



YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

October • November • December 2017

Yew Dell receives a \$4 million dollar gift 2

Upcoming events schedule 4-5

Meet two new Board Members 7

Albizia julibrissin 'Summer Chocolate'

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

\$4 Million Gift to Jump Start Yew Dell Nursery Project

Talk about a sweet-15 birthday present! One of Yew Dell's anonymous angels has made a major pledge to allow us to greatly expand our nursery operation. Not only will this help us conduct more plant evaluations, grow better plants for the collections and greatly improve the plant offerings at our annual Plant Sale, it will allow us to take plant production at Yew Dell to the next level.

With this incredible leadership gift, we are currently working to hire a Greenhouse & Nursery Manager, designing greatly expanded plant production facilities and planning to launch a commercial production nursery. The long term plan for this facility is to help us get better plants out to the industry and generate a sustainable income stream to help support Yew Dell's annual operations.

In addition to expansion of nursery operations, this new effort will allow our Garden Manager and horticulture staff to focus more on the gardens rather than splitting time between nursery, greenhouse and gardens. Happy Birthday to us!

Happy Gardening...
Paul Cappiello
Executive Director



ON THE COVER: *Albizia julibrissin* 'Summer Chocolate'

Albizia julibrissin 'Summer Chocolate' is a stunning, burgundy-leafed mimosa growing near the Visitor Center at Yew Dell. Mimosas can be a bit invasive but we treat this specimen as a cut-back shrub to eliminate that potential. By cutting it to the ground each winter, we cut off the flower buds for the coming season (so no seed is produced) and the plant produces more vigorous growth with excellent foliage color.

Yes, I would like to help Yew Dell GROW ON with an Annual Campaign gift!

GROW ON!

Name _____

Amount \$ _____

Address _____

Payment: Amex / VISA / MasterCard / Discover / Check

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Card Number: _____

Phone (____) _____

Expiration Date: _____ (MM/YY) CVC: _____

Email _____

Signature _____

You may also donate online at: <http://www.yewdellgardens.org/donate.html> or by calling 502.241.4788

Boo Dell!

at Yew Dell

Saturday, October 28

Members & children are **FREE!**

General Admission:
\$7 Adults • \$5 Seniors
Children - FREE!

11am - 2pm

Children of all ages trick or treat
along the Trail o' Treats
Children's Activities • Hay Rides
Food & Drink • Scavenger Hunt

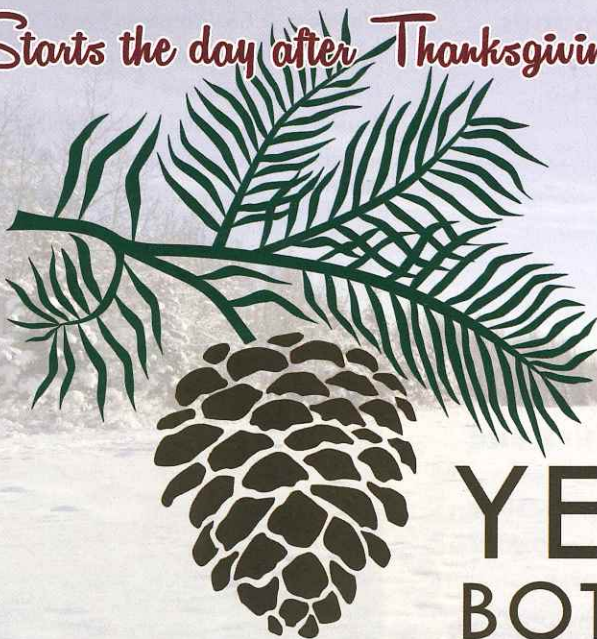
2- 3pm

Mr. Magic performance

Presented by



Starts the day after Thanksgiving!



