



# LANDIS ARBORETUM

## THE NEWSLETTER

Esperance, New York

SUMMER 2004

VOLUME 23, NO. 3

# Fall—A Good Time To Buy, a Good Time To Plant

## FALL PLANT SALE

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 11 & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 10AM TO 4PM**

*Nick Zabawsky, Fall Plant Sale Chairman*

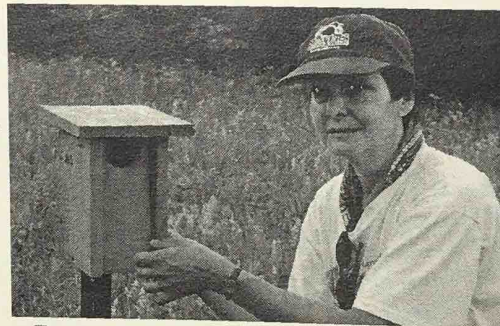
**The Fall Plant Sale:** another opportunity to choose from an excellent selection of new and old favorites, locate hard-to-find species, and choose plants suited for fall plantings. Spring is not the only time to plant. Many perennials and woody plants have time to develop root systems before facing another growing season and do best with a fall planting. Among the many perennials and woody plants offered this fall will be oaks, maples, paw paw, viburnums, hydrangeas, heaths and heathers, and unusual conifers, perennials, and daylilies.

Every effort is being made to ensure the Fall Plant Sale is visitor-friendly and a source of information for the buyer. The Plant Sale Committee has lined up chairpeople for procurement, traffic control, volunteer coordination, food and refreshments, plant experts, signs, publicity, and checkout. You may be called to volunteer and may choose one or more of these areas to work. It really is not all work. Where else can you get together with other plant lovers and share the day?

—more on page 6.

## Bluebirds at Landis

*By Trina Bassoff, Intern*

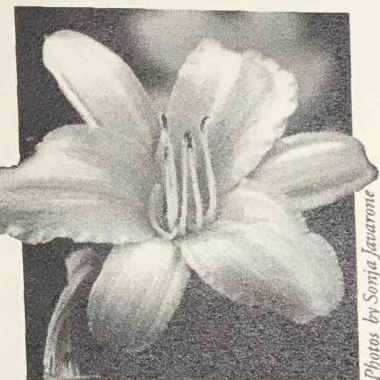


*Photo by Fred Breglia*

birds. Since beginning my internship in late March 2004, I have spent more than 90% of my time preparing, maintaining, and monitoring birdnest boxes in an effort to maximize the number of eastern bluebirds nesting at the Arboretum. My other projects have been put on hold for later this summer and fall; the nesting success of the eastern bluebird has taken precedence.

With the help of volunteer Richard Dexter, we added four pairs of nest boxes in suitable bluebird nesting habitat and began a twice-weekly routine of monitoring all 40 nest boxes on the Landis Arboretum bluebird trail. Every Tuesday and Friday morning, Richard and I set out on the trail with a knapsack containing a clipboard, a ruler, plastic bags, putty knife, digital camera, and binoculars. We spend the morning recording data on nest contents, measuring nest height, removing wasp nests, and recording data on eggs and nestlings. In addition to being used by the eastern bluebird, our nest boxes have been occupied by tree swallows and house wrens. All three species have incubated eggs and reared nestlings to the fledgling stage.

—continued on page 6.

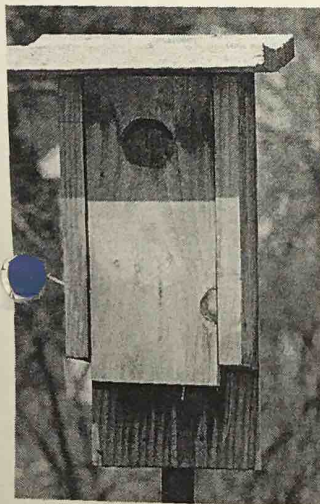


*Photos by Sonja Javarone*

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**Trina Bassoff (right) checks a Gilwood bluebird box at Landis. A standard box is shown below.**



*Photo by Sonja Javarone*



THE LANDIS ARBORETUM NEWSLETTER is published quarterly for its members. The Arboretum's mission is to foster the appreciation of trees and other plants and their importance in our environment.

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The Arboretum is located one and one-half miles north of Route 20 in Esperance. Follow the signs from the village to Lape Road. The Arboretum is one-quarter mile straight ahead.

