

# ◆ Willowwood Journal ◆

Volume 19, Issue 3

A Publication of the Willowwood Foundation

Autumn, 2013

THE  
WILLOWWOOD  
FOUNDATION IS A  
NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
INCORPORATED  
IN THE STATE OF  
NEW JERSEY.  
ESTABLISHED TO  
NURTURE AN  
APPRECIATION  
FOR AND  
KNOWLEDGE OF  
BOTANY,  
HORTICULTURE  
AND THE  
NATURAL WORLD  
THROUGH ITS  
SUPPORT OF  
PUBLIC  
EDUCATION,  
ACCESS TO  
LITERATURE  
RELATING TO  
PLANT SCIENCE  
AND THE  
DEVELOPMENT  
OF FACILITIES TO  
PROMOTE, USE,  
AND ACCESS  
INFORMATION  
ABOUT NATIVE &  
EXOTIC PLANTS.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**PHOTO CREDITS:**  
THANKS TO:  
MCPC ARCHIVES  
LESLIE ALLAIN

The Willowwood  
Arboretum is a  
facility of the  
Morris County  
Park Commission.

300 Longview Rd.,  
Chester Township

Open daily 8 am  
to dusk  
Free to the Public

enjoy the  
experience  
morris county park commission

## Special Open House Event: Sunday, September 15th!



First, a new visitor offering: **Cell Phone Tour Now Available!** Debuting **Sunday, September 15th**, visitors can use their cell phone to take an informative history and horticulture tour of Willowwood's unique garden site by calling a special number on a cell phone as they follow a suggested route throughout the core gardens. Similar cell phone tours are found at museums and botanic gardens around the world. Willowwood visitors now, thanks to funding from a Willowwood Foundation donor, can have a tour guide at their ear, enriching their experience.

**Who Loved This Place? Exhibit** The Morris County Park Commission is pleased to announce that Willowwood Arboretum will host a special one week adaptation of the exhibit *Who Loved This Place?* from September 13-17, 2013. **Open Noon to 4pm on Sunday, Sept. 15th**, visitors will enjoy this updated display of photos and memorabilia focused on the gardens at Willowwood and celebrating the development and preservation of the gardens and its owners, Henry and Robert Tubbs, and Horticulturalist, Dr. Benjamin Blackburn. Curated using the archived Willowwood Collection materials comprised of ten+ linear feet of personal papers and 7,000+ images.



**At 1:30 pm:** Enjoy the summer beauty of the Cottage Garden with *Musical Entertainment* by **A.L.L. Trio's** Evan Lane and Friends with their rollicking mix of folk, rock, bluegrass and original compositions. Always a favorite part of Willowwood's open house afternoons. Bring a blanket or your lawn chair! Dancing permitted!



Two readings by local **author, Michael Hartnett**, feature stories of 'Leavers' Shelley Crux and Cordelia the Catfish. Phenomenal events of imaginary wonder await children (and adults) who learn of these and other wonderful characters who inhabit the wooded forest of 'Allamucha'.

Other events include: a rare peek inside the **Tubbs House** with its original furnishings. **Garden Tours** led by the Horticulture Staff with fall planting tips. Plus the **meadows will be in bloom**—perfect for a family trail walk.



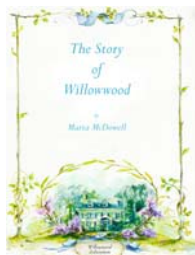
Bring your picnic lunch and lawn blanket or quench your thirst with complimentary light refreshments.

**Noon to 4 pm**  
**Sunday September 15th...Free to the Public.**

Website: [www.willowwoodarboretum.org](http://www.willowwoodarboretum.org)

## GIFT Books Now Available for the Holiday Season:

The Willowood Foundation is pleased to announce that signed copies of “*The Story of Willowood*” by Marta McDowell, (\$10 + s&h) and “*Willowood in Pictures*”, (\$40 + s&h) a full color hardcover pictorial



walk through the seasons at the Willowood Arboretum are now available.