Fridays: November 24
December 1
Saturdays: November 25
December 2
Sundays: November 26
December 3

Light Display • Santa • Winter Snow Village with Train Display
Holiday Demos • Children's Activities • Holiday Refreshments

Yuletide at
YEW DELL
BOTANICAL GARDENS

PRESENTED BY



Commonwealth
Bank & Trust Company
Member FDIC

2017 Fall & Winter Events and Classes

Watch for emails and check our website for complete descriptions, program updates and additions.

New QR Code Tour of Yew Dell Unveiled

We're delighted to announce our newest interpretive addition to Yew Dell's grounds, thanks to a grant from the Oldham County Community Foundation. The next time you come out you'll see about two dozen laminated signs for our new "Yew Know What" tour. Scan the square QR code with your smart phone and it will download a page of information about . . . the Castle, the Holly Allee or whatever sign you scan.



To scan a code you'll need a QR reader smart phone app that can be downloaded from the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play shop (Android). Just go to the appropriate store for your device, search for QR Reader and download any one of the many free applications. Then when you are on the grounds, just launch the app, point your phone at the QR Code and it'll do the rest!

The QR Code signs are temporary right now for initial testing purposes – we'll have more permanent signs in the near future. We also plan to add an audio file to each station so you can listen rather than read.

Come out and give 'em a try!

Summer Volunteer Highlights!



Hounds on the Grounds Calling all Canines!

Sundays – October, November, through December 10

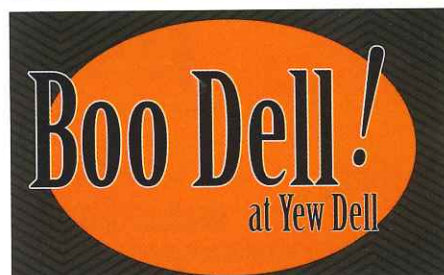
Dogs are welcome to bring their owners to enjoy the gardens and hiking trails.

So that everything goes smoothly: please have your owner at the end of the leash and be sure they take care of clean-up.

Member/Volunteer Fall Color Walk with Nick and Sayde

Thursday, October 19; 5:30-6:30pm
Open (and free!) only to Yew Dell members and volunteers

Join Horticulture Apprentices Nick Kreevich and Sayde Heckman on another installment of their wildly popular plant walks. Reserved for members and volunteers only, this one will cover Yew Dell's best fall color plants of the season.



Saturday, October 28;

11am – 2pm Mr. Magic performs at 2pm

Members & Children are Free!

Adults \$7/Seniors \$5

(Regular Admission)

This seasonal event is a fun family favorite! Mark your calendars and get your creative costume thinking cap on. Kids of all ages can enjoy trick-or-treating along the trail-o-treats (11am – 2 pm). Dozens of local businesses will entertain with their creatively not-too-creepy booths and costumes. Hayrides, straw maze, scavenger hunts and the popular Mr. Magic will round out the day's activities with a performance from 2-3pm. This event draws a big crowd, so come early to get in on the goodies!



Yuletide at YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

PRESENTED BY



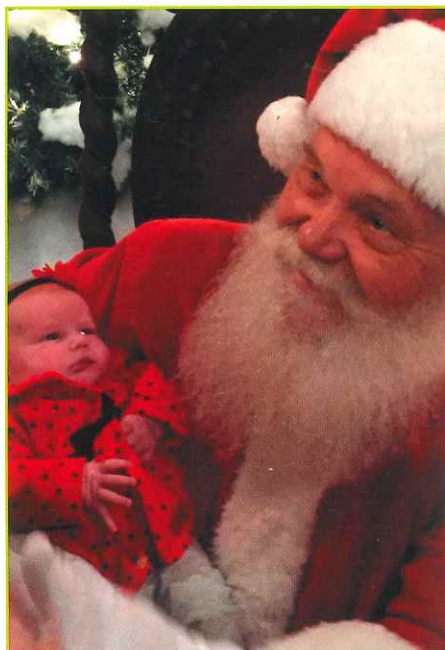
4-7:30pm

Fridays: November 24
December 1
Saturdays: November 25
December 2
Sundays: November 26
December 3

The holidays are right around the corner and so is Yew Dell's holiday event – **Yuletide at Yew Dell presented by Commonwealth Bank & Trust Company!** Enjoy our Winter Snow Village and Train Display, spectacular lighting displays, holiday music, crafts and holiday snacks for the kids, grown-up libations and more.

