

Fall 2003

The Castle CHRONICLES

www.yewdellgardens.org

Yew Dell Gardens Invites Gardeners to Award-Winning
AUTHOR'S LECTURE

FRANK CABOT

photo by Andrew Lawson

Dubbed one of the "Giants of Designs" in House Beautiful magazine's May 2003 issue, Frank Cabot is respected worldwide as a visionary gardener. In addition to being named a "Giants of Designs" along with notables such as Calvin Klein, Cabot has won numerous awards from garden and horticulture groups around the globe. He's recipient of the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries 2003 Literature Award and a winner of a 2002 Gold Veitch Memorial medal from the Royal Horticultural Society.

A Harvard College cum laude graduate, Cabot is the founder and chairman of The Garden Conservancy, an organization devoted to the preservation of exceptional private gardens in North America. He's served on the boards of numerous gardening organizations, including stints as chairman of the Friends of Horticulture at Wave Hill and treasurer of the North American Rock Garden Society.

His book, "The Greater Perfection," unveils the story and images of his garden, Les Quatre Vents in Quebec - which has been acclaimed as

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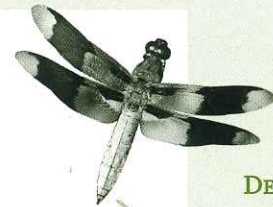
OLDHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S SECOND ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GALA AND PRESENTATION OF "CHAMPION OF OLDHAM COUNTY HISTORY AWARD" TO YEW DELL GARDENS' THE LATE THEODORE KLEIN

As the board and staff of Yew Dell Gardens work hard to preserve Theodore Klein's legacy, the man behind Oldham County's 33-acre Eden will now be honored for his love of, and place in local history.

The Oldham County Historical Society, of which Klein was a founding member, announced in August that Klein will be the recipient of their Champion of Oldham County History Award.

The Champion of Oldham County History Award was created by Oldham's historical society to celebrate residents who have demonstrated a sincere interest in local history and for those who have achieved national recognition as researchers, writers or artists.

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mission

THE MISSION OF YEW
DELL GARDENS IS TO
CONTINUE THE
HORTICULTURAL LEGACY
OF THEODORE KLEIN;
TO ENCOURAGE
EXPLORATION OF
THE ARBORETUM,
GARDENS AND
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photo credit, Marian Klein Koehler

We've received many calls recently about the following subject. We thought our newsletter readers would be interested in seeing our response. (Fully tongue-in-cheek, of course!)

Dear Mrs. Capulet,*

We are so pleased that you think Yew Dell Gardens will be the most beautiful spot in this area for your sweet Juliet's* wedding next spring. We think Yew Dell is magnificent, too! The gardens and arboretum are lush from this rainy summer, and we agree that the castle and house look as if they are out of a storybook fable.

Yet, Mrs. Capulet, we are a work in progress. We hope you understand that we won't be ready for that special wedding THIS year. Lest you think we have been resting on our laurels, I thought I'd let you know a little about what is happening at Yew Dell right now.

Bittners has graciously donated its services to clean and do minor repairs on the wonderful antique furniture in the castle -- so that it will be in tip top shape for entertaining guests. We'll put those beautiful pieces back in the castle after we finish plaster work and update the wiring and temperature controls.

We're also set to start renovation work on the log cabin this fall -- so it will be a perfect backdrop for those wedding photos.

We've sent out a request for proposals to selected architects for rehabilitation of our historic and beautiful tin roofed "bank barn" -- so you'll have a dry place to run to if the weather is wet for the wedding. The bank barn will also be the new Gheens Education Center. We'll use it for our lectures and classes, too!

We're also about to start work on a temporary construction entrance. The project is being completed with funds from the James Graham Brown Foundation gift, thanks to the help of East and Westbrook Construction and Oldham County Stone.

