



◊ Willowwood Journal ◊

Volume 14, Issue 3

Autumn, 2008

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

PHOTO CREDITS:
THANKS TO:
LESLIE ALLAIN
ROBIN COLLINS
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Autumn Open House ~ Sunday, September 21

The Willowwood Arboretum will host the annual Autumn Open House from Noon to 4 pm on Sunday, September 21, 2008. Join guided tours of the Meadows and gardens and enjoy early fall foliage and notable winter plant features. Don't miss the Ornamental Walk or the beginnings of the fall colorations at the Cypress Pool, especially the crimson gold "Waterfall" maple cascading over the edge of the pool. "Waterfall" was a seedling planted by Robert Tubbs in the 1930's.

A very special tour will highlight plants discovered by notable plant collector and explorer E.H. Wilson, renown for his trips to China and Japan. Two plants, Wilson introductions to western cultivation, will be available for sale: the *Kolkwitzia amabilis* (Beauty Bush) shrub and the *Stewartia pseudocamellia* (Japanese Stewartia) tree.

Tips on fall gardens, demonstrations and a planting expert ready to answer your questions will be presented by the horticulture staff. Enjoy a perfect Fall Day and cider and light refreshments from nearby Hacklebarney Farm in our very special Gardens!

Free to the Public.

May's Centennial "Lilac Party"

was almost drenched by rain but our stalwart partygoers arrived in fashionable wellies and rain gear. Mary Bartow, Lilac Party Founder and Centennial Party Honorary Chair, noted that it had never rained during the previous parties and co-chairs Anne Peterson and Kristen Krag were thrilled as the SUN arrived in the nick of time to continue this tradition.

As usual, the grounds were gorgeous with spring flowers, the lilac scent embraced all and the sounds of the Solo String Quartet were magical in the incredible acoustics of Stone Barn.

"The Ten" another Lilac Party tradition, led by Rich McGlynn, started off a rollicking musical evening with Dan Levinson's Palomar Trio later adding the sounds and spirit of Benny Goodman and Dixieland as toe tappers danced around the tables of silent auction items and numerous plant selections sent to Willowwood by major arboreta, plant societies and plant aficionados.

Chris Cree, 56° degree wine, offered champagne for toasting, artisanal Spring wines for tasting and a specially chosen wine selection to compliment the tempting Sunday Supper buffet designed by Ross & Owren.

The highlight of the evening was the Live Plant Auction, commandeered by Kathy Shepperly, formerly a Christie's auctioneer, and her two able showmen, John Morse and Ken Selody, who paraded plants amongst the avid bidders, recognizing the many gracious plant experts and donors of rare and exceptional items.

"Nothing stops the 'Lilac Party' " said Marshall Jeanes, President of the Board of Trustees of the Willowwood Foundation, "Can't wait for next year's celebration to begin our next 100 years!"

Centennial Slide Show Debuts at "Lilac Party"

A 2008 Willowwood Foundation Grant to the Morris County Park Commission Curator of Collections and Exhibits, Lynn Laffey and her staff earlier this year, to finally sort through, catalog and preserve hundreds of photos, documents and other treasures left by the Tubbs' brothers and Dr. Ben Blackburn, provided the impetus and inspiration to Trustee Nancy Strong and former Trustee Janet Allocca, to work with Lynn to compile a visual history of Willowwood. Lilac Party attendees raved at the Powerpoint presentation filled with 'then and now' garden shots, postcard messages and historical photos. Jay Jordan, Superintendent of Horticulture, at Willowwood for many years, was enthralled at the changes in plant growth and garden design. Next scheduled showing will be at the Autumn Open House, Sunday, September 21.

The "Lilac Party" recognizes our supporters:

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Thank you for your generosity and support.



Interested in Seed Collecting?!

You, too, can learn the secrets of seed collecting and proper fall garden maintenance. The Willowwood planting beds must be readied and spring bulbs planted now for the glorious color you will see next Spring. And seeds collected for our annual Index Seminar project. Get your gloves and help! Learn the top gardening tips from the professionals!

Join the Willowwood Volunteers from Wednesdays from 9 AM to Noon. Wear Gardening clothes, bring gloves and a snack.

Call Kate Gutierrez, Horticultural Volunteer Program Specialist, at 973-326-7266 and sign up for a fun opportunity!

Permanent Plant Labels for your Garden:

Are you tired of looking at those ugly plastic labels on your plants or worse yet, not remembering exactly what a wondrous plant is? The Willowwood Foundation has the answer. We can provide permanent aluminum arboretum style tags customized for you and your garden. Blending into the landscape, unobtrusive yet an enduring record of gifts of love and beauty, these labels can be shipped within 10-15 days.