ADMISSION

Members: \$5 Adults/Seniors
\$2 Children 3-12
Age 2 and Under are Free.
Non-Members: \$8 Adults/Seniors
\$3 Children 3-12
Age 2 and Under are Free.

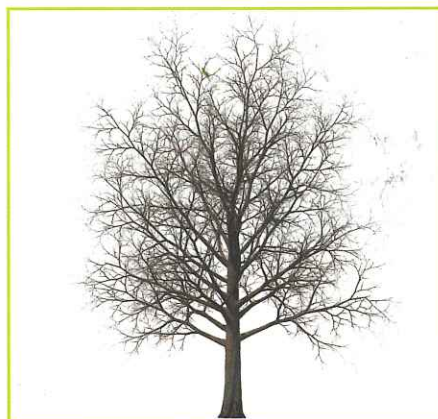


Holiday Wreath Making Classes With Jules & Karl Klein and Michael Boice

Saturday, December 2; 10:30am & 12:30pm

\$35/\$45 - Members/Non-members

This popular class has become a holiday tradition for many. Participants will be instructed by the masters on how to design and assemble their own 22-24" wreath. Materials are all fresh and harvested at Yew Dell. Participants should bring their own gloves and pruners. Express your inner Claus by making a holiday wreath fit for your own front door.



Member/Volunteer Winter Tree ID Walk with Nick and Sayde

Thursday, January 11, 2018; 5-6pm

Open (and free!) only to Yew Dell members and volunteers

Spend an hour learning how to identify trees... without any leaves! Using bark, bud, twig and fruit, Horticulture Apprentices Nick Kreevich and Sayde Heckman will teach you the tricks and tips to tree ID.

YEWDELLGARDENS.ORG

Plants and Gardens of Coastal Maine

September 4-9, 2018

Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime chance for an up close and personal tour of the best botany and horticulture of the iconic Maine coast. From the unique plants and spectacular scenery of Acadia National Forest to private coastal gardens, The Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens and the Portland Old Port, this will be a varied and inspiring trip. Throw in a lobster roll or two and you have a can't-miss hit! This will be an intimate group with maximum registration of 20 participants. For pricing and more details contact the Yew Dell office at 502.241.4788 or info@yewdellgardens.org. Sign up soon. This one will sell out quickly!

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The Indispensable Ironwoods



P. subaequalis fall foliage



'Lamp lighter'

We often get phone calls from inquiring minds looking for the perfect tree – something that'll grow anywhere, flower for twelve months, produce edible fruit in colors ranging from Smurf blue to glimmering gold. . . Oh, and they have to be immune to all insect and disease problems, take out the trash and fold the laundry. No problem!

And while honoring that full criteria list would be tough, there are some options that come darned close. The ironwoods (*Parrotia* species) are at the head of that auspicious list.

Named for the 19th century German naturalist, Friedrich Parrot (who was the first recorded mountaineer to lead an expedition to the summit of Mt. Ararat!) the two species are known for outstanding ornamental characteristics and tremendous adaptability. They hit that medium-sized sweet spot for garden trees. They don't have the miserably competitive roots that make the larger maples such awful garden citizens. And while their early spring blooms won't inspire copious lines of iambic pentameter, the trees are tough, durable and tremendously attractive in the garden.



P. persica bark



Flowers

Persian Ironwood (*Parrotia persica*) – While not a household name in most normal households, this species has been a darling in plant circles for 30 years or more. It boasts 30-40' of upright oval height, dense, glossy and dark green summer foliage and fall color that ranges from yellow to orange, red and deep burgundy. On mature plants the bark exfoliates somewhat like a lacebark elm.

When it comes to cultivation, Persian ironwood will grow just about anywhere there isn't standing water. Indeed this was one of the standout successes of the massive street tree planting effort in Atlanta leading up to the 1996 Olympics. Tough enough for me!