In order to get the fabulous gardens and trees back into picture perfect shape, we're working diligently on the final phases of our Stabilization Plan, drafted with the Garden Conservancy. We'll soon undertake our long-awaited Master Plan - so you'll be able to park enough cars and find enough bathrooms on that special day. The plan will also allow us to accommodate visitors, special programs, and other future uses. It will also enable us to insure a strong visual identity for Yew Dell.

Mrs. Capulet, if you and Juliet and the groom, Romeo,* would like to help us, there are many things you can do. You can come every second Saturday and join our Volunteer Work Days, which start at 9 a.m. (Bring the whole bridal party and the Montague family, too!) It's a great way to get a "sneak peek" at what's going on. Or you can join our Weekly Weeders every Wednesday, also at 9 a.m.

You can watch for the Membership Campaign when it's launched later this fall. As a member, you'll be invited to attend special events next spring, when the dogwoods and magnolias are in bloom.

You could come hear Frank Cabot, founder of the Garden Conservancy, speak on Oct.18.

Or you could join one of our committees, help arrange special events, or volunteer in the office. You could bring your garden club - and your mah-jhong group - for a visit!

You could send a tax-deductible donation, which would be used to help make Yew Dell the picture perfect place for weddings, school field trips, garden club outings and other community events. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated because numerous repairs and renovations remain. Perhaps the Capulets would like to help underwrite the cost of repairs on a piece of furniture in the castle or to assist in financing other needed renovations.

There are so many options. Maybe we can meet for tea one day at the castle to discuss them.

Mrs. Capulet, I want you to know that you are welcome to bring Juliet and Romeo to Yew Dell on their special day to have photos taken and we could offer the same for your nephew Tybalt's graduation class. You can arrange this by calling the office.

In the meantime, I hope you'll be patient and pitch in to help us get ready for the day when we can host a wedding (and many other events)!

*Not their real names, of course.

Mary F. Rounsavall
PRESIDENT

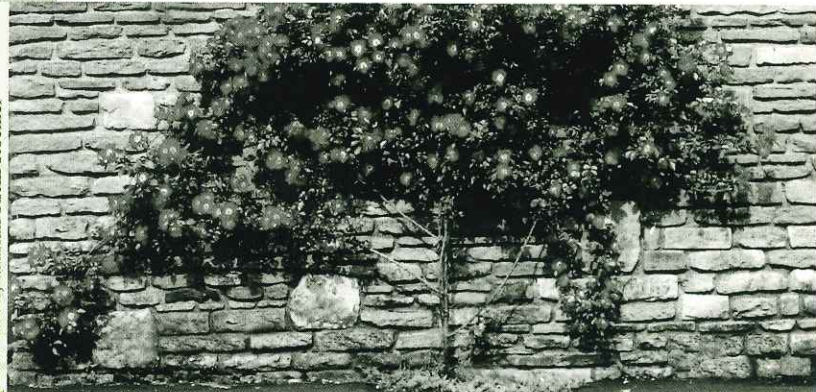
A Message from the President

Meet Our Board and Advisors

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Paul Clinton	Rowland Miller
Mark Dennen	Bill Pace
Albert H. Klein	Barbara Paradis
Marian Klein Koehler	W. Plumer Wiseman
Bill Lammlein	

photo credit, Marian Klein Koehler



The Rock House

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Paul Clinton	Karl Klein
Holly Cooper	Lee Squires
Matt Gardiner	Maureen Stites
Mike Hayman	Suzette White
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Paul Cappiello

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Windi Burdette

HORTICULTURAL STAFF—

Eric Doran
Don Hightchew



Yew Dell board member Paul Clinton was honored as Grand Marshall for the "Oldham County Days" celebration on July 15. Pictured are (l-r) Mary Rounsavall, Paul Clinton, Paul Cappiello and Holly Cooper.

YEW DELL, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS—

The board of directors wishes to convey its deep gratitude to all the members of the Klein family. Their cooperation and generous support have made this a successful and joyous transition. The future is bright and we will all share in it.

