

The Arnold Arboretum

S P R I N G • N E W S • 1 9 9 8

Katherine H. Putnam Research Fellowships Endowed

Janet Stearns



George Putnam, chairman, Putnam Funds and the Putnam Investment Company (second from left), and his wife Nancy Putnam, display a photo taken in turn-of-the-century China by E. H. Wilson; it was presented to them by the Arboretum at a reception held in their honor. Standing with the Putnams are James McCarthy (left), director, MCZ, and Robert E. Cook, director, Arboretum.

Fifty friends of George and Nancy Putnam gathered in Cambridge on Friday, May 15, to show their appreciation for two generous endowments established by the Putnams. Two of Harvard's oldest biological institutions, the Arnold Arboretum and the Museum of Comparative Zoology, will benefit from endowments of \$1 million each to support research and scholarship.

The endowment at the Arnold Arboretum will support the Katherine H. Putnam Research Fellowships, established in memory of Mr. Putnam's mother, an accomplished horticulturist and long-time supporter of the

Arboretum. The funds will provide fellowship stipends and related research and project expenses for work in horticulture and botany using the Arboretum's living collections of trees and shrubs.

Putnam Fellowships will fund graduate students, postgraduate scholars, and mid-career professionals who wish to experience the richness of the Arboretum's resources and engage in research work that generates new knowledge and practical applications for horticulture, landscape architecture, and plant conservation. Fellowship awards will be particularly appropriate for young

research scientists contemplating a career in public horticulture and education.

"George Putnam has been a friend of the Arboretum for many years," says director Bob Cook. "With the establishment of the Putnam Fellowship endowment, we can continue to offer the most promising scientists an opportunity to work with our collections and to gain the kind of practical experience that is essential for leadership nationally. We deeply appreciate the commitment of George and Nancy Putnam to this critical research and the educational mission of the Arnold Arboretum."

What a Difference a Year Makes

Peter Del Tredici, Director of Living Collections

On Monday, March 31, of last year, I was sitting in Patrick Willoughby's office in the basement of the Hunnewell building as he told me that he had decided to take the job as head of grounds maintenance at Wellesley College, and that his last day as Superintendent would be May 1. As I listened to Patrick talk about his future, I was looking out the window at the occasional snowflakes that had just started to fall. "It won't stick," I said, "none of it has this winter." Within 24 hours I

was eating those words. Two feet of sticky wet snow had been dumped on the city of Boston, stopping traffic, downing power lines, and smashing trees. As most people reading this will remember, the Arnold Arboretum was particularly hard hit: over 1,800 trees were damaged, of which 200 have been removed.

But now it is one year later and I am pleased to report that a new superintendent, Julie Coop, is well established in Patrick's old office, and most of the storm damage has been cleaned up. Of particular

interest is the fact that the high temperature on the day of the storm was 42 degrees while on the same date one year later, the high was 92! What a difference a year makes.

Spring planting, which was virtually nonexistent last year, has gone very smoothly this year. Over 150 new trees were set out during April alone. Unlike last year, this spring there was no snow to speak of and the weather was moist and cool. This not only allowed the grounds crew to start digging early, but also

to dig and plant throughout the entire month.

On behalf of all of us at the Arboretum, I want to take advantage of this dubious anniversary to thank all of our loyal friends and supporters who generously donated labor and money to our storm damage cleanup effort. The donations not only helped with the clean-up, but they also lifted the spirits of the entire Living Collections staff. It's great to know that people care deeply about the future of the Arnold Arboretum. Thank you very much.

CHALLENGE GIFT FOR CHILDREN'S SCIENCE EDUCATION

The Arboretum has received a challenge gift of \$100,000 from an anonymous donor. The gift has been directed to Children's Science Education and is intended to encourage others to help endow the Arboretum's Field Studies Experiences (FSE) program.

The FSE program brings children directly from Boston-area classrooms to the Arboretum's landscape. Students work in small groups with a guide while exploring and discussing specific science questions related to one of four different themes: Flowers Change; Plants in Autumn; Native Trees, Native Peoples; and Around the World in Trees. Each year the program serves 3,000 schoolchildren in grades three through five.

The Arboretum's goal in the Harvard University Campaign is to establish an endowment of \$2,250,000 that will secure funding for children's science education. Of the total goal, \$750,000 will create an endowment for the FSE program. To date, \$439,000 has been raised, representing 59% of the goal. "The creation of an endowment for children's science education is critical to our education mission," says director Bob Cook. "It addresses a pressing need for excellence in science education and demonstrates our commitment to children, our most important resource for the future."

If you are interested in making a gift to help the Arboretum qualify for this challenge gift, or would like a copy of our publication "The Arnold Arboretum—An Outdoor Classroom," please contact Lisa M. Hastings, Director of Development, at 617/524-1718 x 145.

