



Willowwood Journal

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A Publication of the Willowwood Foundation

Autumn, 2014

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, October 5th!

the Autumn Open House at Willowwood Arboretum, Noon to 4 pm, is a perfect pick for a fall afternoon outing! Per car admission fee of \$5.00 .

Cell Phone Tour Available this Fall. 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.

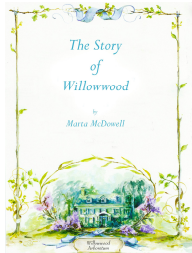
Open House Highlights:

- ❖ Wander Willowwood's paths on your own, or enjoy one of these 45 minute tours: "The Final Act" highlights seasonal changes and the autumn aesthetic; "Meadow Watch" explores some of Willowwood's 21 acre meadow. *Wear Sturdy shoes!*
- ❖ The meadow also offers up a rich bounty for flower arranging. Watch as floral designers create "Meadow Drama," using Indian and Little Bluestem grasses, pods, buds, Goldenrod and Asters. Maybe you will be one of the lucky guests to win a beautiful floral arrangement in our "Meadow Drama Drawing!"
- ❖ Keeping a meadow healthy is the subject of the "Preserve our Meadow" demonstration. Learn how to make seed balls, packed with seeds for plants that are part of a healthy New Jersey meadow. Then, take home a kit so that you can make your own.
- ❖ Bluebirds abound in the meadow. Their summer meals of insects will soon end. Children can make a special bluebird feeding cup to hang in their favorite meadow, get some suet recipes and help their resident bluebirds this winter.
- ❖ Curious about Willowwood's history? A power point presentation filled with archival photographs highlights the garden's founders, Henry and Robert Tubbs.
- ❖ Or Get a rare peak inside The Tubbs residence, built in the 1700's, open for viewing.
- ❖ Families will enjoy the "Autumn Leaf Scavenger Hunt." Sharpen your observation skills and be rewarded with a plant prize!
- ❖ At 1 p.m., a concert by the *A.L.L. Trio's Evan Lane and Friends*, fill the Cottage Garden with easy, folk rock sounds to match the mellow autumn mood. Bring a blanket or your lawn chair! Dancing encouraged!
- ❖ Light refreshments provided by the Willowwood Foundation.

Visit Noon to 4 pm Sunday October 5th
\$5. admission fee per car; exact change appreciated

Website: 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

Check out the Willowood website:
www.willowoodarboretum.org
Directions, photos, contest and wedding and party 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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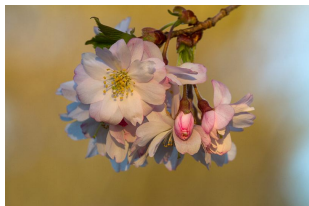
The Willowood Foundation is recognized by the I.R.S. as a non profit 501 © (3). Thank you so very much.

Arboretum News

New Hire: Ryan Moore recently joined the Horticulture Staff as a Foreman. Ryan was introduced to ornamental horticulture at Frelinghuysen Arboretum over seven years ago while studying at Morris County College. After earning an Associates Degree in Landscape Design and Maintenance, he studied Environmental Design and Horticulture, specializing in Ecological Landscape Design at Delaware Valley College. He was a summer gardener at NJ Botanical Garden then interned at Mt. Cuba Center, a botanical garden and historical preserve in Delaware. After graduating, he focused on aquatics and wetland Restorations at a wholesale nursery. Ryan volunteers with the NY/NJ Trail Conference on the Bear Mountain Trails Project as an Endangered Plant Monitor and is helping build a reroute of the Appalachian Trail. He has also trained with the Invasive Species Strike Force. Great background! Welcome Ryan!

John Morse, Manager of Horticulture, says there are still **openings for additional skilled gardeners, volunteers and paid interns** 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 for info on either program or corporate participation.

Navjot Singh was the winner of the Spring 2014 Cherry Photo Contest sponsored by the Willowood Foundation. He also tied for 2nd Place with David Mojica. Jessica Huelsbergen was 4th. Jim Punder-son was 5th. The top 13 Finalists photos are depicted on the Willowood website.



The Willowood Foundation is pleased to announce the 2015 Photo Contest. The Topic is **Autumn Flora and Fauna at Willowood**. Deadline is April 15, 2015. More contest details on website.

Willowood Arboretum - Highlights from the Decorative Arts Collection

by **Lesley Parness**,

Superintendent of Horticultural Education

While it is certainly true that Henry and Robert Tubbs had a passion for plant collecting, that same passion extended to the decorative arts as well. The Foo Dog Incense Burner is one of many Asian decorative art pieces amassed by Henry and Robert Tubbs. In both their garden and their home, the Tubbs brothers were drawn to Asian design sensibilities.



FOO DOG INCENSE BURNER: This 19th century bronze incense burner with a foo dog finial stands on a dark stained, tri-footed teak plinth. The Chinese ceremonial covered pot stands 21" high and is 11" in diameter. Cast in bronze, with hand-chased ornamentation, the outer surface bears a smoky patina from years of use. Smoke is expelled through the mouth and openings in the censer. Some of its traditional embellishments include the raised panel bas relief, a lavish mane, billowing tail, bared fangs, glaring eyes, and talon like feet.

Pictured here standing on the Tubbs House porch, this piece usually resides in the Parlor on a low table adjacent to the door leading to the Library.

Incense in China is traditionally used in a wide range of cultural activities including religious ceremonies, ancestor veneration, traditional medicine and in daily life. Known as *xiang*, incense was used as early as 250 BC. Its use increased during the Han dynasty (206 BC – 220 AD) with greater trade and the availability of more fragrant materials. Incense was traditionally burned at the threshold of a home or business, before images and deities, in shrines, at home altars and at the main entrance to villages.

In Chinese art and secular life, incense and the utensils used in associated rituals are seen as metaphoric symbols, suggesting refinement and sophistication. The representation of the Foo Dog on this burner is typical of how the lion was viewed in ancient China. "Foo Dog" refers to any of the closely related dog breeds which resemble the Chinese guardian lions and hence are also called Lion Dogs. The animal was believed to have powerful mythic protective properties. Their appearance in Buddhist religious art in China is found as early as 208 BC, when it was believed that the Foo Lion was a protector of the Dharma, or Buddhist teachings.

How did the lion, which is not indigenous to China come to be known there? As Buddhism was spread from neighboring India to China by traveling Buddhist priests and monks, stories about stone lions guarding the entries to temples, monasteries and the palaces of kings were spread. Lions are indigenous to India and scholars believe that the depiction of the Foo Dog came about because Chinese sculptors combined lion-like imagery with that of Chinese native dogs.

The Willowwood Foundation
P.O. Box 218, Gladstone, NJ 07934
908-234-1815
wwfoundation@willowwoodfoundation.com
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Save the Dates...

Open House, Sunday, October 5, Noon to 4 pm, \$5. admission per car fee

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20th Anniversary Lilac Party, Sunday, May 17, 2015

Wish List for the Willowwood Arboretum

Help us continue the dreams of Henry and Robert Tubbs by funding a Willowwood initiative at the Arboretum. Each year the Foundation funds horticulture interns as well as garden plantings. It is the Willowwood Foundation mission to continue Willowwood as the very special treasure it is. Or please 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 to discuss the possibilities.

Go Green! If you would prefer to read this newsletter via email in a pdf version or if you have changed your eMail or Mailing address, ***Please let us know:*** wwfoundation@willowwoodfoundation.com.

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

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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