



# George Landis Arboretum Newsletter

Volume 11 • Number 1

Winter 1992

## Marco Polo Stufano to Speak

Plans are underway for the Arboretum's third Spring Benefit. Building on the two previous enjoyable (and successful!) events, the Desmond Americana Inn will be the site for the March 21 lecture, tea and auction of choice plants. The Desmond Americana has generously contributed the use of the room. After the lecture, guests will adjourn to the Orange Street Courtyard for tea (or a visit to the cash bar) and the auction. Peter Rumora will auction plants and other garden goodies that have been donated by local nurseries.

Marco Polo Stufano will speak on "Bones in the Garden", a presentation on what makes a good garden work. Gardens are a series of pictures and spaces - at best they are art - and as all art, there is an underlying structure which holds the creation together. The structural and sculptural qualities of

gardens are more enduring than mere floral display and can transcend the seasons. The bones of a great beauty remain well beyond her springtime.

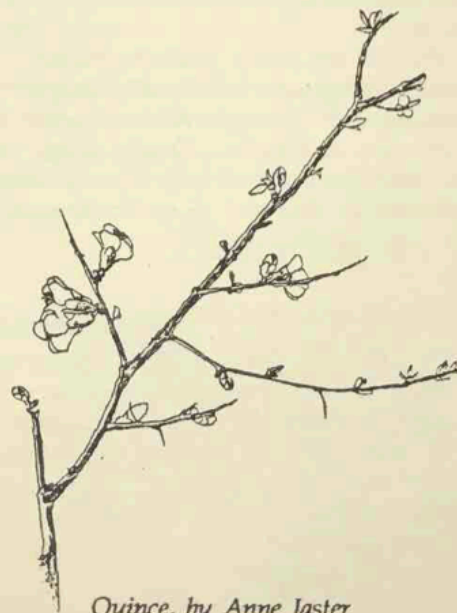
Mr. Stufano uses his understanding of the fine arts and a bit of architecture to elaborate the point that all good pictures hold together due to their thoughtfully constructed framework. An award winning gardener/designer, Mr. Stufano has been Director of Wave Hill Gardens, outside New York City, for 25 years. A recent citation by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society describes Mr. Stufano as "a plantsman par excellence who has done a magnificent job in developing and caring for the landscape at Wave Hill. There are few people who understand and work with plants as well as Mr. Stufano, who is also dedicated and adept at communicating with the public."

## Endowment Campaign

Returning charter trustee Dr. William Huntley will head up a committee of the Board of Trustees whose focus will be the building of the Arboretum's endowment fund. Trustee Gil Harlow will serve with Dr. Huntley in this effort.

A campaign to build our endowment is long overdue. Currently the George Landis Arboretum has two endowment funds. One left by founder Fred Lape generates capital which contributed 13% (\$11,972) of our 1990 general operating budget. This fund is administered by Norstar Bank under the dictates of Fred Lape's will. A second, much smaller, endowment fund was established in 1987. This has been designated as a

*Continues on page 2*



*Quince, by Anne Jaster*

## Spring Treat in Store

Next spring Arboretum members and visitors will have a new reason to step into the Lape Homestead. The original dining room, currently the office, will be the home of our new gift shop. (The office will move to the living room.) To open on April 25, in conjunction with our Arbor Day festivities, the gift shop will specialize in good garden items, from books to tools, from art to birdfeeders, dried flowers and the occasional plant from our very own greenhouse.

This exciting new venture will be a lot of fun for all involved, and should help attract visitors, but, most important, it will be a source of income for the Arboretum. Member Joani Momberger, who will manage the shop, is currently planning the initial inventory and seeking suppliers as well as collecting all the paraphernalia needed to change an empty room into a charming store. In keeping with the feeling of an old farmhouse we hope to furnish it with a few pieces of country furniture and simple shelving. Also needed are a rug, baskets and old boxes to display things in, and (not historically appropriate, but necessary) tracklights. If you can loan any of these items to help the gift shop get started it would be greatly appreciated.

In the beginning the shop will be open on weekends and during special events. As business grows, the hours will expanded appropriately to the extent that can be staffed by volunteers. For those of you who like playing store, here's your chance! Volunteers are needed both for the repairs/painting/set-up stage and to staff the shop when it opens. If you're interested in helping, or loaning something, please call Joani Momberger at 346-3279 (evenings). We hope to see you on April 25th.