There are tighter than normal, upright cultivars ('Vanessa'), variegated forms ('Lampighter') and even a couple of to-die-for weepers ('Pendula' and 'Kew Weeper').

The Chinese ironwood (*P. subaequalis*) was only first discovered by science back in the late 1980s – as a highly endangered group of fewer than 100 plants in eastern China. A tad smaller than its Persian cousin, *P. subaequalis* has proven to be a first rate garden plant at Yew Dell. Multi-trunked, broadly upright and growing in a tough spot, it grows quickly, roots easily and has the most stunning fall foliage color of anything in the garden. Leaves are the first to turn - a dark burgundy - and remain attractive until about all other plants have dropped their leaves. It'll take a bit of searching (like sifting through next spring's Plant Sale!) but is well worth the effort.



P. persica 'Pendula'

THANKS AND BEST WISHES TO GARDEN MANAGER, TED MARTINI

We always hate to lose talented people, but when you have amazing staff, other people tend to notice as well! Ted Martini started with Yew Dell as a Horticulture Apprentice in the spring of 2015 and he made an instant impact with his keen design eye and relentless attention to detail in the garden. When our Garden Manager post opened up, we jumped at the chance to bring him on full-time.

Since then, Ted has done remarkable work improving our gardens, building new gardens and adding perfect touches throughout the grounds. He helped develop a number of garden volunteer groups and generally upped our horticulture game from stem to stern.

Well, as some of you already know, Ted is now off to a wonderful private estate gardening post in Maryland – a post we know he'll fill with his characteristic hard work and style. We wish him well and hope he'll come back to see us in the future.

Thank you, Ted!

YEW DELL WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS



We're always on the lookout for individuals to bring unique talents and energy to the Yew Dell board. And we're happy to announce addition of two outstanding individuals.

Pat Dwyer is Registered Landscape Architect and owner of Dwyer DesignScapes, a landscape design/build/maintenance company located in Louisville. Pat is a long-time member of the Kentucky landscape industry and brings a great deal of industry knowledge to Yew Dell's board.



Stewart Lussy has extensive experience with Louisville-area nonprofit boards including Actors Theatre and many others. She is known as a strategic thinker, a hard worker and creative brainstormer.

We're delighted to have both on the Yew Dell board and look forward to working with them.

WOODLAND HIKING TRAILS GET MAJOR UPGRADES

For those of you who love to hike Yew Dell's woodland trails, this fall and winter will be the perfect time to come out and check out all the improvements made over the past season.

After a few major storms last year, the main dam on our largest pond was in serious need of repair – and our in-house operations wizard, Jamie Pickerill, set his sights on not only making repairs but making major upgrades as well. A few zillion cubic yards of earth and rock later and some expert carpentry work by Jamie and a few of his talented colleagues ... and we now have not only a much improved dam, but a brand new bridge that will allow hikers to pass in style and allow us to get equipment around more easily so we can better maintain the trails.

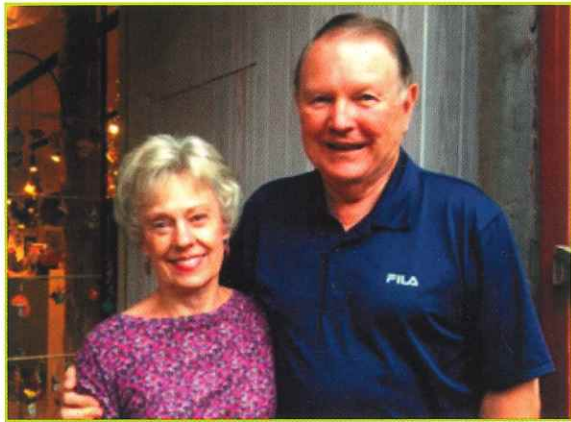
If that wasn't enough, this past spring we had Eagle Scout candidate Peter Schmidt tackle a trail bench project. Working with the talented arborists from Louisville's Limbwalker Tree Service, Peter and his fellow Eagle Scouts crafted four benches of oak logs to give intrepid hikers a place to rest a spell.

