

Newsletter of

THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY

Preserving America's exceptional gardens

Fall 2009
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Garden Preservation Cause Comes of Age



The Garden Conservancy proudly accepted the Trustees Award for Organizational Excellence from the National Trust for Historic Preservation on October 15 at the Trust's National Preservation

Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. It was a happy gift in our 20th anniversary year. This special award goes to a nonprofit organization that has demonstrated extraordinary achievement over a long period of time.

See page 6

Letter from the President

Milestones

Twenty years is a significant milestone for any endeavor, and particularly for a nonprofit organization hatched as a dream, developed by a passionate but small group, and then “rolled out”

to the world to sink or swim. The first ten years of the Garden Conservancy’s existence were a blur of growth and excitement at the potential of a national organization to make a difference in garden preservation. The next ten have been a more measured time in which early lessons

were applied, ideas turned into information, and a legacy of productivity and success began to take shape.

Thanks to the loyal support of so many people—our five thousand members, hundreds of Open Days hosts and volunteers, dozens of board members and staff at project gardens, and key collaborators in allied organizations around the country—the Garden Conservancy has turned twenty and we celebrate this milestone with all of you. The timeline in this issue of the newsletter offers a snapshot of how we got here. With sixteen Preservation Projects in our current portfolio, an annual budget of \$3 million, and nearly \$15 million committed to our endowment fund through the Campaign to Save America’s Exceptional Gardens, the Garden

Conservancy is here to stay.

We are honored by recent awards from the California Preservation Foundation for our work on the historic gardens of Alcatraz, and are especially pleased to announce the Conservancy’s recognition by the National Trust for Historic Preservation with its Trustees Award for Organizational Excellence. This places garden preservation squarely within the historic preservation movement and validates the significance of our work.

At the same time, we are aware that the next twenty years will hold different challenges, as we enter a period of limited natural resources and continue to navigate economic uncertainty. It is clear that the Garden Conservancy will be called upon for leadership in responsible stewardship of our green spaces, as the habits and assumptions of gardeners shift to respond to a new global awareness.

The Garden Conservancy is looking to the future with optimism and the dynamic spirit that infused our first twenty years. Please stay with us for this new adventure.

—*Antonia F. Adezio, President*

Christopher Chung © The Press Democrat, Santa Rosa, CA



On the cover:
The Garden Conservancy has helped preserve more than 90 gardens over 20 years, including our first Preservation Project, the Ruth Bancroft Garden (left; photo by Marion Brenner) and our most recent, the Pearl Fryar Topiary Garden (right).

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Garden Conservancy!**

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the.garden.conservancy](http://www.facebook.com/the.garden.conservancy)
for our latest news.



A strong turnout on a beautiful autumn day, November 1, at the garden of Judy and Michael Steinhardt in Mt. Kisco, New York, marked the end of the 2009 Open Days season. Between March and November, 321 private gardens in 22 states welcomed approximately 75,000 visitors.





THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY
P.O. BOX 319 • GOLD SPRING, NEW YORK 10516 • 845.265.2029/19620 FAX

To Members of the Garden Conservancy

ALL HANDS ON DECK!

We are now less than \$1 million away from the goal of the Campaign to Save America's Exceptional Gardens. We need your help in closing the gap! As we celebrate the Conservancy's 20th anniversary this year, we are seeking to reach our \$15 million campaign goal. Income from an endowment of this size will significantly strengthen the Conservancy's capacity to initiate and respond to new garden preservation opportunities, to intervene rapidly to save endangered gardens when time is of the essence, and to engage in long-term planning efforts.

There is one overriding reason we agreed to co-chair this campaign: our passion for saving special gardens that will nourish generations of garden lovers for years to come. The campaign has been incredibly rewarding, affording wonderful opportunities to talk with so many of you who care about gardens and the central role they play in our lives.

We are inspired by the Conservancy's remarkable founder, Frank Cabot, and his vision for an America that includes a network of permanently preserved gardens as a crucial component of our cultural, artistic, and natural heritage.

With the enthusiasm of the Conservancy's Board of Directors and its chairman, Tom Armstrong, the campaign is moving rapidly toward a successful conclusion. Directors (past and present) have been deeply generous to the campaign, providing leadership contributions and deferred gifts. We gratefully acknowledge their support and vital role.

We also thank all of the dedicated individuals who have given so generously to the campaign while also providing much-needed annual support. You have kept the campaign moving forward and lifted our spirits as we worked to rally support.

