

Spring 2011

Complimentary

The Black River JOURNAL

Celebrating a Sense of Place



Willowwood Foundation Lilac Party 2018

The sun refused to stay behind the clouds at the Willowwood Foundation's 23rd Anniversary Lilac Party Celebration. A throw-back to the festive Somerset Hills social parties given in the 1950s and 60s under Willowwood's lilac trees by Dr. Ben Blackburn, noted botanist and adopted son of Willowwood's owner, Henry Tobbs, the well-known and much adored Lilac Garden Party has become a traditional harbinger of Spring. Surrounded by the blossoming splendor of the Arboretum, guests enjoyed a wine tasting hosted by Andrea Maranca of Tewksbury Fine Wine & Spirits, while being serenaded by "The Ten," a renowned and versatile men's a cappella group.



Tracy, Leslie Allan, and John Smith of Fox Hills, arrive in style.



The Ten at Willowwood Foundation



A Silent Auction of unusual plants donated by many plant nurseries and local garden centers captivated all plant aficionados, and a new musical tradition began this year with a sing along of favorites accompanied by pianist and composer Amir Mortezai.

As a final Lilac Party tradition, all attendees received a specially chosen lilac plant to plant in their gardens as a remembrance of the party. Many party-goers who have enjoyed the Lilac Party over the years now have groves of lilacs on their properties!

All proceeds generated by this annual fundraiser are used by the Willowwood Foundation to support horticulture interns, scholarships and conservation and garden projects at the Arboretum.

"Gardens brighten everyone's day," said partygoer and garden enthusiast and supporter, Nancy Pyne (pictured right in the lilac hat and scarf), whose family established and helps maintain Leonard J. Buck Gardens, in Far Hills. "Being a gardener is good for the soul."

Willowwood Arboretum is part of the Morris County Park system, and is located at 300 Longview Road, in Chester Township. For more information, please visit morrispark.com. For more information about the Willowwood Foundation, please visit www.willowwoodfoundation.com or email www.foundation@willowwoodfoundation.com.



The Willowwood Foundation

*A non-profit educational organization that
supports horticulture projects at the
Willowwood Arboretum*

Visit the Willowwood Arboretum Open House

Sunday, September 23, 2018

Noon - 4 pm

\$5 per car

Visit www.willowwoodarboretum.org

for more information

300 Longview Road

Chester Township, New Jersey

Willowwood Arboretum

(Willowwood is a facility of the
Morris County Park Commission)