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photo credit, Marian Klein Koehler

The Millstone Garden

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The Wells Foundation
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GIFTS IN HONOR

Ms. Rosemary Drybough - In honor of Louise Hickox
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Jaegers - In honor of Julie Ballard
Ms. Mary Rounsavall - In honor of the marriage of Irvin Abell, III and Paula Kelson
Taylored Lawns & Garden - In honor of Marian Klein Koehler
Bill Young - In Honor of Theodore Klein

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Among the 20 some-odd books I have in a pile next to my bed is a new find in horticulture books, at least to me. Of course as an almost pathological collector of horticulture books, I am still amazed when I find one that has remained below my radar. *Seeds of Fortune*; a *Gardening Dynasty*, by Sue Shephard chronicles the legendary Veitch nursery family of England through the 17th and 18th centuries and is an outstanding read for anyone interested in how we all became so crazed by the gardening trend.

From the foreword (by acclaimed plantsman Roy Lancaster) to the author's final note, the book is filled with tales of fortunes lost and made, intrepid (insane) plant hunters and the explosive growth in horticultural passions.

The Veitch nursery started humbly, as most do, but quickly grew into one of the leading forces in new plant discovery and are known worldwide as one of the first and most successful at sending their own private collectors around the globe to bring back new plants.

One of their crack staff, a Mr. John Dominy, was the very first person to successfully produce an orchid hybrid in cultivation. What is often lost in the translation is the fact that the Veitchs were also astute businessmen, sometimes being criticized as being too concerned with profit and less with the advancement of the field. It is funny how some things never change.

I recently spent a week in the Portland, Oregon area speaking at the Farwest Show and visiting nurseries. There, I saw tremendous innovation, dozens of new plants and some nurseries engaging in not only first-rate horticulture but first-rate promotion as well.

I visited Terra Nova Nursery where Dan Heims began 10 years ago with what was a few new *Heuchera* cultivars and has now turned it into an



photo credit, Mary Rounsavall

Paul Cappiello, Executive Director

absolute treasure trove of unimaginable horticultural diversity. Probably one of the best herbaceous perennial breeding programs in the United States.

Mark and Jolly Krautmann of Heritage Seedlings, one of the best potted liner nurseries in the country are propagating and

selling plants such as *Quercus dentata* 'Pinnatifida,' the cutleaf emperor oak.

I visited the garden of Mr. Sean Hogan of Cistus Design Nursery where his collection of South American and Australian plants left me searching for adjectives. All three are not only growing, using and developing the best of the best, but they are successfully marketing and selling the plants as well. Who says bread and butter plants are the only way to go? Rather than over-commercial, I call them just plain successful!

Finally, while on the road in Portland, I was delighted to see a little Yew Dell on the minds of some growers. In the fields of Boring, Salem, Silverton and beyond, I came across blocks of Klein introductions *Cercis canadensis* 'Silver Cloud' (redbud), *Cercidiphyllum japonicum* 'Amazing Grace' (Katsura) and for the first time, *Acer saccharum* 'Powhatan' the latter being one of Theodore Klein's sugar maple selections that we just recently sent out for evaluation.

All in all, I think the Veitchs would be proud of what I saw in Portland and with Yew Dell's commitment to continue our storied horticultural legacy. Stay tuned for more . . .

Dr. Paul Cappiello
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As faithful newsletter readers may remember, Yew Dell lost a valued friend and talented grant writer this past summer with the passing of Jenan Dorman. Since that time, we have been fortunate that our ongoing public relations and development consultant, Leslie Buddeke of Technique Marketing + Development, was willing and able to step in and take up the grant writing charge. All of us at Yew Dell would like to thank her for her talent, energy and commitment to Yew Dell.

Travels with Executive Director

Yew Dell Tree Fund
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Yew Dell Gardens has established a tree fund that may be used as a recipient for memorial, honorial or other special donations. The Tree Fund began with initial donations by Trustees of Yew Dell in memory of Robert W. Rounsavall, Jr. and Mary Helen "Noni" Paradis. Proceeds from the fund will be used for the purchase, planting and care for trees on Yew Dell's grounds.

