

The Castle CHRONICLES

www.yewdellgardens.org

GHEENS FOUNDATION GRANT

Assists Bank Barn Restoration at Yew Dell Gardens

Thanks to a generous grant from The Gheens Foundation, the unique, historic barn at Yew Dell Gardens is being transformed into a state-of-the-art educational center. Inside the new bank barn, students and other Yew Dell visitors will be able to learn about horticulture and the arts through interactive, hands-on experience. It will serve as a cultural and educational resource for people of all ages from across the region.

Renovations will begin soon to convert the state-ly barn into a facility with space for classes, demonstrations and conferences. In addition to providing a special spot for students to learn about Theodore Klein's legacy, the center will host workshops, symposiums and other events for gardeners, conservationists, horticulturists and arborists.



DeLeon and Primmer Architecture Workshop created this conceptual rendering for hillside entertainment and events at Yew Dell Garden's Bank Barn.

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PUBLIC INVITED TO JOIN YEW DELL WITH NEW CHARTER MEMBERSHIPS

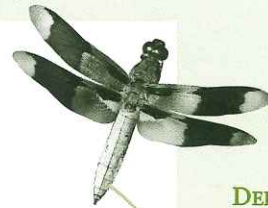
With Yew Dell Gardens gearing up for its much-anticipated 2004 opening, charter memberships are now being offered to the public.

The announcement to invite charter members to join Yew Dell was made this fall during a special visit by world renowned gardener Frank Cabot.

The membership prices were set at affordable levels to encourage people of all ages and income levels to join our efforts to save one of Kentucky's grandest outdoor treasures.

The charter memberships will provide a plethora of perks. Charter members will have free access to the 33-acre gardens and Yew Dell's many jewels, a subscription to The Castle Chronicles newsletter, and free admission to other botanical gardens, arboreta and conservatories throughout the country.

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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
THE EXTRAORDINARY
ARCHITECTURAL SETTING;
AND TO PROVIDE
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
EDUCATION, ENRICHMENT
AND ENJOYMENT.

YEW DELL, INC.
P.O. Box 1334
Crestwood, KY 40014
(502) 241-4788
www.yewdellgardens.org



photo credit, Marian Klein Koehler

Happy 2004 to you all!

Any one who has been following the progress of Yew Dell Gardens closely knows that we have said we will open to the public in 2004 – and we will! Stay tuned for updates in this newsletter and throughout the year on special events, open days, classes, lectures, special trips and lots more! You will be hearing more in the coming months, but mark your calendars now for extra-special opening events the evening of Friday, June 11, 2004 and Sunday, June 13, 2004. In the meantime, please join us for our new Open Days on the second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. As most of you know, these are also our volunteer workdays, so there will be a core of interested supporters around, and we will always have at least one tour guide available.

In other news:

- On October 1, 13 of us made a quick one-day trip to visit the Chicago Botanic Garden, and spent the day with various staff and departments (Education, Collections, Plant Propagation and Evaluation) learning everything we could from that terrific institution. We couldn't have a better model for Yew Dell Gardens!
- On October 17, the Oldham County Historical Society kindly honored Theodore Klein as a Champion of Oldham County History at its annual gala. Paul Cappiello and Bob Hill spoke most eloquently about Theodore, trees, and Yew Dell.
- Also in October we sponsored a marvelous lecture by Frank Cabot, founder of the Garden Conservancy, garden designer extraordinaire, and author of "The Greater Perfection, the Story of the Gardens at *Les Quatres Vents*." If you missed it, you missed the fascinating story of the building of the Cabots' extensive garden in Quebec and Frank's fabulous slides. We had a standing room only crowd, and completely sold out of the books on hand!
- At Cabot's lecture, we launched our charter membership campaign, with a brilliant brochure created by our new Director of Development and Marketing, Leslie Buddeke. We hope you will all join and receive the terrific benefits that accompany membership. In particular, I recommend to you the upper levels of membership, especially The Dell Society. We will plan a trip to Frank Cabot's *Les Quatres Vents* in Canada – and – psst! - members of the Dell Society will have the first chance to make reservations.
- In November, artist and photographer Julius Friedman and Cheryl Chapman very generously hosted a well-attended reception at the Chapman Friedman Gallery on West Main in downtown Louisville, with 20% of the proceeds that night going to Yew Dell Gardens. A wonderful time was had by all, and many thanks to Julius and Cheryl for their interest and support of Yew Dell.
- In funding news, we were thrilled to have received several new grants recently. Last Summer we received word that the Kentucky Division of Forestry had granted our \$20,000 request for funds, which will help to underwrite the executive director's salary. This past Fall we received a \$1,500 gift from the Gardner Foundation and in November we received news of a grant of \$50,000 from the Peyton Samuel Head Trust for our greenhouses and to begin the process of permanently labeling many of the trees in the arboretum. We were also thrilled to receive \$60,000 over three years from the W.L. Lyons Brown Foundation for renovation of the castle!

