



# YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

October • November • December 2019

Garden Gift Shop Staff  
Picks for Holiday Gifts **5**

Japanese Forest Grass **7**

Our Best Kept Secret  
Planned Giving & You **11**

*Acer palmatum*  
'Orange Dream'

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

## The Year of... The Database?

Bet you were thinking year of the tulip or year of the variegated plant. Year of the database? Well as you might guess, you can't have a great plant collection without an equally impressive system for tracking it. And all those members, volunteers... all that shop merchandise... It takes a digital village to track and organize it all. And 2019 seems to be the year for upgrades.

Already this year we've launched into our new member/donor database program – a huge undertaking by development manager, Aimee Conrad-Hill. The system will make it easier for you to renew memberships and sign up for programs and classes. It will make volunteer sign-in and hour tracking a snap saving time for you and for our staff. It will even allow us to send out scan-able membership cards (even a virtual card for your smartphone) so soon on your next visit, you can just scan and go rather than wait in a line to check-in.

But equally as exciting is that it will allow us to drastically reduce the amount of paper we use. Rather than printing reams of membership renewal letters, we'll send you an email with a simple link to renew online. You can even login to print out donation receipts at tax time. Of course, we're still happy to communicate via traditional mail if that's what you prefer.

On the plant front, we're in the process of launching a new plant database program. Once in place, it will allow our staff to update records right in the field from a smartphone or tablet. We'll be able to put our whole collection online so you can look up evaluation results or map out your next visit. We'll even be able to use it to create seasonal plant walks on the grounds.

And we have plans to upgrade our point of sale system in the Garden Gift Shop as well – all aimed at making it easier and more efficient for our visitors.

So welcome to the year of the database!

Happy Gardening!  
*Paul Cappiello*  
Executive Director

**GROW  
ON!**

### How Does Our Garden Grow?

It takes a lot to keep our gardens running day-to-day and we depend on people like you to keep us growing! When you donate to our annual **GROW ON** campaign, you help us maintain and grow our beautiful gardens, create fun new areas to explore like our fairy forest, and help us offer amazing education courses for all skill levels. If each of our members made a **GROW ON** gift of just \$50, we could reach our annual goal needed to continue offering you the best in horticulture and gardening. Yew Dell needs **YOU!**

#### ON THE COVER:

#### *Acer palmatum* 'Orange Dream'

is a fabulous Japanese maple selection for brightening up a dark corner of the garden. Its spring foliage emerges in brilliant shades of yellow, gold and orange with a few red highlights. The color fades a bit as the season progresses but in autumn it explodes in a show of screaming red and orange. Best grown in a little afternoon shade in an evenly moist soil.

**Thank you - your generosity keeps our gardens growing!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Payment: Amex / VISA / MasterCard / Discover / Check

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Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (MM/YY) CVC: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

Saturday, October 26

10am - 2pm

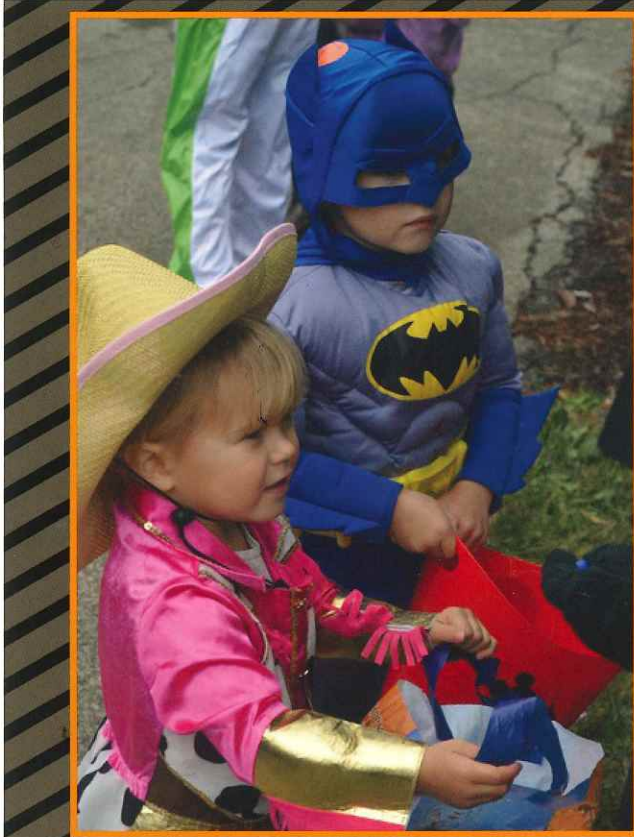
Trick or treating along the Trail o' Treats for children of all ages • Children's Activities  
Hay Rides • Food & Drink • Scavenger Hunt