Harvard Announces Women's Matching Fund

At a recent forum on women and philanthropy, Harvard announced an initiative aimed at encouraging more women to participate in philanthropy. The Women's Matching Fund will match any gift between \$25,000 and \$250,000 made by women to any part of the University.

The Women's Matching Fund was created by National Campaign Chair Rita E. Hauser as a way for women to maximize the impact of their gifts to Harvard. Ms. Hauser established the fund with her own gift of \$5 million and encouraged other women to bring the fund balance to \$15 million. Gifts made by women will be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis until the fund is depleted.

This new fund offers women who are considering a campaign gift to the Arboretum a unique opportunity to double their gifts. Gifts qualifying for the match can be directed to any of the Arboretum's campaign priorities: Living Collections (including landscape maintenance projects), Children's Science Education, International Biodiversity Conservation, and the new Shrub and Vine Garden.

For more information about the Women's Matching Fund, contact Lisa M. Hastings at 617/514-1718 x 145, or Peg Hedstrom at x 113.

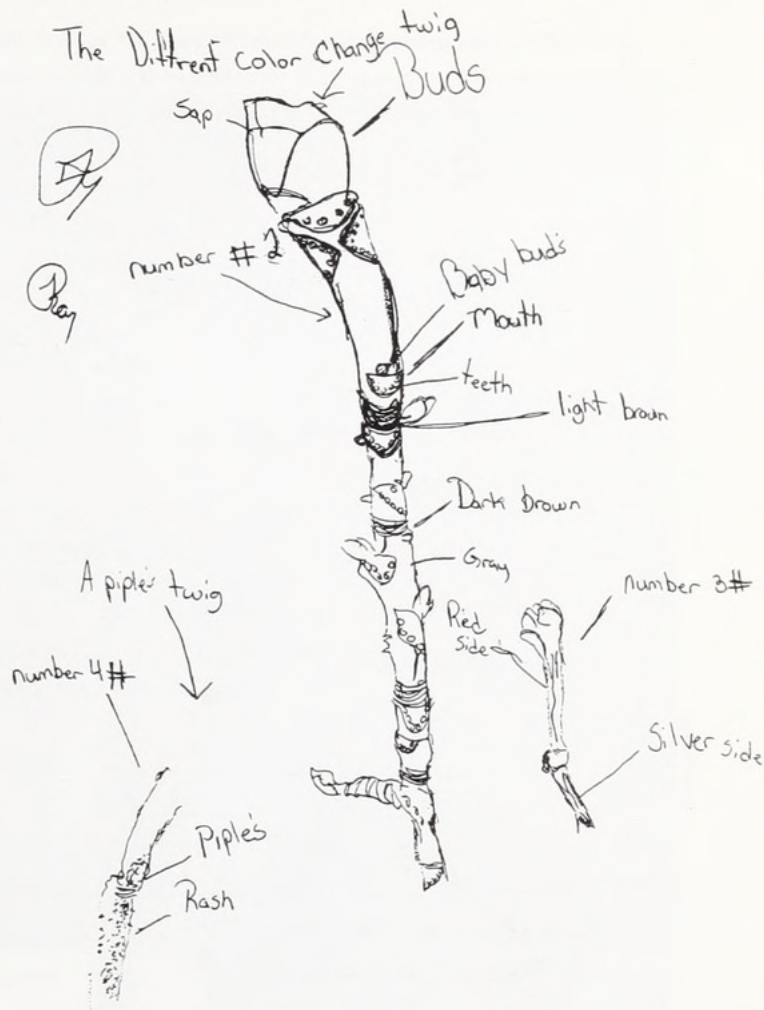
Community Science Connection Goes National

Candace Julyan, Director of Education

In 1995 the Arnold Arboretum received a four-year grant from the National Science Foundation to develop a program to strengthen elementary science teaching and learning and to illustrate ways that science institutions can work throughout the year with local classrooms. The result of this effort is the Community Science Connection (CSC), a seasonal study of trees that spans the entire school year.

Participating teachers begin their study of trees in the spring and summer, learning how to look closely for patterns and changes and to make sense of what they see. In the fall, students begin their work by identifying individual trees and recording the dates when color change begins and ends and when the leaves drop. In the winter, students learn to "read" the information found on a twig and to use that knowledge to determine the best growing year for their schoolyard trees. In the spring, the study question turns to "What comes out of a bud?" While the main focus is on working directly with schoolyard trees, technology provides a connection among the participating classrooms and the Arboretum staff. A project web page enables participants to share data and ideas and provides virtual activities that encourage and support the outdoor investigations.

The goals of CSC are twofold: to work directly with local teachers on meaningful ways to study science through an investigation of trees and to develop a model that can be replicated by other institutions to further their work with local teachers. The first year of the project focused on the first goal. To date we have worked with over fifty teachers in the Boston, Newton, and Brookline schools. In the final year of the project we will continue to work with local teachers and begin work with other science institutions. Descanso Gardens, in collaboration with the science coordinator of the Los Angeles public schools, will replicate our tree investigations with California students. (The director of Descanso, Richard Schulhof, worked on the CSC project during its first year in his former role as the Arboretum's director of public programs.) Los Angeles students and their teachers will be corresponding with Massachusetts colleagues through the website, comparing findings from coast to coast. This work will give us an opportunity to determine the viability of our model for other institutions.