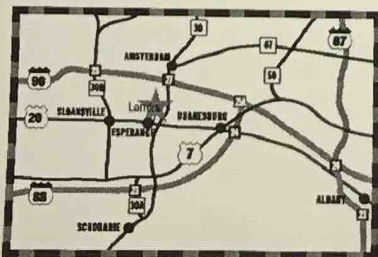


Photo by Fred Breglia

# FROM THE GARDEN

By Gloria Van Duyne, Executive Director

For the second year in a row, Landis has received \$5,000 from the New York Power Authority (NYPA). This generous support helps with expenses, such as heat and electricity, necessary for operation. Landis's Publications Committee lent its services to NYPA by composing text for interpretive signs in the new wetland in Blenheim-Gilboa power project.

Schoharie County has supported Landis again this year with \$1,000 in their annual budget. We are also receiving \$500 from the Town of Esperance.

The Iroquois Gas Transmission System awarded us another Land Enhancement and Acquisition Fund (LEAF) grant for tree, shrub, and perennial identification signs in our native woodlands. A previous LEAF grant, completed in December 2003, helped purchase photo-metal trailhead signs and over 30 interpretive signs throughout our formal collections and natural areas.

In June, we submitted a new NYS Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) grant application. The current EPF-funded project will be completed this year. Renovating leaking ponds and

clearing large areas of invasive plant species are the most noticeable results of the EPF grant. Other improvements included some tree plantings, trail-head signs, and new directional signs. This year, visitors will notice trail improvements in our natural areas, which are supported in part by the EPF grant.

As a not-for-profit organization, we rely on grants, donations, memberships, and fundraising events to run the Arboretum. We are always seeking new sources of support. We welcome your help in identifying funding opportunities. For instance, we have received funding from an employer of a member. Another member's family runs a private foundation with which we are working to identify a project that is of interest to them. If you have a suggestion, call or e-mail me at 518-875-6935 or landised@midtel.net.



Photo by Roberta Karasue

Steve De Carlo (l) Regional Manager and Steve Ramsey (r) Community Relations Rep, NY Power Authority, and Gloria Van Duyne (c).

## MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES FOR THEIR GENEROUS GIFTS AND CONTINUING SUPPORT—

To all who volunteered at the Spring Workfest Cleanup Day

To Everyone who volunteered at the Spring Plant, Book and Bake Sale: Bernard Allanson, Shawn and Ann Bevins, Paul Blair, Donna Blummer, David and Gail Browning and family, David Buddle, Warren Burton, Dick & Marion Clowe, Jo Ann Coghlan, Art Coleman, Jo Ann Darcy Crumm, Carolyn Edwards, Herm Finkbeiner, Jack Fritz, Florence & Bob Grimm, Mike and Sue Gutbezahl, Lawson and Pricilla Harris, Virginia Hoepfner, Ken and Marion Hotopp, Barbara Hunt, Diane Jankowski, Sonja Javarone, Gail Kessler, Bob and Rita Krom, Judith Lott, Claudia McLaughlin, Ron Neadle, Don Orr and Barbara Costanzo, Mervyn Prichard, Randy and

Rick Proctor, Peter Rumora, Pat Rush, Jeff Schworm, Viktoria Serafin, Cindy Skala, Jane Smith, Dawn Vink and Dennis Mereness, Janet Vinyard, Judy Wertinbaker, Carol Wock, Ellen Wood, Mark Woods, Arthur Young, and Nick Zabawsky.

To Jane Barton, Catherine Klatt, Jodi Krause, and Eleanor Wages, who donated baked goods, books and plants to the Plant, Book and Bake Sale.

To Gary Deluke for plants for our spring sale and gates for the grounds.

To Edie Brown, Owl Pen Book Store; Susan Novotny, Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza; Jim and Roberta Brooks, Cat Nap Books, for donating books to the book sale.

To Bernard and Nancy Allanson for donating the rubber tire wagon.

To Faddegon's Nursery, for their continued support.

To Carolyn Kingston for donating a laptop computer and its peripherals.

To Price Chopper and Golub Corporation for their continued support.

To Carol Loucks, Ellen Wood, Sara Pratt, and Al D'Alauro for their continued support in the perennial gardens.

Thank you to Sue Gutbezahl, Sonja Javarone, David Buddle, Susan Sagendorf for all their continued support with our publications.

And many thanks and apologies for anyone who helped that we may have missed.



## WISH LIST

### Equipment Wish List

We are looking for the following items (or estimated dollar amount to purchase items).

#### Equipment

- Bird feeders and seed
- Projector for PowerPoint presentations
- Laptop computer
- Picnic tables and benches (\$250)
- Professional climbing saw (\$150)
- DR brush mower (\$2,500)
- Hardback rakes, shovels, loppers, and mulch fork (\$200)
- Trowels and other small gardening tools
- Troy Built hand cart

And always, the large tractor—

- A John Deere 790 (or machine of equal quality) 4wd, 30hp, with backhoe and loader (\$20,000)
- 4wd pick-up truck
- set of air-driven impact tools to help facilitate machine maintenance

### Project Wish List

We are looking for volunteers familiar with the following tasks (or equivalent dollar amount to complete these projects).