Marta McDowell, noted botanical author and landscape historian, has written a complete history of Willowood, the Tubbs brothers, the gardens and collections and has included many photos from the Tubbs-Blackburn archives now preserved by the Morris County Park Commission.

Many local amateur photographers submitted over 2500 incredibly beautiful seasonal photos of the gardens, buildings and artistic objects for “*Willowood in Pictures*”, adapted by Trustee Ray Rogers, garden book author and winner of over 397 blue ribbons and 88 top awards at the Philadelphia International Flower Show, and designed and edited by fellow Trustees Dan Will and Leslie Allain.

Both books—companion volumes—are a great holiday gift or treasured remembrance for an out of town friend or beloved gardener or WW enthusiast.

Call 908-234-1815 or email:  
[wwfoundation@willowoodfoundation.com](mailto:wwfoundation@willowoodfoundation.com)

Check out the Willowood website:  
[www.willowoodarboretum.org](http://www.willowoodarboretum.org)  
Directions, photos, contest and event info, history, garden information and maps and our store — all included in a user friendly format.

## The “*Lilac Party*” gratefully recognizes our supporters:



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& The Willowood Gardeners and Volunteers

## *Thank you to our Donors: Spring ~ Summer, 2013*

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Mrs. Julie Baron, Mrs. Katie Porter  
*Imo Helen Tansey Farhat*

And as 2013 comes to an end, remember that a Corporate Match *doubles your gift* and the deadline is December 31 if Tax Planning or IRA charitable withdrawals play a pivotal role.



## Arboretum News

It has been a busy Spring and Summer at Willowwood...Perfect Springtime weather brought Willowwood gorgeous flowering trees including the first flowers from the yellow Magnolias, planted as part of the Magnolia Project.



Then rain and heat and rain again but with the help of our new interns Mandy Connelly, Bronwyn Harris & Stephen Konopka and all our trusty volunteers, the gardens are in good shape. Willowwood was fortunate as well to have the Willow School kids back to help clear trails of Sandy debris and also to have a Young Adult Church group from Michigan weed and mulch on their way to the Jersey shore to help out after Sandy as well as a group of corporate volunteers from Johnson & Johnson, Raritan.

However, John Morse says there are still **openings for additional skilled gardeners, volunteers and paid interns** (positions now available) throughout the year.

Keeping these splendid gardens looking their best requires many hands. Please pass this information on to anyone you think may be interested. Contact *Kate Gutierrez* at 973-326-7629 or at [kgutierrez@morrisparks.net](mailto:kgutierrez@morrisparks.net) for info on either the corporate, volunteer or intern programs.



**Jeanne Lardino** started out as a Horticultural Intern in 2008 after taking a Master Gardener course at FA. In 2010, she was promoted to Seasonal Gardener, and now, three years later, she has been promoted to the full-time position of *Assistant Gardener* at Willowwood & Bamboo Brook. Jeanne is an organic vegetable gardener and beekeeper and enjoys baking bread and cooking with her pesticide free harvest. Jeanne works in all the gardens at WW and is delighted to be working with our wonderful horticulture team.



**VIP Visitors:** Dr. Ben Blackburn, horticulturist and adopted son of Henry Tubbs, had quite an extended family in upstate New York. We were delighted to welcome **Bill Blackburn, his nephew**, who attended the Lilac Party and later sat with MCPC's Becky Hoskins who is putting together oral histories as part of an ongoing project. Bill reminisced about his uncle, the family and their farm in Medina, NY. *"when i was younger about 15 yrs old my uncle ben used to come back home to medina ny to visit the family as my dad was his brother , also in the car would be a man mr tubbs i think we called him hal and also russ meyers . as i got older and married i would drive to willowwood to seen ben and russ for hal had pasted on . i remember sleeping in the house with quite high beds, there was a maid and the small stone house had a man with the last name of baldwin and his family had something to do with the piano and he himself was a painter . my dad had four brothers and all went to cor nell for a stint and all got married and farmed in medina except for ben . bens dad died in 1970 and is buried here. my dad died ten years ago and he was the youngest and the last to pass . the last time i was at willowwood was when we spread bens ashes on the land there... im glade that my uncle bens place has been kept up as he would have liked ."* [sic].