So, all in all, 2003 was a banner year! Thank you for your interest and support, and onward to 2004!

Mary F. Rounsavall
PRESIDENT

Meet Our Board and Advisors

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.

YEW DELL, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS—

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photo credit, Marian Klein Koehler

One of the signature gardens at Yew Dell, the Serpentine Garden is an excellent demonstration of how to turn a plant collection into a garden. Searching for an attractive way to display his confier collection, Klein presented them in a long undulating mass planting, all tied together nicely by a serpentine ribbon of *Taxus x media* 'Densiformis' (yew). This exceptional collection greets visitors just inside the front entrance to Yew Dell Gardens.

YEW DELL GARDENS STAFF—

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If you missed your opportunity to purchase Frank Cabot's book, "The Greater Perfection - A Story of the Gardens" at Les Quatre Vents, it can only be purchased directly through the publisher at hortus@highlands.com. If you would like to call the Yew Dell office, we would be happy to order the book.

OUR RECENT DONORS

September 19 - December 3

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- Pettus Foundation
- The Peyton Samuel Head Family Trust
- W.L. Lyons Brown Charitable Foundation

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photo credit, Marian Klein Koehler

The Millstone Garden

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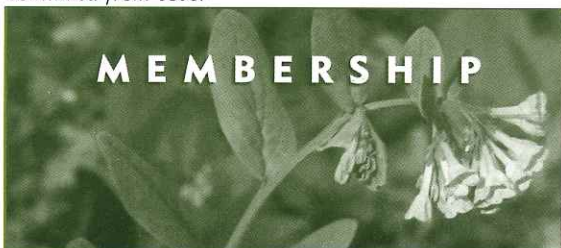
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M E M B E R S H I P

THE CHARTER MEMBERSHIP LEVELS INCLUDE:

\$25	Virginia Bluebells
\$35 - \$99	Silver Cloud
\$100 - \$499	Weeping Katsura
\$500 - \$999	Golden-Berried Holly
\$1,000 and above	The Dell Society

Free entry to other exceptional gardens across the country was made possible through reciprocal memberships to the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta (AABGA) and the American Horticultural Society (AHS). Other, more exclusive, memberships offer an array of benefits.

The various membership benefits include everything from free family access to Yew Dell Gardens to special guided tours with Dr. Paul Cappiello, Yew Dell's executive director.

And if that's not enough, The Dell Society membership offers a one-night complimentary rental of the much-beloved Castle at Yew Dell Gardens. Theodore Klein originally built the exceptional Castle as a pool house, but now it houses a collection of antiques and demonstrates exquisite craftsmanship.

The mission of Yew Dell Gardens' charter memberships focuses on bringing together a dedicated group of patrons who share an interest in preserving this amazing piece of horticultural history.

Purchasing a charter membership will help our efforts to turn Yew Dell into a priceless cultural asset and display of exquisite gardens to inspire and delight.

By joining now, you can help ensure the preservation of Theodore Klein's life works for generations to come.