If you have not yet made a contribution to the campaign, please do so now. Gifts may take the form of cash, stocks, life insurance, real estate, or other assets. Contributions of appreciated assets are not subject to capital gains taxes and they are deductible for federal income tax purposes to the extent provided by law.

We encourage unrestricted endowment gifts as they provide the Conservancy with maximum flexibility. You may also endow a specific program initiative or activity. For example, the Anne and Frank Cabot Fund for Project Gardens is a discrete fund endowing efforts to ensure the survival and long-term preservation of the Conservancy's project gardens. Other restricted endowment opportunities are outlined in the campaign brochure that you may obtain by calling Mary Beth Becker at 845.265.2029 or e-mailing her at mbbecker@gardenconservancy.org.

Some of our most dedicated members have also included the Conservancy in their will or trust instruments. This is a wonderful way to leave a garden legacy in your estate plans that will benefit the Conservancy and scores of special gardens in the future. Please notify us of your plans.

With your help, we will reach our \$15 million endowment goal and continue preserving outstanding gardens from coast to coast. Thank you.

**A Special Message from
Morris Cheston, Jr. and
Dorothy H. Gardner, Co-Chairs,
The Campaign to Save America's
Exceptional Gardens**

Bequest from Charles Larus Supports Capital Campaign

Charles Larus "was very, very happy about everything the Garden Conservancy was doing," recalls his wife Ethel of Bloomfield, Connecticut. The Laruses were members of the Garden Conservancy during our early years and, for two years, members of the Society of Fellows. Mr. Larus cultivated an avid interest in horticulture across the country and around the world. In July, the Conservancy learned that Charles, who died in December 2007, had bestowed a very generous unrestricted gift to the Conservancy. The total gift, \$540,000, has been designated for the Conservancy's endowment fund. The Garden Conservancy is grateful to Mr. Larus for making this major contribution to our organization, which takes us significantly closer to our goal of raising \$15 million in the Campaign to Save America's Exceptional Gardens.

For information about including the Garden Conservancy in your will or trust, please contact our development department at 845.265.2029.

California Preservation Foundation Gives Two Awards to Alcatraz Project

In September, the California Preservation Foundation (CPF), the state's leading voice for historic preservation, gave its prestigious Trustees Award for Excellence to the Historic Gardens of Alcatraz restoration project at a ceremony in San Francisco.

The award is "given entirely at the Trustees' discretion, only when the Trustees believe that a project is exceptional and of a preeminent level of importance in California architecture or history," said Cathy Garrett,

Elizabeth Byers



Left to right, seated: Gene Ng; Mary Miner; Dick Miner, Gardens of Alcatraz volunteer; Amy Brees, Alcatraz Site Supervisor, Golden Gate National Recreation Area; Craig Kenkel, Acting Deputy Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area; Doug Overman, Deputy Director, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. Left to right, standing: Shelagh Fritz, Alcatraz Project Manager, Garden Conservancy; Diane Ochi, Project Manager, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

President of the CPF Board of Trustees, in presenting the award. The only previous recipients of the Trustees Award are the Golden Gate Bridge Seismic Retrofit, Griffith Observatory, and Leland Stanford Mansion.

Ms. Garrett continued, "The Trustees recognize this is an exceptional and unique landscape restoration. Abandoned in 1963, the once intensively maintained gardens had become lost to invading plants. With significant volunteer and collaborative effort, the site was researched and the garden's historic terraces, paths, and foundations rediscovered. Today it is as informative about the site's history as it is meticulously rehabilitated to reflect its former appearance. It proves not only can a garden be coaxed out of a place known as 'The Rock,' but that it can illustrate the respite it provided to those incarcerated and isolated there."

CPF also gave the project its Annual Preservation Design Award in the "small rehabilitation" category.

The Historic Gardens of Alcatraz project is a partnership of the Garden Conservancy, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and National Park Service.

Longue Vue Renewal Plan Cited in Award to Heritage Landscapes

Heritage Landscapes in Charlotte, Vermont, has been awarded the Vermont Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects' 2009 Jury's Excellence Award for their work on a renewal plan for the gardens at Longue Vue in New Orleans, Louisiana. A Preservation Project of the Garden Conservancy, the gardens at Longue Vue were devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The Garden Conservancy has been working with local staff and volunteers to restore the eight-acre historic garden.