Also visiting this Spring were **Russ Hannah and his brother, Stuart**, who lived at Bamboo Brook with his father, Herbert, a caretaker and dog handler for Mrs. Martha Brookes Hutcheson (1871-1959, third woman to be named a fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects), who after her marriage in 1911, landscaped her own garden on their 100-acre farm. Her design was influenced by classical Italian gardens, featuring a pond enclosed by native plants, vegetable garden, flower borders, orchards and farm buildings (now preserved as [Bamboo Brook](#), a Morris County Park.) Stuart, who had worked with



his father in the gardens and with the farm animals, toured Bamboo Brook that afternoon perched on a Cushman with Becky Hoskins and Judy Schaible, Assistant Superintendent of Horticulture, comparing then and now. Russ, who after leaving the Army, told of a visit where he met Mrs. Hutcheson, complete with monocle, who gave him career advice. He also recounted his father's stories of a glacial erratic boulder where you can feel seismic activity on the border of Willowwood and Bamboo Brook.



**Ashton Temples**, winner of the Spring 2012 Daffodil Photo Contest sponsored by the Willowwood Foundation, visited on Mother's Day and posed with his winning photo. Winner of the 2013 Magnolia Photo Contest to be announced at the September 15th Open House. The topic of the 2014 Photo Contest is Willowwood's Cherries. More contest details on website.



**Pamela Wilson, MCPC Plant Records Curator & Propagation Specialist**, retired in June after 24+ years. Starting out as a Horticulture Program Specialist at Frelinghuysen, Pam worked on the children's "Branching Out" Program, ran community gardens, wrote [Arboretum Leaves](#), redesigned the Lindner garden and organized the first volunteer garden guides. In 2003 she moved to WW, propagating over 12,000 plants a year with her Monday morning volunteer group and redesigned and planted Pan's Garden. Trips to Iceland and England will fill her Fall & she has lots of plans for the future with her basket weaving classes, her own garden and her husband, Michael. We'll miss her!

**The Willowwood Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 218, Gladstone, NJ 07934**  
**908-234-1815**  
**wwfoundation@willowwoodfoundation.com**  
www.willowwoodfoundation.org

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### *Save the Dates...*

*Open House, Sunday, September 15, Noon to 4 pm*

\*

*Lilac Party, Sunday, May 18, 2014*

### **Wish List for the Willowwood Arboretum**

Help us continue the dreams of Henry and Robert Tubbs by funding a Willowwood initiative at the Arboretum. Seating for our guests, garden fixtures and plantings or additions to the Narcissus & Crocus bulbs (over 14,000 crocus bulbs were browsed by deer this Spring after Sandy) for our meadows or even staff tools and equipment. All are needed to continue Willowwood as the very special treasure it is. Or volunteer a few hours each week in our gardens in the *GardenWorks* Program.



We need your help! As a fellow gardener or as one who simply treasures our living museum, please contact the Willowwood Foundation at 908-234-1815 or via email [wwfoundation@willowwoodfoundation.com](mailto:wwfoundation@willowwoodfoundation.com) to discuss the possibilities.



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*Copies of the Willowwood Journal are also available on line at [www.willowwoodarboretum.org](http://www.willowwoodarboretum.org)*

**YES! I want to help the Willowwood Foundation continue the work of the Tubbs & Dr. Ben Blackburn ...**

*Please add me to your mailing list*\_\_\_\_. *Email*\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ payable to The Willowwood Foundation.

All donations are tax deductible under section 501© (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.)

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Mail to: *The Willowwood Foundation, PO Box 218, Gladstone, NJ 07934* or call *908-234-1815* for more information

Directions to Willowwood Arboretum: 300 Longview Road. Follow Rt. 206 to turn at Pottersville Rd. (Rt. 512). Proceed 1/2 mile to right on Lisk Hill Rd. Follow signs to Willowwood