For more information on becoming a charter member of Yew Dell Gardens, call the office at (502) 241-4788.

photo credit, Mary Rounsavall

Christopher Columbus knew the earth was round long before he set out on his fateful maiden voyage. Heck, even Pythagoras knew that the earth wasn't flat. Darwin didn't invent the concept of evolution. He simply and eloquently promoted natural selection as the engine behind an evolutionary train. Abraham Lincoln did not recite the Gettysburg address before the start of the infamous battle (as one survey showed to be the belief of most Americans under the age of 25).



Paul Cappiello, Executive Director

Old legends die hard. We are creatures of habit. Say it any way you will. The human species just abhors change. And nowhere is this more true than in the enigmatic world of gardening. With gardeners worldwide clamoring for the best and the newest and the brightest from OZ, how do some of our most lackluster, aesthetic dullards stay at the top of the plant sales charts?

Across the country, there are numerous state and regional programs designed to counter this current state of affairs and promote superior plant performers over some of our less stellar current favorites. In Kentucky, this horticultural windmill is being tilted through the efforts of the Theodore Klein Plant Award program. Initiated in 1995 and named in honor of Yew Dell's mastermind, the awards are bestowed each year on a group of plants that merit greater attention in the local gardening region.

Plants are selected for the honor based on adaptability to the local climate, aesthetic qualities, availability and proven performance in the Kentucky landscape. Cultivars selected and/or introduced by Kentuckians are often given special consideration. Sponsored by the University of Kentucky Nursery/Landscape Program, the Kentucky Nursery and Landscape Association, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and Yew Dell Gardens, the program is run by a committee that represents the sponsors, along with a cadre of other knowledgeable horticulturists from Kentucky. Each year, the committee meets to select award winners, and following much arm wrestling, tantrum throwing and other assorted goings on, (remember what you get when you put five gardeners in a room? Six opinions!) award winners are named.

Announcements of the awards are made at the Kentucky Landscape Industries Conference, held every January. The awards are then promoted in newspapers, magazines and with posters in retail garden centers throughout the region.

The program description, along with lists, descriptions and photos of all the winners can also be found on a wonderful web site maintained by UK's Dr. Win Dunwell, which can be accessed through Yew Dell's web site at www.yewdellgardens.org.

Dr. Paul Cappiello

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Travels with Executive Director

2004 THEODORE KLEIN PLANT AWARD WINNERS

***Cladrastis kentukea* – American Yellowwood;** An outstanding medium-sized tree with smooth gray bark, bright green leaves that turn to brilliant yellow in autumn. In late Spring, sweetly scented masses of clear white flowers seem to drip like honey from the branches.



Cladrastis kentukea
– American Yellowwood

***Helleborus x hybridus* - Oriental Lenten Rose;** This 18”-24” tall evergreen perennial has gained tremendous popularity of late. White to wine or rose-colored blossoms open from late February through April and are a welcome sight to winter-weary gardeners.

***Picea orientalis* - Oriental Spruce;** One of the best of all the spruces. Short, glossy deep green needles clothe the branches of this typically 60’-tall spire in the landscape. Great specimens can be found at Yew Dell.

***Taxodium distichum* 'Mickelson' - Shawnee Brave™ - Baldcypress;** A conifer that drops its leaves in the winter. The baldcypress is a tall, spire-like tree to 60’ or more. Shawnee Brave™ is an outstanding vigorous selection from celebrated plantsman Earl Cully of Illinois.



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Taxodium distichum 'Mickelson' - Shawnee Brave™ - Baldcypress

2000

Eupatorium maculatum 'Gateway' - Joe Pye Weed
Fothergilla major 'Mount Airy' - Large Fothergilla
Heuchera americana 'Pewter Veil' - Coral Bells
Itea virginica 'Henry's Garnet' - Virginia Sweetspire
Syringa reticulata 'Ivory Silk' - Japanese Tree Lilac
Viburnum nudum 'Winterthur' - Witherod Viburnum

2001

Amelanchier x 'Cumulus' - Serviceberry
Epimedium x versicolor 'Sulphureum' - Barrenwort
Malus 'Donald Wyman' - Crabapple
Viburnum 'Eskimo' - Viburnum