As part of recovery efforts, the Garden Conservancy partnered with Heritage Landscapes in a multidisciplinary collaborative planning process for the renewal of the landscape, which yielded the Longue Vue House and Gardens Landscape Renewal Plan. Recovery efforts have moved forward with prioritized phases outlined in the plan, which have helped to recapture the lost character and replant important vegetation of this masterwork.

The gardens were designed between 1939 and 1965 principally by landscape architect Ellen Biddle Shipman in collaboration with owners Edith and Edgar Stern and architects William and Geoffrey Platt.

Heritage Landscapes is a woman-owned professional firm with offices and staff in Vermont, Connecticut, and North Carolina. Since 1987 they have specialized in projects focusing on culturally valuable landscapes.



The plantings of Longue Vue's restored Spanish Court have recaptured its original character.

ews & Updates

2010 Pearl Fryar Topiary Garden Calendar Available



Last year's calendars sold out! Order now! The Friends of Pearl Fryar's Topiary Garden have published a second annual calendar. The full-color, 12 x 12 inch calendar features new photographs of the wide range of topiary styles in the garden.

Calendars (per copy: \$15 including shipping) can be ordered online at www.gardenconservancy.org.

Restoring a Virginia Garden Salon of the Harlem Renaissance

The garden of poet Anne Bethel Spencer (1882-1975) in Lynchburg, Virginia, was, perhaps, an unlikely salon for the African-American literary flowering often called the Harlem Renaissance. Yet during the 1920s, 30s, and for the next three decades, Spencer's garden was a gathering place for leading lights of the black artistic and civil rights community. Scholar Keith Clark reports in *The Oxford Companion to Women's Writing in the United States* (1995) that "W. E. B. Du Bois, Langston Hughes, Georgia Douglas Johnson, Paul Robeson, Gwendolyn Brooks, and Maya Angelou are just a few of the artists to visit her Lynchburg home." Civil rights leaders came too: George Washington Carver, Martin Luther King, Jr., Adam Clayton Powell, Thurgood Marshall.

Spencer earned a national literary reputation with poems written from a backyard studio overlooking the garden that she lovingly tended. Organized as a series of rooms defined by hedges and upright evergreens, it is a highly original garden with a vivid sense of color from mixed plantings of herbaceous perennials, annuals, roses, and flowering shrubs. The tapestry of floral color is complemented by ornaments made of found objects. In the garden the poet found inspiration for much of her work.

After Spencer's death in 1975, her house and garden became a museum; the house is a Virginia Historic Landmark. A board of directors is responsible for stewardship of the property, and volunteers, notably from the Hillside Garden Club, dedicate time to tending the garden,

which can be visited 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

Jane White is a local landscape designer who first visited the site in 1983 at the request of the Spencer board. "I went and my life has never been the same," she says. "I had never had a garden speak to me like that one did and still does." Since that visit, Mrs. White has been an advocate for the garden and its unofficial adviser. In 2008, she helped connect the board to



A fresh coat of paint is one result of a board work day in May.

the Garden Conservancy, which organized an assessment team that made recommendations to restore and manage the garden.

In 2009, the Garden Club of Virginia awarded \$10,000 to fund projects in the garden. By fall, a concrete pool, an important garden focal point, had been rebuilt and repainted and replanting the area around it was in progress. A pergola needs rebuilding and Spencer's writing

cottage needs work, as does the main house.

"I don't know of another restored African-American garden anywhere," Mrs. White says. "Good things are happening, but more could be done. We need a guardian angel."

Learn more about Anne Spencer and her house and garden at www.annespencermuseum.com.



Anne Spencer's writing cottage overlooks the garden.

Susan Scamiholland

Garden Preservation



1989

The Trustees Award for Organizational Excellence, presented in October to the Garden Conservancy by the National

Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), honors “extraordinary achievements over a long period of time.”

We have made garden preservation a national cause since our founding in 1989. Our success can be measured in part by gardens protected (more than 90, coast to coast), educational programs presented (hundreds), future public garden leaders trained through fellowships (9), Open Days gardens opened (2,694), and visits made (796,101).

The award from the National Trust is evidence that our message is being heard. In the words of Richard Moe, president of NTHP, “important gardens are an essential part of our irreplaceable heritage—as much a part of the historic preservation landscape as buildings, birth sites, and battlefields.”

