

The Arnold Arboretum

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The Arboretum Reaches Out to Influence the World

Robert E. Cook, Director

Whether it is our annual crop of interns, our visiting research fellows, or our experienced staff, the Arnold Arboretum serves as a training ground for career growth and achievement. As a result, this often leads to the loss of individuals to other institutions as they seek advancement in their careers. Such losses, though sad, are evidence of the strength of the Arboretum as a respected resource for knowledge and training in the fields of botany and horticulture. Over the past few years, the Arboretum has peppered its "alumni" throughout the country.

Two years ago Dr. Kim Tripp, who had been a Putnam fellow from 1994 to 1996, accepted the directorship of The Botanic Garden of Smith College in Northampton. Though she has taken on a new and challenging role, Kim retains a research appointment at the Arboretum.

In 1996, Richard Schulhof, director of public programs, was named director of Descanso Gardens in Los Angeles, after almost seven years at the Arboretum. Dr. Candace Julyan has been appointed to replace Richard in a re-organized education department. Before coming to the Arboretum in 1995 as project director

for our Community Science Connection, Candace developed and directed the National Geographic Kid's Network. Though we miss him greatly, Richard continues to work with Candace by participating in the Community Science Connection.

After 17 years of service, Pat Willoughby, our superintendent of grounds, moved to a wonderful opportunity in the Boston suburbs, becoming superintendent of grounds at Wellesley College in 1997. His able assistant for six years, Julie Coop, has been appointed to his position at the Arboretum. Julie was in charge of maintenance at the Case Estates in Weston from 1988 to 1991. With Julie's promotion, we have hired

a new assistant superintendent, Tom Akin, who comes from Weston Nurseries.

Chris Strand, who supervised visitor services for four years, announced his departure from the Arboretum in the fall of 1997. He has been appointed manager of Green Spring Gardens Park in Virginia. Ellen Bennett has recently assumed Chris' restructured and renamed position as manager of horticultural information. Prior to her position at the Arboretum, Ellen worked at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for three years as director of education and as community outreach coordinator.

With the new year came three other critical changes in Arbore-



Gary Koller shares his horticultural knowledge at an Arboretum Fall Plant Sale.

Karen Madsen

tum staff. Gary Koller, who had been our senior horticulturist for over twenty years, announced that he would retire in July to work full-time on a thriving landscape design business. Gary had been serving half-time at the Arboretum for the past five years while his business was growing, and in retirement he will retain an appointment as horticultural fellow and will continue to teach in our adult education program and write for *Arnoldia*.

Stephen Sponberg, who had been horticultural taxonomist with us for more than a quarter century, also retired to accept a wonderful opportunity as director of Polly Hill Arboretum on Martha's Vineyard, an entirely new institution that will be devel-

oping its collections and programs over the coming years under Steve's leadership. He, too, has retained a research appointment at the Arboretum, and we anticipate growing close relations with our sister institution on the Vineyard.

Finally, Professor Peter Stevens has announced that he will be leaving with his wife, Professor Toby Kellogg, a former Putnam fellow at the Arboretum, for the University of Missouri at St. Louis, where they will fill two tenured professorship positions. Peter is a world expert on the tropical flora of Southeast Asia, and his systematic knowledge and experience will be greatly missed.

In each of the above instances, our colleagues have moved to an exceptional opportunity for career

development; these changes have given the Arboretum the chance to recruit new staff and rebuild programs. For instance, three job searches are currently underway, for a horticulturist, a botanical taxonomist, and a researcher experienced in the biology of tropical forests.

The Arnold Arboretum is a strong institution dedicated to education as well as research, and an important part of education involves shaping individuals for positions of leadership and responsibility. Though inevitably these positions will often be elsewhere, the Arboretum will continue to serve the fields of botany and horticulture in this important way. It is one more way we can influence the world.

1998 Interns

The interns of 1998: top row from left, Yong Chan Park, Kristin Berry, Bethany Grasso, Sandy Talcott, Nigel Gurnett, Marc Fortenberry, Loise Cretinon, Derrik Daly; bottom row from left, Fritz Bottger, Matthew Coyner, Angie Martin, Nicki Richardson, Gwen Newman, and the manager of the intern program, Assistant Superintendent Tom Akin. Missing was Lise Caron.



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With members that represent our local region, the international community (France and Korea), and many states in between, the Arboretum's intern class of 1998 worked enthusiastically throughout spring and summer. They took classes taught by Arboretum staff on a variety of horticultural subjects, among them woody plant identification, integrated pest management (IPM), pests and diseases, and plant propagation. In addition to working on an erosion abatement

project, the interns were involved with numerous maintenance and renovation projects throughout the grounds. To supplement their experiences at the Arboretum, interns participated in several educational outings, including trips to the New York Botanical Garden, Mount Auburn Cemetery, and the new Polly Hill Arboretum on Martha's Vineyard. The interns' diligence and enthusiasm made a valuable contribution to the Arboretum that is apparent at every turn.

Frances Maguire Named Harvard Hero



On June 10, all the Harvard Heroes were recognized in a ceremony in Sanders Theater, Memorial Hall. Harvard president Neil Rudenstine and his senior staff from central administration were in attendance to express their appreciation of the Harvard Heroes.