- Stone walls around the greenhouse and walls around perennial garden need rebuilding. (\$800)
- Hand quilters for next year's raffle quilt

### Donations

- \$1000 for a new entrance sign
- \$1000 (ea.) for printing new and updated brochures

### Education Wish List

- Animal skins in good condition
- Skulls and bones in good condition
- Feathers and nests from wild birds
- Insect collections
- Local rocks and fossils
- Tree identification books
- Leaf identification books
- White enamel pans
- Toss rubber boots
- Magnifying glasses
- Walkie-talkies
- Environmental science tools

Photo by Sonja Janavone



## HORTICULTURIST'S CORNER

by Fred Bregila, Head of Horticulture and Operations

# Tips for the summer season

Summer's here and the time is right for dancing in the streets and performing many of the required maintenance chores on landscape plants. Here are some midsummer tips for your trees, shrubs, and gardens.

#### Trees and shrubs

**Planting.** Late August through September is a good time to plant new trees and shrubs.

Watering your trees and shrubs in August and September is a good way to prepare the trees for the upcoming winter, since water and nutrient storage is optimal during this time period.

**Pruning & shearing.** June and July is the best time for pruning canker-prone species such as crabapples, ornamental pears, cherries, maples, honey locusts, and willows. June and July are also the preferred time to prune species that bleed, such as maples and birches. However, late summer is not a good time to prune because it could stimulate late season growth that could lead to winter injury, so avoid pruning in August.

**Avoid shearing** evergreen shrubs and hedges in August, which will stimulate late season growth that is prone to winter damage. June and July is the best time to shear them.

**Dead wood** can be removed any time of year from trees and shrubs. This helps promote good plant health and keeps them looking good, too.

**Fertilizing.** Do not fertilize trees and shrubs in late summer.

Doing so can stimulate late season growth that is susceptible to injury during winter.

#### Mowing, bugs, and buying

• Don't let weeds go to seed and you will cut down dramatically on weeding next year.

• Manually mowing your lawn burns approximately 420 calories per hour.

• Cut grass using your mower's tallest setting to prevent summer drought die-back and reduce watering requirements.

• Check out garden centers for bargain-priced plants.

• Mark September 11 and 12 on your calendars for the Landis Arboretum Fall Plant Sale.

• Watch out for yellow jackets. They become more aggressive as the hot weather approaches.

• Watch out for the round-headed apple borer. It is one of the worst pests of ornamental flowering crabapples. Early signs that you may have this pest are noticeable sawdust at the root flare area of your tree or a small round hole just above the root flare area. This leads to more advanced decline of the tree, including weak growth and yellowing leaves and eventually death. If you see them, you should treat immediately.

• Rake up diseased leaves from around ornamentals. Picking up leaves infected by apple scab and rust helps break the life cycles of the diseases and promote healthier specimens in subsequent years. Do not put the diseased leaves in the compost but rather burn them or dispose of them via a garbage service.

#### Digging, dividing, and deadheading

• If spring flowering bulbs need dividing, dig them after the

foliage turns brown. Digging them before foliage naturally dies back will weaken the bulb.

• Dig and divide poorly flowering daylilies or daylilies that are forming clumps that are getting too large. Keep them watered after dividing.

• Divide or transplant oriental poppies in late July.

• Deadhead flowering bedding plants by cutting off the dead flower heads throughout the season to prolong the bloom time and keep them looking good.

• Move houseplants into shady spots in late summer to prepare them for moving indoors.

• Place stakes by tall perennials to help keep them upright.

#### Watering, harvesting, and partying

• Most plants prefer at least 1 inch of water per week.

• Keep container plants well watered and fertilize once a month.

• Turn your compost pile over.

• Blanch and freeze extra beans. They will be a welcome treat in the fall.

• Harvest, harvest, harvest and give the extra vegetables away to friends, family, or your local food pantry.

• Pick basil and make a pesto sauce with olive oil and garlic in the blender. (Pick other herbs, too.)

• Have a garden party or just sit in a lawn chair, put your feet up, and enjoy your beautiful garden. After all that's what it's there for.



# WELCOME New Members

Brea Barthel  
 J. Richard Cahill  
 Susan Currie  
 Kristin Fox  
 Liane Hirabayashi  
 Randy and Lucci Kelly  
 Carlos Laboy  
 Gerald Law  
 Chad Lesniak  
 Joe and Paula Pliss  
 Diane Smith  
 Diane Steele


## Recent Breglia Memorial Donor

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TO OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY.