At the National Preservation Awards ceremony in Nashville, October 15, 2009. From left to right: Richard Moe, President, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Bill Noble, Director of Preservation, Garden Conservancy; Antonia Adezio, President, Garden Conservancy; Daniel Thorne, Trustee, National Trust for Historic Preservation; and Daniel Jordan, Vice Chairman, National Trust Board of Trustees



1 9 8 9

Frank Cabot founds the Garden Conservancy to save outstanding American gardens, inspired by Ruth Bancroft's exceptional two-acre dry garden in Walnut Creek, CA.

50-member Advisory Committee formed, including Betty Corning, Vice Chair, and Angela Lansbury, Honorary Chair

Marco Polo Stufano asked to chair Screening Committee to identify gardens for preservation

Garden Conservancy organization formed as a project of the Tides Foundation in San Francisco

Antonia Adezio named Executive Director and office established in Cold Spring, NY

Frank and Antonia appeal personally to hundreds of garden enthusiasts, rally interest, raise seed money, and establish membership



The Ruth Bancroft Garden designated first Preservation Project

1 9 9 0

Conservancy becomes an independent, membership-based 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

Board of Directors formed



1 9 9 1

Society of Fellows created as small group of committed members and supporters who spread

the Conservancy's preservation message and meet regularly to tour gardens

1 9 9 2

First Society of Fellows garden-study tour, to Portland, OR

Conservancy sponsors first conference, “The Hermitage: A Case Study of Restoration Potential,” in Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ

1 9 9 3

The Fells in Newbury, NH, 19th-century summer retreat of American statesman and author John Hay, named a Preservation Project

Conservancy intervenes to save the John P. Humes Japanese Stroll Garden, Mill Neck, NY, from



imminent closing and names it a Preservation Project

Conservancy's educational programs launched with first garden history symposium, “Masters of American Garden Design,” moderated by Robin Karson, for a sold-out audience in New York City

1 9 9 4

Ownership of Bancroft Garden is transferred to the newly organized nonprofit, Ruth Bancroft Garden, Inc.

Humes Japanese Stroll Garden ongoing series begins with “The Nature of Special Places” symposium

1 9 9 5

Members Page Dickey and Penelope Maynard launch Open Days Program for the public,

opening 110 gardens in Connecticut and New York, with plans to go national

First annual *Open Days Directory* published

Lone and Emmott Chase's garden in Orting, WA,



a beautiful example of Pacific Northwest modernist style, named a Preservation Project

Conservancy helps to reclaim Dumbarton Oaks Park, Washington, DC, designed by Beatrix Farrand

1 9 9 6

Conservancy helps with master plan to restore McKee Botanical Gardens, Vero Beach, FL

Conservancy endorses formation of the McLaughlin Foundation to save the Bernard McLaughlin Garden, South Paris, ME

Conservancy presents “Roberto Burle Marx: Legend and Legacy” two-day symposium in New York City and at Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA

1 9 9 7

Van Vleck House & Gardens in Montclair, NJ, named a Preservation Project

Conservancy advises on master plan and restoration of Gardens of Gibraltar, Wilmington, DE

Janet Meakin Poor becomes the first chair of the Open Days Program

In first of many collaborations with sister organizations around the country, Conservancy and Chicago Botanic Garden present symposium in Chicago, “Gardens of the Midwest: A Landscape Legacy”

Open Days Program goes national

1 9 9 8

John Fairey's Peckerwood Garden named a Preservation Project in Hempstead, TX

Sara Lee Corporation becomes sponsor of Open Days Program (1998-2000)

Conservancy plunges in to save Blithewold Mansion, Gardens & Arboretum, Bristol, RI, and to keep it open to the public

1 9 9 9

“The Exceptional American Garden: Past, Present, & Future,” convenes in Charleston, SC, drawing 300 participants from 34 states to celebrate the Conservancy's 10th



anniversary. First national gathering of Conservancy members, Open Days regional representatives, Preservation Project leaders, and other garden enthusiasts

Marco Polo Stufano Garden Conservancy Fellowship created to foster skills in managing public gardens. First annual Fellow, Burton Knight, assigned to Peckerwood Garden

2 0 0 0

Conservancy expands preservation assistance programs

Cause Comes of Age

Conservancy joins effort to save the Abkhazi Garden in Victoria, British Columbia
Conservancy is awarded conservation easement



on Rocky Hills in Mt. Kisco, NY
Lecture series launches at the New York School of Design in New York City (2000-2007)

Conservancy authors a garden preservation handbook, *Taking a Garden Public: Feasibility and Startup*

