Save the Date for the Festival of Friends

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum will celebrate its 15th birthday with a fall fundraiser at the Knippenberg Center for Education. It will feature an exhibit by local artists and photographers and hors d’oeuvres by Viaggio of Wayne accompanied by wine, beer and nonalcoholic beverages. Jazz pianist Gary Mancinelli will entertain on the piano. There will be a Silent Auction of carefully curated items.

Festival of Friends
15th Birthday Celebration
4:15 pm Dedication of the Founders’ Garden
5 pm to 7 pm Birthday Celebration

Stroll through the arboretum almost any time of day, and you are likely to encounter one or more deer wandering about. We have a large deer herd, and they are devouring many of our prized plants.

All summer and autumn, we spray repellents on many of our plant collections. Perhaps you have smelled it. We had a rainy summer last year, so the repellents had to be reapplied weekly. We use different materials so that the deer do not get used to the repellent. We spent an estimated $2,500 worth of staff time and material applying repellents.

We have installed deer-resistant plants only to have them eaten, sometimes right to the ground. Some plants that have shown deer-resistance are ferns, daffodils, ornamental onion, cleome, fuzzy-leaved herbs, butterfly bush, (Pieris japonica andromeda), Callicarpa, boxwood, and Mahonia. But deer will eat almost anything if they are hungry enough.

Right now, netting is the only way to protect our beautiful garden. Two years ago, we began netting some of our valuable azaleas and rhododendrons. Posts, netting and bamboo poles were installed very closely around groups of plants to prevent deer from jumping in. The enclosed azalea plants were clearly larger and more floriferous in 2017 than the nearby unprotected azaleas.

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum Board of Directors and several individual donors, we were able to expand the netting project to several areas in the arboretum. The netting will save the plants from deer foraging and allow them to bloom and grow. Unfortunately, the only long-term solution for preventing widespread damage is to fence the property.

To learn more about Laurelwood Arboretum or Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum, please visit our website at www.laurelwoodarboretum.org

Deer Ravage Laurelwood’s Plantings
By Elaine Fogerty
Executive Director, Laurelwood Arboretum

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Continued on page 4
From the President

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum is celebrating its 15th birthday this year. We plan to mark this milestone with a Birthday Celebration fundraiser in September and a full menu of educational programs and community activities from April through November.

We look back with pride on the accomplishments of the past, which include construction of our Sensory Garden, the Knippenberg Center for Education and the Educational Greenhouse. In the 15 years since the Friends organization was founded, we have hosted many activities for the community. Last year, we had seven educational programs, eight monthly gardening days, seven free tours for the public, seven programs for scout groups, two art exhibits, and a jazz concert.

I’m very pleased to report a substantial growth in membership to 464 members at the close of 2017. Our volunteer numbers have swelled to over 200 energetic people who donated 11,866 hours of their time last year. This represents a contribution of $325,840 based on the nationally accepted volunteer hourly rate.

We are particularly proud of the work of our dedicated Plant Collection Management Committee, which continues its efforts to identify and tag Laurelwood’s trees, shrubs and plants and then create a detailed record for each. This is one of our most important programs and has elevated the status of the arboretum in the horticultural community. The Rutgers Master Gardener Association presented its 2017 State Award to our committee.

We have been awarded several important grants, including a $2,850 grant from the American Rhododendron Society for the publication of a brochure on the history of rhododendron hybridization at Laurelwood. The Passaic County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust and Wayne Township awarded grants to help fund the replacement of the arboretum’s propagation greenhouse. The Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust gave us a grant of $15,725 for replacement of a utility vehicle used by our arboretum staff. And the Ira A. Roschelle MD Family Foundation awarded us $1,000 for our most important programs and has elevated the status of the arboretum in the horticultural community.

Board meetings are the 4th Thursday of each month at 4:30 pm at the Knippenberg Center and are open to the public.

Thank you.

Alice Moskowitz

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Membership Continues to Grow

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 vibrant, dynamic, and beautiful. We depend on your support to help us enhance the arboretum’s 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 464. This includes 25 Lifetime Members and 15 five year memberships. 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, and we sincerely thank them.

If you are walking through our gardens, please stop in to say hello at the Knippenberg Center, where you can pick up flyers of upcoming events and get other information. Be sure to share your wonderful experiences with your friends on Facebook and Instagram.