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# COLLECTIONS NEWS

by Fred Breglia, Head of Horticulture and Operations

Despite a very cold winter, we had record blooms on our lilac collection this past spring, which led to a feature article in the *Schenectady Gazette*. We also had a tremendous amount of flowers on our crab-apples, rhododendrons, and in the perennial gardens. The red maples even had an increased flowering period this spring. Then summer came and brought out the beautiful flowers on our yellow-wood, Japanese tree lilacs, fringe trees, and bottle-brush buckeye, to name a few. A famous songwriter once said, "There ain't no cure for the summertime blues." Well I disagree. Many new and exciting things have been going on around your Arboretum, and the staff here is far from blue.

## American Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboreta National Conference

This year I was a featured speaker at the American Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboreta's (AABGA) National Conference in Dallas, Texas. The focus of the talk was how gardens use their North American Plant Collections Consortium (NAPCC) registered collections. Oaks have always been a strong part of the horticultural history of Landis Arboretum. Arboretum founder, Fred Lape, liked oaks very much and planted our strong oak collection, which is registered by the NAPCC as the official northeast oak collection. In fact even before Landis was an arboretum, it was called Oak Nose Farm after the Great Oak. Future collections development for Landis includes growing all of the native oak species hardy in our zone, including named hybrids. The presentation I gave in Dallas focused on the many ways we have been incorporating these oaks into our programs and activities, such as featuring oaks at this year's Spring Plant Sale. We have also used the NAPCC designation in grant applications and have used our oak collection to teach tree identification courses. The presentation was very well received and helped to put Landis Arboretum on the national map.

## New Trees

We are in full planting mode this year and will be installing many new trees to enlarge the NAPCC Oak Collection and possibly complete the Tough Trees for Tough Sites Collection. Come out and see the many great tree selections before you decide to plant any new tree. We are a resource for homeowners and municipalities. Get ideas for new introductions that will thrive in various site conditions as well as see how these trees look at maturity.

## Summer Projects

Another major summer project is the construction of a walkway around the wet area you pass on the trail to our Great Oak. Where the walkway passes the water, visitors will be able to see the many



Photo by Sonja Jaurone

Fred Breglia admires and evaluates an old red oak in Bass Woodland

native aquatic plants that grow in fens (alkaline bogs). We will also clear more land to expand and maintain the many great views from the Arboretum.

Our summer youth crew (from the Private Industry Council) has begun work here again this year. Projects include mulching of collections, brush clearing, stone wall repair, as well as needed trail improvements.

Brian Phillips, an Eagle Scout, has installed all of our new trailhead signs by making brackets to hold them. He also made and painted new directional signs. This is making it easier than ever for visitors to navigate our site. Not only will visitors know where trails begin, but the directional signs guide visitors to destinations around the grounds.

## Garden Care

I am proud to say that we have hired Sara Pratt as a part-time gardener to work Tuesdays and Wednesdays this summer on our Van Loveland Perennial Gardens. Already Sara's work, along with Carol Loucks, Carol Wiley, Al D'Alauro, and Ellen Wood, has made a dramatic difference in the appearance of our perennial gardens. As always we are looking for more gardeners who are willing to lend a hand in the gardens. Call me at the office, 518-875-6935, if you are interested.

Our bluebird project is better than ever this year with a record number of fledglings that



Collections, continued from page 4.

have successfully left the nest. Many thanks to intern Trina Hoff, volunteer Richard Dexter, and Bob Yunick, master bird bander, who have helped make this project more successful than ever. Read Trina's article on bluebirds for the complete story on our very successful project.

### Bass Woodland Trails

More work has been performed on the Bass Woodland. Trails have been improved to make it easier for visitors to walk. Plans are underway to develop and print a special map to show visitors all of our great walking and hiking trails.

New introductions to our Native Plant Botany trail have been added by Ed Miller and the Native Plant Committee. Come on out and botanize.

We have also purchased a new maintenance and touring vehicle that is making our day-to-day operations more efficient.

Have you seen your Arboretum lately? I encourage you come out and spend the day with us. Please stop by the farmhouse and gift shop and introduce yourself to the hardworking staff and get tips on sightseeing. There are many areas of the Arboretum that you have probably not seen yet, like the Gorge Overlook (a new trail that follows the top of a gorge 80 feet deep), a dozen oaks in the 300-year class that range from 3 to 5 feet in diameter, the American chestnuts, the new tree plantings, and the Pioneer and Acorn Trails. There is always something new to discover when you visit the Landis Arboretum. Just recently I saw two baby deer and a female turkey with a flock of chicks. I also found another dawn redwood tree that has been here for years, but was hiding on the sidelines.