Conservancy creates the Pacific Northwest Forum to promote communication and resource sharing among local public gardens

Yew Dell Farm and Gardens in Crestwood, KY, named a Preservation Project

Conservancy and the Peckerwood Garden



Foundation cosponsor "Vanishing Borders" symposium at Texas A&M University

W. Atlee Burpee & Co. sponsors Open Days Program

Keil Cove, Tiburon, CA, protected by conservation easement assigned to the Conservancy

2 0 0 2

Greenwood Gardens in Short Hills, NJ, named a Preservation Project

Conservancy and Humes Stroll Garden present "The Japanese Garden in America" symposium at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden

Second volume of preservation handbook series, *Taking a Garden Public: Fund Raising and Development*, publishes and sells out

2 0 0 3

Henriette Suhr's Rocky Hills in Mount Kisco, NY, becomes the first private Open Days garden to be designated a Preservation Project

Conservancy opens West Coast office in San Francisco to expand regional programs. West Coast Council established shortly afterwards.

The Gardens of Alcatraz, San Francisco Bay, become a Preservation Project, a restoration



partnership with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the National Park Service

Steepletop, home to poet Edna St. Vincent Millay in Austerlitz, NY, named a Preservation Project

Montrose, Nancy Goodwin's garden in Hillsborough, NC, named a Preservation Project
Green Gables, Woodside, CA, protected by conservation easement assigned to Conservancy

2 0 0 4

George Schoellkopf's garden at Hollister House, Washington, CT, named a Preservation Project

The Ruth Bancroft Garden Horticultural Series begins (2004-2009)

Suzanne Rheinstein organizes first "Hollyhock event" in Los Angeles (2004, 2007-2009)

Conservancy and *House & Garden* magazine present "Great Visions, Great Gardens" symposium in New York City and at the Stone Barns Center in Pocantico Hills, NY

2 0 0 5

Elizabeth Lawrence Garden in Charlotte, NC, on the National Register of Historic Places, named a Preservation Project.



James deGrey David becomes chair of the Open Days Program
W. Atlee Burpee & Co. returns as sponsor of Open Days Program (2005-2009)

Conservancy presents "Hadrian's Villa and the California Garden" seminar at Stanford University

First "Gardens to Match Your Architecture" program launches in San Francisco, cosponsored with *Pacific Horticulture* magazine (2005-2009)

2 0 0 6

Conservancy marshals emergency funds, garden

help, and plant donations to help Longue Vue Garden and the New Orleans Botanical Garden recover from devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina



The gardens at Longue Vue, New Orleans, LA, named a Preservation Project

Alcatraz Historic Gardens Project receives \$250,000 grant from Save America's Treasures; Conservancy succeeds in raising one-to-one match

Conservancy cosponsors California Garden History Society symposium in Los Angeles, "California Japanese-Style Gardens: Tradition and Practice" (related symposium in Owens Valley, 2008)

"Fresh Design, West Coast 2006," in "Gardens to Match Your Architecture" series, becomes the first Conservancy seminar in Los Angeles

Conservancy presents lecture series at the Cornerstone Festival of Gardens in Sonoma County, CA (2006-2007)

2 0 0 7

Pearl Fryar Topiary Garden in Bishopville, SC,



named a Preservation Project

"Garden Design Talks" at Flora Grubb Gardens

begin in San Francisco (2007-2009)

Founder Frank Cabot retires as Chairman but remains on the board;



Tom Armstrong named Chairman

Representatives of 13 Preservation Project gardens gather in Cold Spring, NY, for first Preservation Weekend

2 0 0 8

Conservancy and Hollister House Garden celebrate "Transatlantic Connections" at Hollister House garden-study weekend in Connecticut

Conservancy and Bancroft Garden present seminar and study tour, "An Age of Gardeners: Mrs. Bancroft and Her Horticultural Contemporaries," in honor of Ruth Bancroft's 100th birthday

"The Garden Metropolis" symposium at the New York School of Interior Design,



cosponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Coleman P. Burke and *Garden Design* magazine and organized by Stephen Orr; explores urban green spaces

2 0 0 9

321 private gardens in 22 states participate in Open Days, welcoming approximately 75,000 visitors with the help



of more than 400 volunteers

First European garden-study tour by the Society of Fellows explores Belgium and the Netherlands

"Fall in the Garden" seminar, cosponsored with Denver Botanic Gardens, held on the eve of an Open Day in Denver, CO