2002

Acer triflorum - Three-flower Maple
Hamamelis x intermedia - Witchhazel hybrids
Ilex verticillata 'Red Sprite' - Winterberry
Polygonatum odoratum 'Variegatum' - Variegated Fragrant Solomon's Seal

2003

Aster oblongifolius 'Raydon's Favorite' - Aromatic Aster
Cercidiphyllum japonicum 'Amazing Grace' - Weeping Katsura*
Cornus mas 'Golden Glory' - Corneliancherry Dogwood
Ginkgo biloba 'Autumn Gold' - Ginkgo

* Theodore Klein's Introductions

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GHEENS FOUNDATION GRANT

Assists Bank Barn Restoration at Yew Dell Gardens

The center and grounds will be used to help promote Klein's advances in plant selection and propagation by inviting horticulture groups to hold workshops and conferences. The facility will provide revenue-generating possibilities as a rental facility for receptions, retreats and community events.

Yew Dell received a \$75,000 grant from The Gheens Foundation earlier this year to help provide partial funding for the barn renovations. We are very grateful for its contribution toward this important project.

The work will be overseen by Yew Dell's building committee and DeLeon & Primmer Architecture Workshop. DeLeon & Primmer has received numerous awards for previous projects in this area, including renovations and additions at the Kentucky Center for the Arts in 2002 and the Louisville Ballet headquarters in 1996. Other innovative projects for the firm include the Art Sparks Children Interactive Gallery and Laramie L. Leatherman Art Learning Center at The Speed Museum.

In this project, De Leon & Primmer's goal is to maintain Klein's sense of wit and whimsy while creating a functional learning center and protecting the barn's historical and cultural significance. The barn is one of the few remaining Kentucky bank barns and is included on the Watch List by Preservation Kentucky.

