. We depend on you to help us enhance the arboretum’s extensive plantings and offer programs and activities to engage visitors of all ages. Most important, you are part of a constituency that supports our mission and is committed to securing the future of Laurelwood Arboretum as a unique horticultural preserve.

We are pleased to report that our membership has grown to more than 350. This includes 24 Lifetime Members. We are particularly proud of our year-to-year membership retention, which reflects a strong base of support. We also appreciate the fact that many members make contributions over and above their dues.

If you are walking through our gardens, please be sure to stop in to say hello. Flyers of upcoming events are available in our building, and we would enjoy sharing them with you. Be sure to share your wonderful experiences with your friends and colleagues. Our membership goals are very high this year, and with your help we will reach them.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Free admission to most children’s and adult programs, lectures and activities
- Monthly e-newsletter
- Annual newsletter
- Email notification of programs, activities and events
- Members also enjoy a 10% discount on plants at our plant sales as well as a 15% discount on plants at Canete Garden Center, and a 10% discount at Glenwild Garden Center, Gro-Rite Greenhouse and Garden Center, Blooms of Wayne, and Riverside Nursery
- Members can also take advantage of the American Horticultural Society’s Reciprocal Program, which gives our members discounts at more than 300 gardens and arboreta throughout North America

Annual Membership is only $25 for a household, $50 for a nonprofit organization, or $100 for a small business and includes a listing on our website. A 5-Year membership is $125 and Lifetime Membership is $500.

Dues and donations are deductible for income tax purposes to the extent allowed by law.

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.