Theodore Klein spent a lifetime creating a landscape that speaks so eloquently of our heritage. Join us in preserving this exceptional landscape that is Yew Dell Gardens by making a gift today, so that each generation to come can discover this bountiful world -- Yew Dell Gardens.



photo credit, Marian Klein-Kochler

Discover Yew Dell

Acer palmatum "Bloodgood"

continued from cover

Yew Dell Gardens Invites Gardeners to Award-Winning
AUTHOR'S LECTURE



photo credit, Richard Brown

the most aesthetically satisfying and horticultural exciting landscape experience in North America.

Published in 2001, the book also chronicles Cabot's efforts to expand Les Quatre Vents. It reveals the fascinating process behind the creation of a world-class garden that has become a mecca for horticultural enthusiasts from around the globe. A companion volume to Cabot's book in French, "Un Jardin Extraordinaire," authored by Jean des Gagniers, was released in Europe and Quebec in 2002.

Cabot's horticulture interests have focused primarily on perennials, including the alpine and woodland plants. In recent years, he's focused on the design and creation of gardens. In 1991, his garden in Cold Spring, New York became a public garden.

As an author and designer, Cabot is well respected by horticulture experts.

"With his passionate interest in plants, plant exploration and botany, he demonstrates how a discriminating choice of plants can produce something to satisfy both aesthete and ecologist as well as stir the heart of the horticulturist," said Penelope Hobhouse, author of "Garden Designs." "His book is not only the story of a garden but an essay on the finer points of garden appreciation."

Cabot's interest in horticulture germinated under the tutelage of two uncles who were accomplished landscape architects, along with mentoring by other talented horticulturists. His skills have been nourished by visiting gardens around the world then incorporating and adapting their best features for his own gardens.

Don't miss the chance to meet one of the world's top garden designers. Make plans now to attend Frank Cabot's lecture and book signing on Oct. 18. The event is sponsored by Yew Dell Gardens. (Details on the back panel.)

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OLDHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S

Second Annual Fundraising Gala and Presentation of

"CHAMPION OF OLDHAM COUNTY HISTORY AWARD" TO
YEW DELL GARDENS' CREATOR, THE LATE THEODORE KLEIN

Friday, October 17, 2003
Reception begins at 7 p.m.

The Olmsted, former rectory of The Masonic Home for Widows and Orphans
3701 Frankfort Avenue • Louisville, Ky.

Speakers include Bob Hill and Dr. Paul Cappelletto

Cost: \$100 per person for reception and dinner

Call the Oldham County Historical Society for reservations at (502) 222-0826.



The late Theodore Klein

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We are grateful for the continued generous support of United Mail, Inc. for providing the production and cost of mailings for Yew Dell Gardens.



The Castle
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*You are Invited to
A Lecture and Book Signing*

WITH AWARD-WINNING GARDEN DESIGNER AND AUTHOR

FRANK CABOT

Saturday, October 18 at 10:30 a.m.

At St. Francis In The Fields Episcopal Church

At Wolf Pen Branch Road and US Hwy 42.

THE EVENT IS SPONSORED BY YEW DELL GARDENS.

Cabot will share his vast knowledge of horticulture and discuss his book, *"The Greater Perfection."* His lecture and slide presentation will transport the audience to the extraordinary setting of his garden, Les Quatre Vents in Quebec - which has been acclaimed as the most aesthetically satisfying and horticultural exciting landscape experience in North America.

10:30 a.m. Registration, book signing, refreshments and raffle for rare plants
11:00 a.m. Cabot's lecture and slide presentation
12:00 to 12:30 p.m. Book Signing

Admission is \$10. (No advance or reserved tickets.)

Copies of *"The Greater Perfection"* will be available for sale.

photo by Andrew Lawson

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