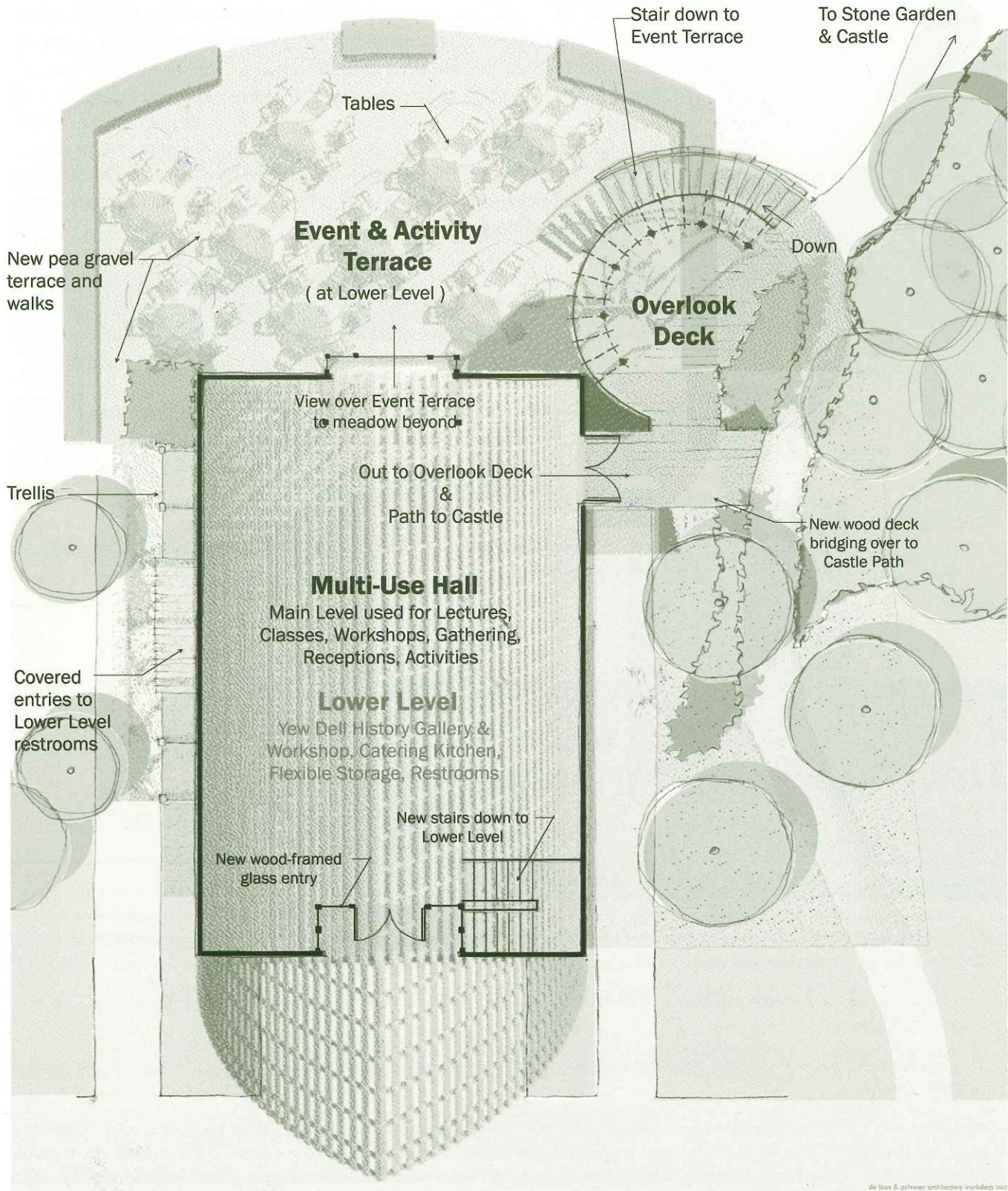


Adjacent to the new bank barn education center are the greenhouses. Klein built three glass greenhouses, which were sunken into the ground for energy conservation. The greenhouses supplied rooted cutting that fueled Klein's entire 200-acre nursery. As part of our continued mission, Yew Dell plans to continue the property's long association with the development and introduction of superior plants for the landscape market with advances in plant breeding and propagation.

The greenhouses will also play an important role in nurturing our plant enthusiasts as seen by this conceptual drawing.

There's no doubt that the Gheens Bank Barn will be a significant educational resource, a distinctive historical treasure, and a priceless cultural asset for generations to come. With the sounds of students and other visitors laughing and learning, the old barn will once again be full of life - just the way Klein liked it.

This is one conceptual rendering prepared by DeLeon & Primmer Architecture Workshop for restoration and renovation of the rare bank barn at Yew Dell Gardens. The bank barn will serve as the multi-use education center.



Director of Development + Marketing Leslie Buddeke Joins Yew Dell Staff



Leslie H. Buddeke
Director of Development + Marketing

As Yew Dell Gardens prepares for its opening to the public next year, an integral part of our mission is to make more people aware of the wonderful world Theodore Klein created. To help spread the word about Klein's 33-acre horticultural masterpiece and to assist with fundraising to renovate and maintain this amazing community asset, Leslie Buddeke has joined Yew Dell's staff as director of development and marketing.

Buddeke has assisted Yew Dell as a consultant for the past two years through her communications firm -- Technique Marketing + Development. Her new full-time status at Yew Dell will allow Buddeke to devote even more time and energy to our mission.

As a consultant, she helped launch Yew Dell's \$5 million capital campaign and has overseen the writing, design and print production of all marketing and campaign support materials, including *The Castle Chronicles*, our quarterly newsletter. Those duties will be expanded in her new role.

A University of Louisville graduate, Buddeke is the mother of two children - Charles, 13 and Emily, 9. An avid dancer, music lover and equestrian, she's a former member of the Louisville Ballet, Louisville Orchestra Musicians Association and Rock Creek Riding Club.

Join us in welcoming Leslie Buddeke to Yew Dell's staff as we gear up for a very busy year.