Conservancy cosponsors Cultural Landscape Foundation symposium



and field study weekend, "Landscapes for Living: Post World War Years in Northern California," at the University of California, Berkeley

Conservancy presents "Limestone & Water: Plants, design and inspiration for the Texas garden" seminar at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, University of Texas, Austin

For the fourth consecutive year, Conservancy receives a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent evaluator of charities

California Preservation Foundation presents two prestigious awards to the Alcatraz Historic Gardens Project

National Trust for Historic Preservation gives Trustees Award for Organizational Excellence to the Garden Conservancy

Have Open Days Directory, Will Travel



Above: Karolyn Fava provides a human scale to a large linden at the Purviance Garden, Middletown, RI

Far right: Parterre, Newport, RI

Below: The Garden at Mill Fleurs, Point Pleasant, PA

“When the *Open Days Directory* arrives,” says Karolyn Fava, of Armonk, New York, “I just *pounce* on it.” The occasion prompts Karolyn and her husband, John, to sit down with their respective calendars, scroll through the chronological listing of Open Days, deter-

mine “what is feasible,” scratch off the gardens they have already visited, coordinate tour dates, then get on the phone to make overnight reservations when needed. “It’s how we spend our summer vacations,” Karolyn says.

The Favas started their Open Days tours in 2000, visiting nearby gardens in Westchester County, New York, and Greenwich, Connecticut. Over the years, they have traveled further afield, to Open Days throughout the Northeast and as far south as Washington, D.C.

They learned about Open Days when a gardening friend asked for their help in opening her garden for the program. John helped direct parking, Karolyn sold tickets. And they both looked through the *Open Days Directory* on the reception table. It was enthusiasm at first sight.

Since then, the Favas have taken in 220 Open Days gardens in the Northeast. And they have the photographs to prove it. “We have thousands,” says John. Along with the gardens, the Favas enjoy the camaraderie that develops

among visitors to a region’s Open Days program. “As you go from garden to garden, you tend to run into the same people all day long,” John notes. “We all share the same interests, and you start chatting with people. It’s fun.”

Trained as landscape architects at the University of Massachusetts, the Favas rate the gardens they see using their own star system. They base their ratings on a garden’s design, maintenance, and plants. Size, they emphasize, is not important. “It could be anywhere from 100 acres to one acre,” Karolyn says. “It all depends on what has gone into it, how well it is thought out.”

This year, they hit stardust. In Newport, they gave a star to Parterre, a highly manicured garden that impressed them as sophisticated beyond its age (12 years). In Middletown, Rhode Island, at the Purviance Garden, John’s fancy was caught by a boxwood hedge “that looked like undulating cloud masses.” Karolyn was stunned by huge silver lindens, *Tilia tomentosa*, “that took up, it seemed, acres.” The plants there were just spectacular, they agreed. In the heart of Washington, D.C., they found the “architec-



tural” garden of Ann Free to be “absolutely beautiful.” In Bucks County, Pennsylvania, the Favas found themselves in paradise; they awarded stars to six gardens.

Nowadays, wherever the Favas travel, they take the *Open Days Directory* with them. They use it to locate public gardens and Garden Conservancy projects along their routes. They also find the directory to be a great gift. “We’ve given it to people all over the country. People love to find out about the program,” says Karolyn.

Do the Favas transport garden ideas back home? They sigh at the thought. “We have so many mitigating circumstances here,” Karolyn says. “Shade,” says John. “Deer, rabbits, chipmunks,” adds Karolyn.

“Besides,” laughs John, “we’re so busy out looking we can’t do our own.”

Photos by John Fava



Get Ready for Open Days 2010!

The Garden Conservancy's *Open Days Directory* is the only source for comprehensive descriptions of all 2010 Open Days gardens, locations, and dates. Information for a limited number of gardens will be available on our website, www.opendaysprogram.org, beginning in March. The first gardens open in late March.

Each year, almost half of the participating gardens are new to the program. Among the new areas this year is Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts!



The garden of Clara and Larry Yust, Los Angeles. In 2010, we celebrate 10 years of Open Days in Los Angeles.

Inside the *Open Days Directory*

- ☀ A catalogue of more than 300 private gardens with descriptions written by their creators, driving directions, and dates and hours they are welcoming visitors
- ☀ Visiting information on more than 200 public gardens
- ☀ One free admission ticket, so your first visit is on us!