"Going to the woods is like going home."  
—John Muir



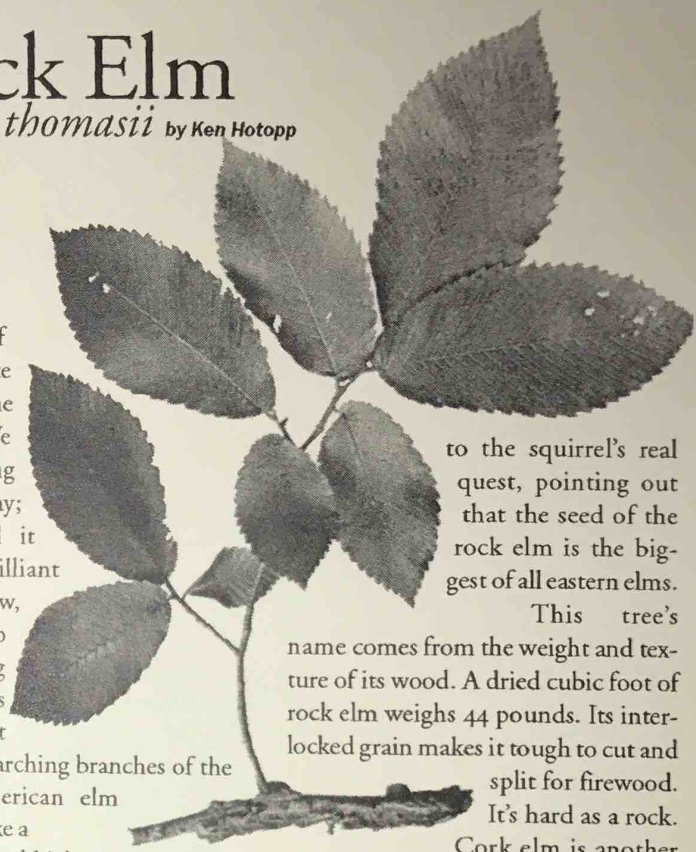
Give a guy a good set of wheels...Fred Breglia shows off the Arb's new acquisition.

# Rock Elm

*Ulmus thomasii* by Ken Hotopp

One of my favorite trees is the rock elm. We have on along our driveway; in the fall it turns a brilliant bright yellow, lighting up everything under it. Its shape isn't the typical arching branches of the stately American elm but more like a medium-sized hickory, with drooping lower branches. Some of the older references even call it hickory elm.

Although the rock elms I've seen have all been less than a foot in diameter and about 40 feet tall, tree identification books say it gets to 2 to 3 feet wide and over 70 feet high. This spring my wife and I watched a squirrel doing a trapeze act all over the elm. We thought it was nipping off the newly formed buds. However, dendrologist Bill Harlow gave us the clue



to the squirrel's real quest, pointing out that the seed of the rock elm is the biggest of all eastern elms.

This tree's name comes from the weight and texture of its wood. A dried cubic foot of rock elm weighs 44 pounds. Its interlocked grain makes it tough to cut and split for firewood. It's hard as a rock.

Cork elm is another name used to describe *Ulmus thomasii*. The reason? The tree's small branches and twigs have from one to four rows of corky ridges or "wings."

With corky wings on the twigs and a leaf that's smooth on top and hairy on the bottom, the rock elm is fairly easy to identify. So keep your eyes open for this different elm. And remember, if you find a rock elm three feet in diameter and 100 feet tall, give Fred a call at the Arboretum because he's into the big ones.

Welcome to Sara Pratt who will be working in the perennial gardens. Sara also works for Howe Caverns and is attending SUNY Cobleskill studying plant science.



Photo by Fred Breglia

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# Audio Guide Enhances Trail

New audio guide to the Willow Pond Trail describes the native plant collection.

by Ed Miller

Something new has been added! Museums have them. Now we will also have portable headsets with recordings of what to see at the Landis Arboretum. No Mona Lisa here, but for some of us, plants are even more interesting. Our first audio guide is of the Willow Pond Trail and it describes the native plant collection along the trail. Eventually we hope to have recordings of our famous oak and lilac collections, the Woodland and Fred Lape trails, and maybe the Van Loveland Garden.

For people who already have (or can borrow) a portable CD player, it will be easy. Go to the gift shop and borrow the CD. Leave two bucks and you can keep it forever, or return the CD in good shape and get your money back. The freebee offer is in exchange for your comments and suggestions. If you do not have a CD player, we will have a loaner in the gift shop. To make sure it gets back, we need your driver's license for security. The gift shop is only open weekends, so plan accordingly.