Another interesting development in this project emerged during the past year. The Massachusetts Audubon Society (MAS) was intrigued by our seasonal investigations and used it as a model to create a year-long study of vernal pools. During the 1998–1999 school year, groups of teachers from eastern, central, and western Massachusetts will begin a coordinated study of vernal pools that will continue through fall, winter, and spring based on a curriculum outline developed by MAS. These investigations will be supported by the same technology component as the tree studies, with a data exchange, opportunities for conversations, and virtual activities that go along with the actual investigations. All of the technology portion of the MAS project will originate from the Arboretum and the virtual activities will be a joint development venture between staff from MAS and the Arboretum.

While the conversations of the participating classes will remain private, all of the activities for these investigations will be available to interested individuals through the Arboretum's web page (www.arboretum.harvard.edu). We welcome your comments.

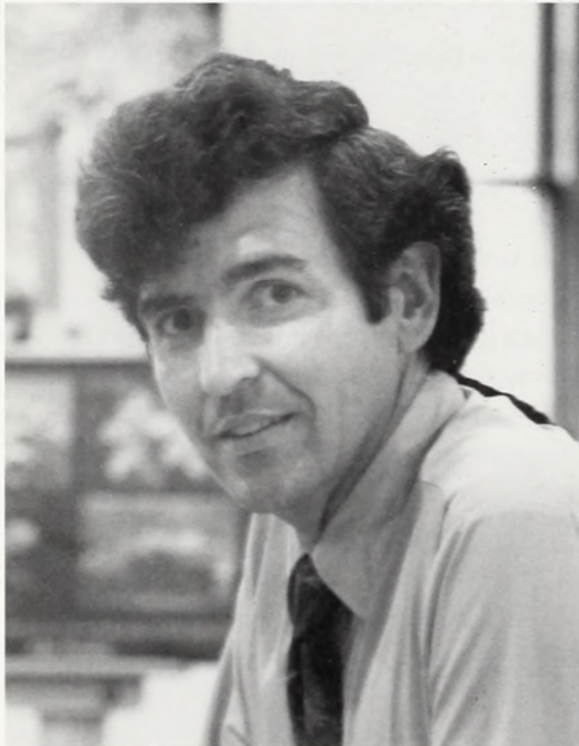
On the Grounds

Tom Akin has joined the Arboretum staff as Assistant Superintendent of Grounds. A candidate for the master's degree in plant and soil sciences at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, he has worked with the University's Extension Service both as a research assistant and extension educator. He comes to us from Weston Nurseries where he was IPM (Integrated Pest Management) Coordinator. Tom's resumé also includes work with the Peace Corps in the Central Africa Republic, first as an English teacher, then as keeper of African killer bees. No doubt he will bring all these experiences to bear at the Arboretum, where his duties will include the coordination of the summer horticultural intern program and its associated training program.



Karen Madsen

So Long, Fare Well



Karen Madsen

Jim Gorman, Arboretum tour leader and volunteer coordinator nonpareil, is leaving us for southeastern Pennsylvania and the Longwood Gardens Graduate Program in public horticultural administration. An official staff member at the Arboretum since 1992 and an unofficial staff member even longer, Jim Gorman and the Arnold Arboretum have been synonymous for many in Boston. Wherever his future takes him, we know he will continue to be the best emissary we could hope for. Needless to say, we will miss him, and we wish him all the best.

Annual Fall Plant Sale

Sunday, September 20, 1998

Case Estates, Weston

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

The date has been set for this year's Annual Fall Plant Sale, and we encourage members of the Friends of the Arnold Arboretum and the general public alike to mark their calendars. As usual, the event will feature a wide array of unusual trees, shrubs, herbaceous perennials, and more.



Member benefits at the Plant Sale include "members only" hours from 9:00 to 10:00 am, a free plant of your choice, and a 10% discount on all plant purchases in the Barn. Members at the Sustaining Level (\$100) and above gain entrance to the Plant Sale Preview at 8:30 and receive additional free plants. Call the Membership Office at 617/524-1718 x 165 to join or to upgrade your membership and increase your Fall Plant Sale benefits!



Live and Silent Auctions

Straight Sales

Society Row

Education Sessions in the Teaching Garden

Refreshments



Catalogs will be mailed to members in August, and your free plant vouchers will arrive in early September. To volunteer to help out at the Plant Sale, call Kara Stepanian at 617/524-1718 x 129.



1998. "The Arnold Arboretum News." *Arnoldia* 58(1),

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/216913>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/251193>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

BHL-SIL-FEDLINK

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.