

the Editor's Page

READERS familiar with *LASCA LEAVES* will note a new look about this issue and may wonder if it has meaning beyond that which meets the eye. Actually, what they are seeing is the beginning of an effort to update an eighteen-year-old publication without changing its fundamental character, which is to present soundly-based articles related to the Arboretum and its work.

The physical changes were decided on with hopeful confidence they would please — the newly-designed masthead, the two-column format, the more modern layout, the drawings.

Within the covers, three new departments — Arboretum Notes, the Calendar and this page — have been added and the book section extended, additions aimed at serving the interests and convenience of readers.

The long-established Growing Notes of George Spalding, and the concluding half of Ross Goodrich's report on Arboretum viburnums, provide a gratifying sense of continuity. I am particularly pleased to begin my editorship with Ross Gast's account of his love affair with hibiscus, written in a style that nicely bridges the trail of scientific investigation with human experience.

I hope to make good use of this page by making it available to editors and writers in the field, and for airing the always welcome views and comment of readers.

Donald P. Simard



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