We have had quite a few visitors to the native plant trail and have received good feedback. The bog garden has drawn the most comments, as most people have never had the opportunity to come so close to many bog plants. So come to the Arboretum, pick up the audio guide, and take a walk on the Willow Pond Trail. It is about a half mile, the trail is now quite dry, but it does have some ups and downs.

Enjoy!

*Plant Sale, continued from page 1.*

The book sale returns this fall to satisfy your reading needs. Book lovers are needed to set up, help customers, and break down after the sale. Call the office to volunteer and to donate books.

Landis members donate many superior plants to the Arboretum's plant sale by culling their choice plants from their own gardens. If you wish to donate plants, pot and label them so they are ready for the sale table. Landis has pots available for you.

The Garden Volunteers will be back selling baked goods to raise money for renovation of the perennial gardens. Money from previous sales has enabled us to have a part-time gardener this year. Bake sale volunteers and tasty donations are needed.

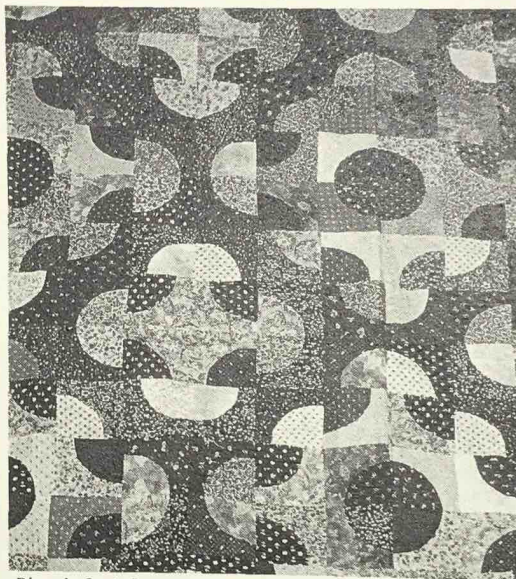


Photo by Sonja Javarone

Why not take a chance on these fine raffle items? The Drunkard's Path ("Round the World") quilt pictured above (the colors are incredible; it will be on display at the plant sale), metal birdcage-style plant stand, and a beautiful wooden pen made from the fallen branch from our Great Oak.

Plan to make a day of it! Our new trail signs, new trails, and autumn fruits and foliage are a special treat this time of the year. See you here and bring a friend.

*Bluebirds, continued from page 1.*

Master bird bander Robert Yunick visits the Arboretum two or three times a month to band nestlings and adults. With his effort, we hope to collect and analyze data in the coming years to monitor population movements and breeding success. During the 2004 breeding season, the Arboretum has hosted more nesting eastern bluebirds than it had in any single season since the bluebird trail was initiated in 1999. Because the eastern bluebird typically lays two clutches of eggs a season in the Northeast, their breeding season is lengthy and our data is preliminary. Thus far, we have had 45 nestlings fledge. This almost doubles the previous record of 23 fledged eastern bluebirds, which was set in 2000. These numbers are impressive for a species that experienced severe population declines during the past 50 years due to nest site competition and habitat loss.

This work has been an extremely rewarding learning experience for me; I plan to continue with the project next year. The breeding bird atlas project has been equally exciting. At least 86 bird species spend their breeding season in the variety of habitats at the Landis Arboretum. I have heard or seen many of these birds during the morning hours while walking the bluebird trail.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the bluebird trail and other projects. The small mammal survey using live traps to compare forest and grassland mammal species is expected to begin this summer. Please call the Landis Arboretum office at 875-6935 or email [landis@mittel.net](mailto:landis@mittel.net) for more information.

## 2004 Spring Plant Sale

by Dick Clough, Plant Sale Chairman

In spite of a severe weather forecast, we had three beautiful days for the Spring Plant Sale, but with a light customer turnout. Friday night's Pick of the Pots party was very successful, yielding sales equal to last year's. Saturday and Sunday sales were well below last year's.

Thanks to all who volunteered to support this year's sale and to our multitalented staff.

## LILACS - LILACS - LILACS

Visit our Exhibition Garden. Over 100 varieties for sale.

Yellow, White, Violet, Blue, Lavender, Pink, Magenta, Purple/White Single, Double, and Extra Double Flowers - Dwarf, Semi-dwarf, Standard, and Tree size

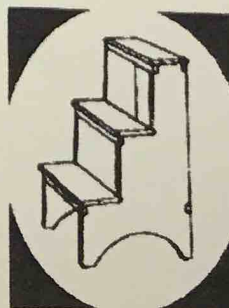
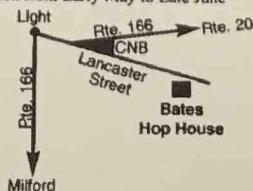
Early to Late Types that extend the bloom season from Early May to Late June

### Bates Hop House

54 Lancaster Street  
Cherry Valley, NY  
(607) 264-3450

OPEN: May-June 9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
July-Aug. By appointment.

