

George Landis Arboretum

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Number 3 PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE FRIENDS OF THE ARBORETUM SEPTEMBER 1985

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

THE SLEEPING GIANT AWAKES

The Trustees of the Arboretum are deeply concerned and dedicated to the task of revitalizing this wonderful place for which we are responsible. A visit and evaluation by Dr. T.R. Dudley, Research Botanist at the National Arboretum, Washington, D.C., has reaffirmed our conviction that we have in this unique location a valuable and important plant collection. In fact, he referred to it as "a sleeping giant," and pointed out that all the plantings are crying for attention particularly pruning, thinning, and fertilizing. So every effort is being made to bring the entire Arboretum up to par through maintenance and continued vigilance.

Thanks to the inspired leadership of Margaret Law, who has organized the "Wednesday Weeders", thanks to the dedicated volunteerism of many of our Friends, and thanks to new equipment we now put forth a presentable appearance with approaches weeded and trimmed and passable paths throughout the Arboretum. We are also the proud owners of a Conference Center which will house our activities and programs. Many people are involved in this awakening effort and all deserve enormous thanks.

We are just at the beginning. It is exciting to think of the tremendous potential ahead. Two factors are essential to its realization: funds, and people, and right now every effort is being made in both directions. Plans are being considered for a comprehensive fund drive, and the plans are underway for revitalizing the plant collections, pruning, thinning, feeding, and labeling. Be prepared to help when the call comes --- soon!

The Sleeping Giant stirs, stretches and turns over, and sees a bright future ahead.

By Elizabeth P. Corning
President



DEDICATION

NEW CONFERENCE CENTER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1985

2:00 p.m.

A DAY OF AUTUMN SPLENDOR



RARE PLANT SALE

The Rare Plant Sale was successful in spite of the threatening weather. We had a good turnout and made \$1,337. Plans are underway to make it even bigger and better next year.

NEW MEMBERS

We have several new Tustees and would like to take this opportunity to welcome them.

The Friends have also added two new members to their ranks: Tom Swan, who is working part-time at the Arboretum mowing and cleaning up; and Charles (Chuck) Weed (an appropriate name) who will share his expertise in writing proposals for grants for the Arboretum.

TRACTORS

As Mrs. Corning mentioned, we have a new Kubota tractor with mower and bush hog, which greatly aids our efforts. Dick Law, husband of Wednesday Weeders Organizer Margaret Law, is refurbishing the old tractors for eventual resale, now that we have new equipment.

MEMBERSHIP

The future does look bright and we are counting on your cooperation. If you haven't yet renewed your membership please use the form on the newsletter. Dr. Dudley says our membership could be tripled easily. A good way to accomplish that is for everyone to invite at least one friend to become a member. If your name and address is not correct on your newsletter please advise the Arboretum.



WEDNESDAY WEEDERS

If you would like to join the ranks of the Wednesday Weeders, please call Margaret Law at 463-5256. She would love to hear from you.

SEED SWAP

The International Seed Swap, so dear to the heart of Fred Lape, will be continued thanks to Richard Southwick, Professor of Plant Sciences at the State University of New York's Agricultural and Technical College in Cobleskill. Professor Southwick recently conducted a most instructive two hour session for the Friends of the Arboretum and the Wednesday Weeders.

DONATIONS

We are grateful to Hal Beiber, a member of the Friends Steering Committee, for donating a first aid kit to the Arboretum. Hal was the fellow dressed as the clown at the Rare Plant Sale.

The Friends have donated a fern-leaved cypress to the Arboretum. It is planted near the Harkness Memorial Library.



PLANT YOUR SPRING BULBS NOW!

WISH LIST

If you can help the Arboretum by providing any of the following items we would be most appreciative.

- Stove
- Refrigerator
- Dishwasher
- Cabinets
- Silverware
- Dishes
- Coffee urn
- Show Case
- Stainless Steel Commercial Sink(s)
- Folding tables
- Riding mower
- Bathroom mirrors
- Microwave oven
- Lumber for the deck
- Crushed stone
- Sliding glass doors
- Folding Chairs
- Quick Recovery Hot Water Heater

If you can donate any of these items, contact the Arboretum .

MEMBERSHIPS

Are you a member of the of the Landis Arboretum? Is it time to renew your membership? What about giving a friend a gift membership to the Arboretum? Use the form below to activate you membership, or give one to a friend.

CUT

- Friend, \$10-24
- Sponsor, \$25-49
- Supporting, \$50-99
- Patron, \$100 or more

GEORGE LANDIS ARBORETUM

Membership Application

Please support the extensive work of the arboretum and make a tax deductible contribution.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ Renewal

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____ New Member

Members receive a quarterly newsletter, and early admission to the rare plant sale. Make your check payable to: George Landis Arboretum, and mail to: George Landis Arboretum, Esperance, New York 12066.

SWEETGUM
FOR FALL COLOR

If you like fall color, you will love the splendor of the sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*). Autumn tints range from yellow, gold, and orange through shades of red, scarlet and lavender. Reds usually predominate, but some trees display several colors at one time--changing from day to day as the season progresses. Color on sweetgum trees comes a few days later than on the maples, but it holds well and may last for two weeks or more.

Fall color is not the sweetgum's only virtue. The star-shaped leaves are beautiful; shade is ample; and the deeply furrowed, gray bark and corky twigs add to the winter scene. They usually grow with a strong central leader and broadly conical form. Growth rate is moderate.

They are indigenous only to the eastern and southern states, and we are proud to have one on the Arboretum grounds.



Thorny ball of
Sweet Gum

Be sure to join Mr. Peter Kaskeski on September 28, at 10 a.m. for a Fall Color Walk

GEORGE LANDIS ARBORETUM
Esperance, New York
12066

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Esperance, NY
Permit No. 6

Recd Oct 1, 1985

DATED MATERIAL

Mr. & Mrs. James L. Gage
Esperance, NY 12066

In the wild they often grow in swampy areas, but they seem to be equally at home in well-drained soils. They are one of the best street trees with ability to withstand the dirt, heat, and drouth of urban areas. They prefer acid soils and full sun.

We will have some young trees in our Rare Plant Sale this spring.

OTHER TREES FOR GOOD FALL COLOR

RED

Striped maple (*Acer Pennsylvanicum*); red maple (*A. rubrum*); amur maple (*A. ginnala*); flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*); katsura tree (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*); sassafras (*S. albidum*); franklinia (*F. alatamaha*); scarlet oak (*Quercus coccinea*); stewartia koreana.

YELLOW

Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*); redbud (*Cercis canadensis*); American yellow-wood (*Cladrastis lutea*); American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*); European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*); ginkgo (*G. biloba*); sarvis or shadblow (*Amelanchier laevis*); golden-rain tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*); tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*); silverbell (*Halesia*).