YEW DELL BIDS FAREWELL TO RENOWNED HORTICULTURIST

Stan Lemaster

On Nov. 16, 2003, Yew Dell Gardens bid farewell to a man who played a significant role in preserving horticultural history. Stan Waite Lemaster of Louisville was laid to rest after years of battling Alzheimer's disease.

Along with being a world-renowned arborist and local nurseryman, Lemaster was a longtime friend of Yew Dell Gardens founder Theodore Klein.

Klein and Lemaster were founders of the national Historic Tree Program, planting seeds and cuttings of historically significant trees around the world.

Through the Historic Tree Program, libraries, schools and other public places have become home to trees whose histories root themselves in timeless tales. The seeds or cuttings were gathered from all over this country - from, for instance, the southern magnolia planted by Andrew Jackson at the White House, and can be seen on the back of an old \$20 bill, from the seeds which astronaut Stuart Roosa carried around the moon in 1971.



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Robert Stagg

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Ginkgo seeds from ones given to Henry Clay by an Asian diplomat in the 1840's, from apple seedlings from a tree which "Johnny Appleseed," John Chapman, planted in Lima, Ohio were also contributors to the Historic Tree Program. Other sources for the program included the elm in Baltimore under which Lafayette was said to have mapped out strategy during the American Revolution, a tulip poplar planted by George Washington at Mount Vernon, and a seedling from the Liberty Tree at St. John's College in Maryland, which is said to be the last of the trees which were gathering places for American rebels in the Revolution.

Klein and LeMaster's efforts totaled 2700 plantings in 30 countries and all 50 states of America - exclusively placed at community sites and public institutions to keep them safe for future generations.

Several of the Historic Tree Program museums in Louisville have grown successfully. Lemaster and Klein's work can be seen today at Cave Hill Cemetery, The Louisville Zoo, Ballard High School, among others.

Stan Lemaster and Theodore Klein may be gone, but with historically significant trees planted around the world, their work and legacy will never be forgotten.

2004 UPCOMING EVENTS & TOURS

*The second Saturday of every month, from 10:00 am to 12:00 p.m.,
Yew Dell will host tours of the gardens, plants, and buildings. Here are the highlights:*

FEB. 14 — WINTER IN THE GARDEN

This tour will highlight the evergreen hollies and conifers along with deciduous plants with interesting bark and fruit for winter impact in the garden.

MARCH 13 — HARBINGERS OF SPRING

Catch the first glimpses of the Spring on this tour through blooming witchhazels and the earliest bulbs of the season.

APRIL 10 — SPRING IN FULL SWING!

Join this tour through the arboretum as the main act unfolds for the Spring season. Magnolias, early viburnums and more will send everyone home with new ideas for the garden.

MAY 8 — THE POST-DERBY GARDEN WALK

Stop counting all your Derby winnings and join the group at Yew Dell Gardens for a spin through the grounds. We will look at plants in bloom and give all a firsthand look at some of the upcoming garden rehabilitation projects planned for the immediate future. If the season is right, we'll even get to see the first results of one of Yew Dell's early plant breeding projects.

Admission is \$5.00 per car, but free to members.

JUNE 11 — AN EVENING IN THE GARDEN

This special opening celebration is for Yew Dell Gardens' members, donors and special guests. You will be tantalized by The Silver Spoon to pathways leading to the gardens and arboretum.

JUNE 13 — OPEN HOUSE AND PLANT AUCTION

Spend a day at Yew Dell and enjoy guided tours, a silent auction of rare and unusual plants and lectures.

CLASSES AND LECTURES

March 11 — Wondrous Wildflowers

Professor Bill Mitchell at the University of Maine Landscape Horticulture Program will present a lecture on the wildflowers of Maine. Professor Mitchell is currently authoring a new manual on native wildflowers in the North and is a noted designer, instructor, and photographer. This lecture will be held at the Lyndon City Hall, 515 Wood Avenue at 7:00 p.m. Watch your mail for more details about this lecture.

The suggested donation for lectures is \$5.00 for members and \$10.00 for nonmembers.

Special thanks to—

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CHRONICLES

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