Become a member to enjoy:

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

I would like to become a Friend of Laurelwood Arboretum.

Please complete and send to FOLA, PO Box 2433, Wayne, NJ 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.


Enclosed is a donation to Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum.

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: ______________________________________________________________

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Dues and donations are deductible for income tax purposes to the extent allowed by law.

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

**Donate a Bench**

Laurelwood Arboretum is a walker’s paradise, with its winding paths and beautiful scenery. It is also a wonderful place to sit and contemplate the vistas or just relax for a while. There are a few benches in the arboretum, but visitors have told us there aren’t enough. We have revitalized our bench program and are now offering an opportunity for donors to select either a beautiful hand-hewn bench by artist David Robinson or a contemporary teak bench, either one to be dedicated with a commemorative plaque.

**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 laurelwoodarboretum.org.

**Matching Gifts**

If your employer has a matching gift program, you can increase your impact by taking advantage of that benefit. Donors.

**Volunteers Help Beautify Laurelwood**

By Elaine Fogerty

Every Tuesday and Friday, from April through October, our dedicated volunteers arrive at 9 am ready to work in the gardens at Laurelwood Arboretum. I believe one of the attractions of volunteering is that it gives people a chance to learn new skills or make use of what they already know. It also provides opportunities to join friends and make new ones—all for the common purpose of improving this special park. There is also the satisfaction in seeing results after 2½ hours of bending, hauling, weeding, raking, mulching, and planting. The dedication to bettering Laurelwood also prompts people to help with non-gardening tasks such as infrastructure maintenance, plant identification, grant writing, serving on the board, and planning tours, fundraisers, publications, and so much more.

Laurelwood Arboretum is a volunteer destination for groups and organizations, including scouts, PSE&G, Columbia Bank, the North American Rock Garden Society, and William Paterson University interns.

Studies have shown that volunteering can improve quality of life, health and longevity for those who donate their time. Volunteering improves not only the communities in which one serves, but also the life of the individual who is providing help to the community.

Successes in 2017, thanks to our talented volunteers, included additional lilac cultivars in Lilac Walk, the plant netting program, rhododendron propagation (layering), renovation of the 2nd Bridge rock garden, planting over 1,000 spring-blooming flower bulbs, securing four grants and managing many programs for the community. It was a glorious year—upward to 2018!

**Outdoors**

**Work in the Gardens:** Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 am to noon, April through October. Meet in the pavilion. Learn while helping to beautify 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.

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

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

**Indoors**

**Educational Programs:** Help plan and execute programs for children and/or adults.

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

**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.

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

**Library and Archives:** Help organize and maintain the Knippenberg Center library and archives.

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

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

**Winter Greenhouse Team:** During the winter months, help propagate plants for the gardens and plant sale.

**How to Support Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum**

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Deer biology
The average weight of an adult deer is 100 to 160 pounds. Each deer will consume 6 to 10 pounds of green plants per day. They have a keen sense of smell (their nose size is three times larger than a dog’s). They have superior hearing, a 310 degree field of vision, excellent swimmers, have strong leg muscles for speed (35 mph sprint), cloven hooves for traction, naturally camouflage fur, no upper incisors and a four-chambered stomach.

Deer have a daily “to do” list: Graze, rest, and don’t get eaten by predators. They follow established walking paths, thanks to the scent glands between their toes. They stamp their front feet or snort as a warning to other deer and humans. Deer feed mostly during low-light hours and “on the run,” and they face the prevailing wind to pick up any suspicious scents. The average size of their territory is 1 square mile (about 700 acres).

Fawns are born in spring (twins!) and are nursed through the summer. Bucks grow velvety antlers in spring and summer (1/2 inch per day). Antler rub begins in autumn.

The rut/mating season is in mid-November. Winter is a time of slow activity. Male antlers demineralize and drop off in winter.

Deer typically live 6 to 14 years. The latest statistics (2013) estimate that there are 105,535 deer in New Jersey (numbers from counties where deer hunting is permitted).