CLOSED: Monday and Tuesday



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# WORKSHOP AND SPECIAL EVENT REGISTRATION

NAME		CITY		ZIP		PHONE	
ADDRESS							
Workshop/Event	Date	Number of members attending @ \$ = \$ subtotal	Number of nonmembers attending @ \$ = \$ subtotal			\$ Total	
Payment Method						<b>Total \$</b>	
Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Please make payable to Landis Arboretum		Credit Card: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard					
Card number		Exp. Date					
Signature							

## CALENDAR Upcoming Events

For registration and information call 518-875-6935 or landis@midtel.net; or use the registration form on page 7. Enclose with payment and mail to: Landis Arboretum, Landis Road, Box 186, Esperance, NY 12066-0186

All events take place at the Arboretum unless noted.

**Family programs** with nature educator George Steele begin at the Arboretum Meeting House. Programs are free and no registration is necessary. Donations are greatly appreciated. Programs are held rain or shine.

**Advance payment and registration** is required for all general classes and workshops, trips and Horticulture Certificate classes. Call the Arboretum for workshop fees. For your convenience, payment can be made via Visa or MasterCard.

For a more complete description of course contents, see the "Coming Attractions" insert in the Winter 2004 Newsletter.

### Horticulture Certificate Courses

Landis Arboretum and SUNY Cobleskill offer courses of interest to professionals and the gardener. Three classes are offered this fall—they can be taken for credit or noncredit. Unless specified, classes are held at Landis. For registration and payment, use the form inserted in this issue of the newsletter, or contact Linda Karker, Office of Conferences & Training, Wieting Hall, Lower Level, SUNY Cobleskill 12043. Checks are payable to SUNY Cobleskill.

## AUGUST

**14 (Saturday) 10am-noon**  
FAMILY PROGRAM

### Crazy 'bout Caterpillars

Learn how to identify and care for caterpillars properly before they pupate, hibernate, or go free. Caterpillar enthusiast Chris Keefer will display some live species and explain their life cycles. First six registrants receive a free caterpillar house. Registration is recommended. \$5 individual, \$10 family.

**17 (Tuesday) 7:30pm**  
ALBANY AREA ASTRONOMERS  
Club Meeting and Star Party

**20 (Friday) 9pm**  
Star Party

**21 (Saturday) 1-4pm**  
GARDEN TOUR

Helderledge Farm, Altamont  
Tour hosts: Paul & Mardell Steinkamp  
Members only. \$10. Check or cash payment at the garden site.

**21 (Saturday) 9am-12pm**  
MEMBER TOUR  
Join Fred Breglia and explore the new trails of the Bass Woodland. Highlights include views of the gorge, 200 year-old white and red oaks and a variety of ecosystems. Terrain is moderately difficult. Wear sturdy footwear, bring bug spray, sunscreen and drinking water. Refreshments will be served after the tour. Free to members.

**22 (Sunday) 2-3:30pm**  
FAMILY PROGRAM  
A Guide to Nature Guides  
If you want to know what it is, you'll need to look for it in a nature guide. Learn how to use these books and find out what are the naturalists' favorites.

## SEPTEMBER

**4 (Saturday) 7-8:30pm**  
Family Program  
Coyote Call

Coyote, coy-dog, brush wolf: *Canis latrans* goes by many names. Learn about the largest wild canine found in New York. After a short inside presentation, we'll wander the woods and call for this common yet seldom-seen mammal.

**9 & 16 (Thursdays) 6-8pm**  
**18 (Saturday) 8:30am-12:30pm**  
HORTICULTURE  
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM  
Woodlot Management, LEVEL II  
See enclosed flier for more information.

**11-12 (Saturday-Sunday)**  
**10am-4pm**  
Fall Plant and Book Sale  
See page 1 for more information.

**17 (Friday) 8pm**  
ALBANY AREA ASTRONOMERS  
Star Party

**26 (Sunday) 2-3:30pm**  
FAMILY PROGRAM  
*Animal Tracks, Traces, and Homes Walk*  
Enjoy a ramble about the Arboretum looking for signs of the animals that call it home.

## OCTOBER

**2 (Saturday) 2-3:30pm**  
FAMILY PROGRAM  
Fall Foliage and Tree Identification  
**2 & 9 (Saturdays) 9am-12pm**  
HORTICULTURE  
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM  
Hardscaping in the Landscape, LEVEL I  
See enclosed flier for more information.