So this fall, come out for a hike and enjoy all the upgrades.



Volunteer Spotlight

MEET JOHN & CAROLYN EMBRY!



John and Carolyn Embry have been involved with Yew Dell Botanical Gardens for years and joined our Volunteer Program earlier this spring. Ever since attending the tour guide orientation, they have hit the ground running. John and Carolyn have brought fresh new ideas to our tour guide program and have displayed their enthusiasm for Yew Dell in many other ways. They also just celebrated their 50 year wedding anniversary! Congrats John and Carolyn! We are so lucky to have you two involved.

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

BOO DELL-SATURDAY OCTOBER 28 (11AM-3PM)

Decoration Set-Up Monday, October 23-Friday, October 27



It's that time of year again... Boo Dell is around the corner and we are looking for several volunteers to assist us with this frightfully fun event! We need folks to help with hay rides, games, admissions, and so much more on the day of the event. We also need volunteers who enjoy decorating to help with set up the week before. This is a wonderfully festive event and a fun way to get involved. Help make one of our family-favorite days a success!

YULETIDE

FRIDAY-SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24-26 (4PM-7:30PM)

FRIDAY-SUNDAY DECEMBER 1-3 (4PM-7:30PM)



Ho Ho Ho! We need several volunteers to assist with our favorite holiday event: Yuletide at Yew Dell. This is a fun and festive way to get in the holiday spirit. We have several exciting ways to get involved including Santa's helpers, train displays, holiday arts & crafts, admissions and even putting up Christmas lights the month before. Have the whole family sign up for an evening, or two!

ARE YOU INVOLVED IN BETA CLUB OR NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY?



Volunteering at Yew Dell Botanical Gardens is a great way to earn those required volunteer hours all while having fun! From special events to fairy forests, gardening to trailblazing, we have something for everyone. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Lindsay Duncan, at lindsayd@yewdellgardens.org for more information on how to get involved.

SALT DOUGH LEAF BOWL CRAFT



Making salt dough leaf bowls is a perfect way to bring in the new season. It's a fun craft for kids of all ages. The first thing to do is go on a nature walk to collect leaves. If all of the leaves have fallen, don't worry, you can buy artificial leaves at a craft store.

Salt Dough

Materials:

- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup water

Mix and knead for a few minutes. Wrap in plastic wrap and rest for 40 minutes

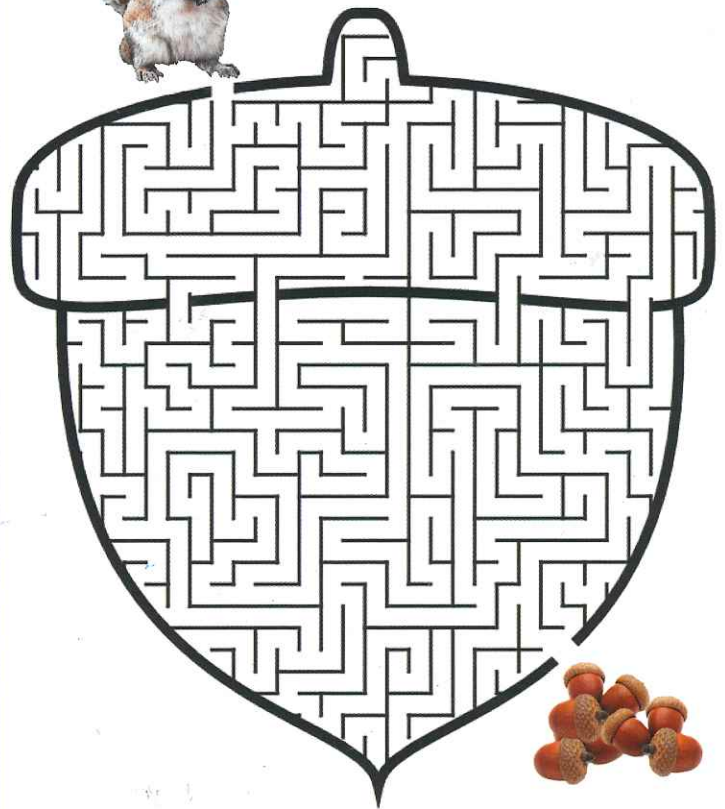
Leaf bowls

Materials:

- Salt dough
- Leaves
- Rolling pin
- Sharp knife
- Cooking Spray
- Small ovenproof bowl
- Cookie sheet
- Paint
- Mod Podge

1. Using the rolling pin, roll the salt dough to ¼" thickness.
2. Place your leaf vein side down onto the dough.
3. Press with the rolling pin and fingers all over the leaf. You want to get the veins to print on the dough. Peel away leaf (save for another)
4. Using the knife carefully cut around all edges of the leaf imprint.
5. Spray outside of ovenproof bowl with cooking spray and place upside-down on the cookie sheet.
6. Carefully lift the dough and place on a bowl with leaf imprint side down.
7. Bake in a 250 degree oven for 2 hours.
8. Remove from oven and cool for 15 minutes before taking off of the bowl.
9. Paint, let dry and coat with Mod Podge for a nice finish.

HELP THE SQUIRREL THROUGH THE MAZE TO FIND ITS ACORNS



For A Few Laughs

Q: How do you mend a broken pumpkin?

A: **With a pumpkin patch.**

Q: What is a snowman's favorite breakfast?

A: **Frosted Flakes!**

Q: Who helps the little pumpkins cross the road to school?

A: **The Crossing Gourd**



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HONORARY AND MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Purchase of a memorial/honorary bench has been and continues to be an excellent way to remember a loved one, mark a special occasion, or honor a valued friend. Contact a staff member for details.



Memorial gifts continued...

In Memory of Eva Vivienne Juneja
Family and Friends of Eva Vivienne Juneja

In Memory of Marian Klein Koehler
Frank and Lucy Ellett
Caroline Ewing
Madge Huecker
Robert Koehler
Stacy Weeks Ledington
Oldham County Historical Society
Staff and Board of Directors
Ted and Jean Olson
Holly Rogers
Barbara Taylor

In Memory of Carl Ray
George Davidson and Juliette Willis

In Memory of Elizabeth Reutlinger
Mary and Bob Rounsavall

Gifts received between
6/28/2017 - 9/27/2017

We apologize for any errors or omissions in this list.

HONORARY GIFTS

In Honor of Blair Louis
Garden Club of East Hampton
Wild Azelea Garden Club

In Honor of Mary Rounsavall
Lindy and Bill Street

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of Kurt Broecker
George Davidson and Juliette Willis

In Memory of Jane Buckley
Mary Broecker

In Memory of Lois U. Davis
Susan M. Bentley
Loretta Shearer



Do you Enjoy Reading This Newsletter?

If you thought to yourself ... yes, I do, then we are so pleased. But we have a favor to ask. Would you mind looking on the label to check your membership status? If you are a current member, thank you for your support! If not, we hope you will consider renewing your membership. We love our current and previous members and want you to stay informed. Yew Dell has been growing and to continue on that path we need your support. Thank you in advance for your support!

LEVELS OF GIVING

- Virginia Bluebells \$35 (individual)
- Silver Cloud \$50-\$149 (family)
- Weeping Katsura \$150-\$499
- Golden-Berried Holly \$500-\$999
- The Dell Society \$1000 and above

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For a list of membership benefits and more information about events and programs, visit our website at www.yewdellgardens.org. Please return this form to:

Yew Dell Botanical Gardens
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MEMBERSHIP FORM



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Yew Dell Botanical Gardens is a partnership project of the Garden Conservancy, a national, non-profit organization founded to help preserve America's exceptional gardens.



wander
learn
grow



YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

October • November • December 2017



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Parrotia subaequalis

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