If you're not already a member, please join us. All members receive:

- ☀ One free copy of the *Open Days Directory*, which also contains one free admission ticket
- ☀ Discount on purchases of Open Days garden admission tickets (6 tickets for \$15—a 50% discount)
- ☀ Complimentary admission to selected Conservancy Preservation Project gardens

Members: Your free copy of the *Open Days Directory* will be shipped automatically as soon as it's available. Order your discounted admission tickets online or use the order form below.

Nonmembers: Become a member and request your free *Open Days Directory* and discounted tickets, or order both at the nonmember price.

Gift Idea for your Garden-Loving Friends: A 2010 *Open Days Directory* and book of admission tickets. Note the quantity of each on the order form.



2010 Order Form

I am already a member. In addition to my free *Directory*, please also send the items indicated below.

I do not wish to become a member at this time but would like to order the items indicated below.

I want to join the Garden Conservancy at the membership level checked below:

- \$50 Individual \$250 Garden Sustainer
 \$75 Supporting \$500 Garden Partner
 \$125 Garden Friend \$750 Garden Champion

	Quantity	Amount
Membership		\$ _____
Open Days Directory	21.95	\$ _____
Admission Ticket Booklet		\$ _____
Book of 6 tickets \$15 members/\$25 nonmembers		
Total		\$ _____

Shipping and handling included in all prices

Payment Method

Check MasterCard Visa American Express

Card #: _____ Exp. date: ____/____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

The Garden Conservancy, Inc. is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Membership contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

All gifts at Garden Friend level and above are acknowledged in the Garden Conservancy's annual report.

Send to: The Garden Conservancy, P.O. Box 219, Cold Spring, NY 10516
Fax: 845.265.9620 **Toll-free order line:** 888.842.2442

Books of Interest



**Beatrice Farrand:
Private Gardens,
Public Landscapes**
By Judith B. Tankard
The Monacelli Press, 2009

A biography of the pioneering American landscape architect. Two of her gardens, Dumbarton Oaks Park in Washington, D.C., and the Beatrice Farrand Garden at

Bellefield, Hyde Park, New York, were Preservation Projects of the Garden Conservancy.

**Shaping the American Landscape:
New Profiles from the Pioneers of American Landscape
Design Project**

Charles Birnbaum and Stephanie Foell, project editors
University of Virginia Press, 2009

This volume is the second in a series from the Cultural

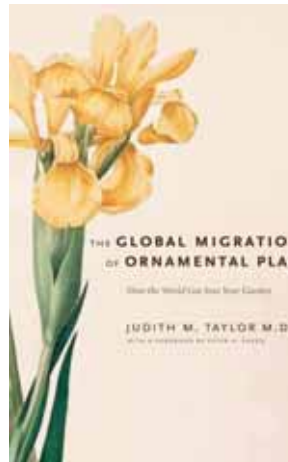


Landscape Foundation (editor Charles Birnbaum is the founder and president of TCLF). The symposium that the Garden Conservancy co-sponsored at the University of California at Berkeley in October, *Landscapes for Living: Post War Years in Northern California*, celebrated the publication of this book.



**The American
Meadow Garden:
Creating a Natural
Alternative to the
Traditional Lawn**
By John Greenlee,
photographs by
Saxon Holt
Timber Press,
2009

Ornamental grass expert John Greenlee celebrated the launch of his new book with the Garden Conservancy at a November event at the Flora Grubb Gardens in San Francisco. Greenlee presents a new model for homeowners and gardeners.



**The Global Migrations
of Ornamental Plants:
How the World Got
into Your Garden**
By Judith M. Taylor
Missouri Botanical Garden Press,
2009

Author Judith Taylor traced the journey of the familiar plants we grow in our gardens from their far-flung roots to our backyards in a November talk in San Francisco jointly sponsored

by the Garden Conservancy, the Mechanics Institute, and *Pacific Horticulture* magazine.

In Memoriam

Theodore D. Nierenberg

On July 31, the Garden Conservancy, in particular the Open Days Program, lost an esteemed friend when Ted Nierenberg, founder and president of Dansk International Designs, died at age 86. Mr. Nierenberg's garden in Westchester County, New York, Cobamong Pond, developed over 50 years, is considered a masterpiece of woodland gardening. For many years, including 2009, he and his wife Martha invited Open Days visitors to enjoy Cobamong Pond's spring-time beauty: an abundance of flowering trees and shrubs—especially a wealth of rhododendrons and Japanese maples—carefully planted and tended on 12 acres around a 12-acre pond. A book



Cobamong Pond, Ted Nierenberg's woodland garden, on a beautiful spring Open Day

of Mr. Nierenberg's photographs of the garden, along with text by Mark Kane, was published in 1993 by Aperture as *The Beckoning Path*.