**8 (Friday) 8pm**  
Star Party  
**13, 20 & 27, Nov 3 (Wednesdays)**  
**6-8pm**  
HORTICULTURE  
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM  
Tree and Shrub Identification, LEVEL I  
See enclosed flier for more information.

**16 (Saturday) 8pm**  
STAR PARTIES  
A Walk among Autumn Stars  
Autumn is a time of transition: the summer constellations sinking in the west and the stars of winter soon to appear in the east. The scene is dominated by constellations portraying well-known myths of the sky featuring Cassiopeia, Cepheus, Andromeda, Perseus, Cetus the sea monster, and Pegasus the winged horse. If the skies are cloudy, a program on exploring the night sky will be held in the meetinghouse. Please bring a blanket to sit on and dress warmly.

**23 (Saturday) 9am-until?**  
Fall Workfest  
Help prepare the Landis Arboretum's grounds for winter. This is a great opportunity to meet other volunteers. Make a day of it with your friends and family. Bring your garden gloves. Snacks are provided.

**29 (Friday) 7-8:30pm**  
FAMILY PROGRAM  
**Halloween Owl Prowl**  
We'll start in the meetinghouse with a talk on owls and their behavior. Then it's into the woods to listen for owls.

## NOVEMBER

**5 (Friday) 8pm**  
Star Party

LANDIS  
ARBORETUM  
LAPE ROAD, BOX 186  
ESPERANCE, NY  
12066-0186

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
ESPERANCE  
PERMIT #

## Volunteer Coordinator

### Wanted

Important opportunity for those  
great at coordinating  
Contact Gloria Van Duyne—  
518-875-6935  
or email—landis@midtel.net for  
more information.

## Thanks to Volunteers, Memories Live On

by Gail Browning

When Winsor A. Lott and family donated a bench to the Landis Arboretum in memory of Charles E. Johnson, it was placed in a beautiful setting along one of the trails. As weathering over time takes its toll, one wonders how the bench is maintained.

Over the winter, Brian Browning, one of our college student volunteers, took this bench, completely disassembled it, and hand-sanded each piece. He applied a new oak stain and two coats of marine varnish, the best preservative, to complete the restoration. He reassembled the bench, polished the brass plate, and returned the bench this spring. It graces the front of the farmhouse, next to the Acorn Shop entrance. Brian is a junior mathematical sciences major at Western New England College in Springfield, Massachusetts. He is from Esperance.

Volunteerism is key to operating the Arboretum, as you will note in these opportunities:

- The Education Committee develops and hosts educational programs. Volunteers with specific expertise often teach programs.
- The Fundraising Committee and the Plant Sale Committee require volunteers to assist in events throughout the year.
- The Acorn Gift Shop, open spring, summer, and fall, is managed by volunteers who price the many unique items, stock shelves, and serve as salespersons.
- Volunteers assist with mailings from the office, data entry, and filing.
- Others who prefer outdoor work weed, mulch, mow, paint, prune, maintain trails, and help with light carpentry and machine maintenance.

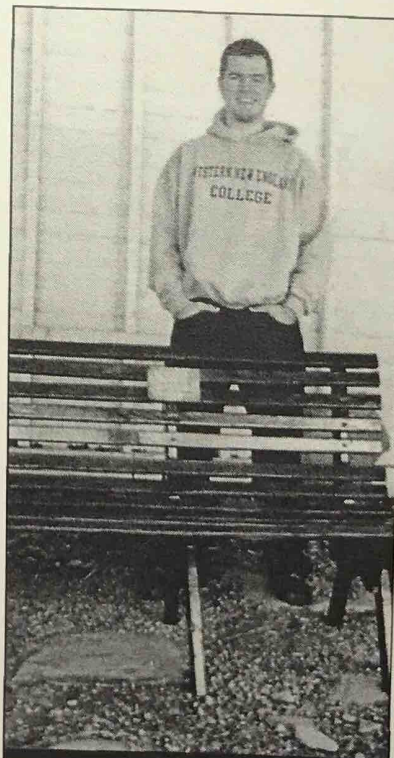


Photo by Gloria Van Duyne

Thank you to Brian Browning, who did a great job refinishing the Charles E. Johnson Memorial Bench.

- With additional acreage available, there are more opportunities for pioneers to work with Fred Breglia and the Grounds Committee.
- To showcase the Arboretum, we are represented at fairs, home and garden shows, and garden tours. Volunteers staff these booths and assist with the associated details.

Hats off to all of you who make this such a beautiful place by giving so freely of your time and expertise! Join the volunteering effort. Contact the office by phone 518-875-6935 or email landis@midtel.com for more information.