Label size: 1 3/4 x 3 1/2 inches with 4 lines of customized type.

Cost: \$20.00 for a minimum order of 10 labels including shipping.

Email: wvfoundation@earthlink.net

Thank you to our Donors: Spring ~ Summer, 2008

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of Louis F. Allain

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We value your support so highly! Through your contributions we have been able to begin new garden restoration projects and continue the plans of the Tubbs' and Dr. Blackburn. We are also very grateful to corporate employees who use a Corporate Match Program to double their gifts! There are many ways to insure our progress and please know that no gift is too small and that all gifts are very important to the Arboretum.

As we end our 2008 Centennial year, please remember that if Tax Planning plays a pivotal role for you, December 31, 2008 coming all too soon.

The Willowwood Foundation is recognized by the I.R.S. as a non profit 501 © (3). and donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

WILLOWWOOD Arboretum's "ROSARIE" GARDEN IS RESTORED

And in full bloom NOW!



After two years, the Horticulture staff recently accomplished the replanting of the *Rosarie Garden* at Willowwood. In late June, the garden was



filled with roses, shrubs, vines, herbaceous perennials, annuals, and tender plants, all arranged in a Mediterranean theme using the "hot" flower hues of yellow, orange and reds, tempered by cool lavenders and purples accented by bold foliage. Decorative urns and potted plants are tucked in unexpected nooks. A whimsical "door to nowhere" was added on the west side of the garden and has become a popular feature. A teak bench under an cooling arbor provides a quiet place to pause and reflect.

Restoration of the garden was complicated due to an infestation of *Pinellia*, a small but pernicious plant that is resistant to most herbicides. To eliminate this weed, all the plants were removed in fall 2005 and a two-year program of treatments using a special herbicide combination was begun. In December 2006, the wisteria arbor was rebuilt using locally harvested eastern red cedar and in March 2007, a new rough-cut cedar fence was installed. Last fall the *Pinellia* was finally eradicated and plans replanting the garden were developed.



The planting diagram was created by viewing old photographs of the garden and by reviewing former plant lists. Apparently the garden was a favorite of Dr. Ben Blackburn who was fond of the Mediterranean style and colorations. Some of the plants the new garden features include *Artemisia*, *Caryopteris*, *Crocosmia*, *Cynara*, *Eucalyptus*, *He-*

lenium, *Nerium*, *Phormium*, *Ricinus*, *Rosa*, *Salvia*, *Verbascum*, *Verbena*, *Vitex*, and *Yucca*. The garden should present a pleasing display throughout the year with the peak floral show occurring right now until Autumn's frost.

2008 marks the "first edition" of a planting plan that will develop over time. In 2009, Rosarie Gardener



Judy Schaible hopes to enhance the Mediterranean theme by adding more herbs as well as plants with spiky foliage or foliage that is silver or gray. She would also like to incorporate a small rustic fountain. Due to the sunny exposure and protected location of the garden, Judy plans to experiment with several plants that are not hardy elsewhere in the arboretum.

The Rosarie is located on the north side of the nursery and is just left of Pan's Garden. Follow the path on the right side of the Red Barn, pass through the Chive Walk, and you will be enveloped in the gorgeous colors. The next time you visit Willowwood, (before the first frost!) look for this restored treasure.

Restoration of the Rosarie was made possible by assistance from the Willowwood Foundation.

The Willowood Foundation
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908-234-1815

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Save the Dates...

Willowood *Autumn 'Open House'* - September 21, 2008

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Lilac Party Gala —May 17, 2009

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Wish List for the Willowood Arboretum

Help us to maintain the horticultural legacy of Henry and Robert Tubbs by funding one of the Willowood Foundation's initiatives at the Willowood Arboretum. Our ongoing projects include the Rosarie Garden Restoration, funding the horticultural interns who bring interested new eyes and very helpful hands to our gardens, enhancing the meadows with Spring daffodils and review and restoration of our primary collections.

We are currently working on plans for some very special projects to celebrate the beginning of our next 100 years in 2009. But we need your help! As a fellow gardener or as one who simply treasures our living museum, please contact the Willowood Foundation at 908-234-1815 or via email wwfoundation@earthlink.net if you would like to support the arboretum through one of these opportunities.

YES! I want to help the Willowood Foundation continue the work of Dr. Ben Blackburn and Russ Meyers.

Please add me to your mailing list _____. Email _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ payable to The Willowood Foundation.

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

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