Board of Directors Update

We welcome two new members to our Board of Directors and the return of a third.

Elisabeth Saint-Amand received a Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of Virginia Graduate School of Architecture in 2001. In 2003, her submission to the Highline Ideas Competition in New York City was recognized among the top 15 of more than 720 international entries. Elisabeth has designed



Nick D'Emilio

projects in New York City and, from 2006-2008 served as project manager at Madison Cox Design, where she developed and supervised installations in Palm Beach County, Florida, Southampton, New

York, and New York City. In 2008, Elisabeth founded Saint-Amand Landscape Design.

Elisabeth serves on the Board of Advisors at the University of Virginia School of Architecture and is on the Frick Young Fellows Steering Committee, among other charitable engagements.

Susan Stone is a long-time resident of the North Shore of Chicago. With her husband Roger, she has been a member and traveler with the Garden Conservancy Society of Fellows on study tours to Wilmington, Delaware, and Newport, Rhode Island.

Susan's Arts-and-Crafts-style garden, originally designed in 1936, features twin herbaceous borders in pastel colors and beautiful views.

She serves on the board of the Chicago Botanic Garden and the Woman's Boards of the Field Museum of Natural History and the University of Chicago.



At the Chicago Botanic Garden, Susan is

on the Building and Gardens Committee, Development Committee, and the Science, Academic Programs, and Living Collections Committee. She recently stepped down from a successful two-year tenure as president of the major donor program at the Garden.

Susan Payson Burke of New York City returns to the board after a year's hiatus. She has been a



Regional Representative for the Open Days Program, and an Open Days host, on Nantucket Island, Massachusetts, and in Westchester County, New York. She represents the Conservancy on the board of Hollister House Garden and helped plan

the recent Society of Fellows trip to Europe. Susan and her husband Coleman were among the sponsors of our Garden Metropolis symposium last year.

Susan also serves on the boards of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and the New York Botanical Garden, among others.

Fellows Go to Europe



Art Luna

The 2009 season featured four remarkable Society of Fellows garden-study tours. In September, a very successful trip to the Netherlands and Belgium explored a wide array of gardens, both historical and new, with warm reception from all of our hosts. Belgian landscape architect Jacques Wirtz's signature sculpted hedges in mass plantings (above) were a feature of this first Fellows trip to Europe.



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Limestone & Water Symposium in Texas

A perfect fall evening in the garden of James David, chairman of the Open Days Program, and Gary Peese set the stage for a Halloween weekend full of activities for local gardeners in Austin, Texas.

On Saturday, October 31, more than 150 enthusiastic gardeners attended our symposium, Limestone & Water, at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, co-hosts of the event. Four speakers—garden writer and editor Stephen Orr, plant experts Scott Ogden and Lauren Springer Ogden, and landscape designer Dylan Crain Robertson—reflected on the challenges and rewards of gardening in Texas.

Thank you to Deborah Hornickel, Texas Regional Coordinator for Open Days, the staff at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, and everyone else who made the weekend such a success.

Open Days Chairman James David, Texas Open Days Regional Coordinator Deborah Hornickel, and Limestone & Water speakers Dylan Crain Robertson and Stephen Orr



September 23-26, 2010: Preservation Weekend



Courtesy of Mt. Cuba Center

The Garden Conservancy plans to hold its second Preservation Weekend on September 23-26, 2010, at Mt. Cuba Center in Hockessin, Delaware. (The first such weekend was held in 2007.)

This professional development opportunity for Preservation Projects staff and board members is cosponsored by Mt. Cuba Center, with additional support from Chanticleer, a pleasure garden in Wayne, Pennsylvania.

We are planning this event together with Rick Lewandowski, Director of Mt. Cuba Center, a spectacular native plant garden set in the rolling hills of northern Delaware and one of the region's finest display and teaching gardens.

Mt. Cuba, the former home and family estate of Mr. and Mrs. Lammot du Pont Copeland, is now a 650-acre nonprofit institution dedicated to the study, conservation, and appreciation of plants native to the Appalachian Piedmont region.