In June, Sally Zeckhauser, Harvard University's vice president for administration, announced this year's Harvard Heroes—employees in Ms. Zeckhauser's unit whose job performance has been outstanding. Frances Maguire, director of finance and administration, has been named the Arnold Arboretum's 1998 Harvard Hero. Director Bob Cook noted that Frances has done a superb job in managing the financial affairs of the institution, saving many thousands of dollars over the past decade due to her careful consideration of income and expenditures. Her deep knowledge of the difficult Harvard accounting system has been invaluable to the Arboretum. Recently, Frances has taken responsibility for helping the Arboretum's transition to a completely revamped accounting system being adopted by Harvard University. For these and numerous other reasons, Frances deserves great recognition and thanks from the Arboretum and from Harvard.

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Fundraising Reaches New Heights

Lisa Hastings
Director of Development

The Arnold Arboretum completed a record-breaking year with respect to the Campaign for the Arboretum. Total gifts and commitments for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1998, reached \$2,016,834, the largest amount raised from philanthropy in the Arboretum's history. The total represents an increase of 191 percent over the \$692,111 raised in fiscal year 1997.

MAJOR GIFTS: New records were established both in total dollars raised and total number of donors. Gifts over \$10,000 reached a total of \$1,704,373, an unprecedented number that includes the Arboretum's first million-dollar gift. The number of donors of more than \$10,000 increased 170 percent, from 10 in 1997 to 27 in 1998. Overall, the Arboretum

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1997 Intern Is 1998 Apprentice

Tom Por joined the Arboretum staff in April as apprentice in the living collections department, only the second person to hold this relatively new position. Originally from St. Thomas, Ontario, he comes to the Arboretum after graduating from the Niagara Parks Commission Botanical Gardens and School of Horticulture. Tom also has received a bachelor of arts degree in history with honors from the University of Toronto. The Arboretum is not an entirely new entity for Tom, as he served as an Arboretum intern in 1997. As a member of the living collections department, he will be responsible for a variety of projects on the grounds, including erosion abatement on the esker just off Meadow Road. During his year at the Arboretum, he will circulate through all the units within living collections, thus acquiring deeper knowledge of the maintenance requirements of a scientific collection of woody plants.



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received 85 gifts over \$1,000, an increase of 255 percent over the 22 gifts of this size received in fiscal year 1993, the first year of the campaign.

MEMBERSHIP/ANNUAL

APPEAL: A total of 638 new members joined the Friends of the Arnold Arboretum last year, bringing the total number of members at year's end to 3,364. New members, coupled with a renewal rate of 80 percent and a healthy increase in membership upgrades, resulted in an increase of nearly 20 percent in membership and 23 percent in membership income. The largest

membership increases (40 percent) came at the level of Sustaining Member (\$100) and above, a testament to increased outreach and the active participation of new and reinvigorated volunteer leadership. In addition, funds donated through the Annual Appeal raised \$89,011 from 271 donors, a 29 percent increase in dollars and a 27 percent increase in the number of donors over the previous year.

THE WOMEN'S MATCHING

FUND: The Women's Matching Fund offered through Harvard University has had a swift and positive impact on our fund-raising. Due to gifts and pledges made by nine women, the Arbore-

tum has qualified for \$391,000 since the fund was announced. To date, \$10 million of the total fund balance of \$15 million is committed across the university; the opportunity to qualify for matched funds will end when the fund balance is depleted.

SUMMARY: Total gifts and pledges in the Campaign for the Arboretum stand at \$5,596,243, representing 68 percent of the Arboretum's \$8.2 million goal. With less than 18 months left before the conclusion of the university-wide campaign, the coming year will be critical to closing the gap and successfully completing the Arboretum's campaign.

New Staff



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In July, Ellen Bennett started as manager of horticultural information at the Arboretum. Ellen comes from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, where she served as director of education and as community outreach coordinator. Originally from Virginia, she earned her master of science degree in public horticulture administration through the Longwood Graduate Program at the University of Delaware. As a member of the education department, Ellen will create a new docent program and work on a variety of issues related to the public face of the Arboretum. She will also spend a portion of her time working with the living collections department.

Laurie Chidester has started work as curriculum and web specialist in the education department. Laurie spent last year as a student in the Harvard Graduate School of Education working on her master of education degree, focusing on technology in education. Earlier, during 13 years in software development, Laurie made use of her master's degree in computer systems engineering. Originally from the Baltimore area of Maryland,



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Laurie will be focusing on the Community Science Connection project funded by the National Science Foundation. She will use the internet to support teachers and students in an inquiry-based curriculum model in the study of trees.

Karen O'Connell, membership coordinator, joined the Arboretum development staff in July, replacing Kelly Harvey who left the



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Arboretum to begin graduate studies in veterinary science. Karen brings a wealth of experience in data management. She worked for two years as data manager in the marketing and development department of the Boston Ballet, prior to which she spent four years with the Environmental Defense Fund serving as office manager and records manager. A 1989 graduate of Boston College with a degree in marketing, she will oversee member services and is looking forward to meeting the Arboretum's growing constituency.



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