There are some controls available to repel deer or protect valuable plants:
- Repellents that either taste bad or smell repulsive to the deer
- Starling sights (lights)
- Offensive sounds (horns, clanging pans)
- An element of surprise (dogs, shooting water)

Facts about potential deer reduction methods:
- There are no registered poisons, and therefore they are illegal
- Trapping and relocating may be performed by state wildlife officials (it has a 21% mortality rate)
- Hunting licenses and permits are available in some communities
- A community-based deer management program is conducted through the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Fish and Wildlife. The program began in 1996. The Fish and Wildlife Council reviews applications submitted by municipalities. Culling is by authorized agents who pass a shooting proficiency test. Some towns (Princeton Township, Millburn, Bernards, Bridgewater, Mountain Lakes, Summit, Hanover, Harding and Scotch Plains), counties (Essex, Hunterdon, Mercer, Morris, Saltire and Union), and airports have participated in the program. Venison is donated to a community food bank
- Fertility control is costly and not 100 percent effective
- Wildlife rehabilitators will take deer and other animals that are injured
- Deer can be taken to one of 130 Wildlife Management Areas in New Jersey

Solving the deer problem
Let’s consider “deerscaping” with plants that are deer resistant. There are a few plants that deer seem to leave alone, and they have one or more of the following features: bitter tastes; dry, unpleasant texture; tough and leathery leaves; purgative effect; poisonous; fuzzy leaves or prickles, thorns or spines. Some plants, such as herbs, overstimulate the sense of smell. There is a Rutgers Fact Sheet (E271), Landscape Plants Rated by Deer Resistance, that may help you landscape your property. However, deer have eaten highly resistant plants on this list.

Exclusion with the use of netting or fencing is another way to protect plants. Netting can protect groups of plants. Chicken wire around tree trunks protects the bark from deer -antler rub. A fence needs to be at least 8 feet tall with 12 foot posts (4 feet deep), since deer are very agile jumpers. The fence can be nonelectric (mesh or wire) or electric (timed pulses from high-voltage, low-impedance chargers). Fencing is a safe, nonlethal, legal, and humane method of deer control.

Other interesting facts:
Plant destruction is in the form of footprints, droppings, nesting, and eating:
- 2001 $30 million crop losses in NJ (Department of Agriculture)
- Deer-car collisions (State Farm Insurance): 2013: 26,860 reported in NJ 2012: 200 fatalities nationwide 2012: $4 billion in vehicle damage

Diseases that ticks carry: Lyme, Babesiosis, Anaplasmosis, Ehrlichiosis, relapsing fever, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Tularemia, tick paralysis, Powassan virus.

2018 Programs and Events
Sunday, July 15
12:30 pm Free guided gours
4 pm “Spirit of Vaudeville” Musical Variety Show. Robert Stillman
A musical variety show with jazz age songs on banjo, ukulele, mandolin, guitar and washboard with tap dancing & hat tricks.
$15/individual; $35/family of 3 or more.

Thursday, July 26, 2:30 pm
Gardeners’ Journal Discussion Group at the Knippenberg Center. Free.

Sunday, August 5, 12 pm to 4 pm
Childrens’ Butterfly Day. Adult and children’s programs and activities. Free.

Sunday, August 19, 2:30 pm.
Nancy Rogers Art Exhibit opening reception. Exhibit continues through September 9.

Thursday, August 23, 2:30 pm
Gardeners’ Journal Discussion Group at the Knippenberg Center. Free.

Saturday, September 15
Festival of Friends 15th Birthday Celebration at the Knippenberg Center. 4:15 pm Dedication of the Founders’ Garden.
5 pm to 7 pm Art and Photography Exhibit; fine food tasting by Viaggio of Wayne accompanied by wine, beer and nonalcoholic beverages. Gary Mancinelli playing jazz piano.

Sunday, September 16, 12:30 pm
Free Guided Tours

Thursday, September 20, 4 pm
Houplants 101 Workshop by Passaic County Master Gardener Mary Jo Sichak.

Thursday, September 27, 2:30 pm
Gardeners’ Journal Discussion Group at the Knippenberg Center. Free.

Sunday, October 14, 2:30 pm.

Sunday, October 21, 12:30 pm
Free Guided Tours

Thursday, October 25, 2:30 pm
Gardeners’ Journal Discussion Group at the Knippenberg Center. Free.

For up-to-date information about programs and events, visit our webpage at www.laurelwoodarboretum.org or call 973-831-5675.