1-2pm

Mr. Magic performance



Presented by:



Starts November 29<sup>th</sup>!

Yuletide at

YEW DELL  
BOTANICAL GARDENS

PRESENTED BY



Light Display • Santa

Winter Snow Village with Train Display

Children's Activities • Holiday Refreshments



**FRIDAYS:** November 29 & December 6

**SATURDAYS:** November 30 & December 7

**SUNDAYS:** December 1 & December 8

4:30 - 7:30 pm

**ADMISSION:**

**MEMBERS:** \$7 Adults, \$3 Children 6 -17,

**NON-MEMBERS:** \$10 Adults, \$5 Children 6 -17,

Children 5 & under **Free!**

# 2019 Fall - Early Winter Events and Classes

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

## Hounds on the Grounds - Every Sunday through 12/8!

### Yew Dell Yoga

Om Sup Owner/Instructor,  
Annie Button

Every Wednesday – Now through

October 30; 10 - 11 am

Rain or Shine!

**\$10/\$15 - Member/Non-member**

Enjoy the zen aura of Yew Dell on a whole new level with Yoga in the Dell. Om Sup Yoga will be hosting classes in the serenity of the gardens. Individuals of all experience levels can be challenged as much or as little as they like. Each class sequence is inspired by the alignment and methodologies from the Ashtanga, Hatha, Sadhana, Lionflow and BowSpring lineages. Rain or Shine. When the weather is grumpy classes will be held in the Greens Barn or Lower Pavilion.

## One-Day Garden Workshop with Fine Gardening Magazine - The Fine Gardening Seminar Series: Expert Solutions for Avid Gardeners

Friday, October 4; 9 am – 4 pm

**\$110/\$120 Member/Non-member**

Join Fine Gardening and Yew Dell for this special day of seminars from some of the country's leading horticultural minds and practitioners. Enjoy outstanding garden lectures, lunch in the gardens and tours of Yew Dell's special plant collections with the speakers and Yew Dell horticulture staff.

### SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

**Stacey Hirvella**, Proven Winners/Color Choice Shrubs; topic - **Big Impact From Small Spaces**

**Dr. Andy Pulte**, University of Tennessee; - topic - **Overachievers; plants that really work**

**Paula Gross**, former Associate Director of UNC Charlotte Botanical Garden; topic - **Science in the Garden**

**Jeff Epping**, Horticulture Director at Olbrich Botanical Garden; topic - **Sustainable Gravel Gardens**

## Member's Fall Plant Sale

Thursday, September 26;

6:00 - 8:30 pm

Last year's event was such a huge hit we decided to make it an annual event. Plan your visit to choose from a great assortment of plants produced right here at our growing nursery. Enjoy a cold beer or glass of wine, a few bites to nibble, and meet up with garden friends. Yew Dell horticulture staff will be on hand to help you shop and plan. Make sure your membership is up to date!

## Container Bulb Workshop

Saturday, October 5; 10 - 11:30 am

**\$45/\$55 Member/Non-member**

Spring bulbs are always a treat... but only if you plan ahead! Now is the time to plan and plant the perfect container bulb display for next spring's show. Learn how to create a succession of bulb blooms in a container that you can place anywhere you like when it starts to bloom next spring. Each participant will plant and take home one approximately 12" container planted with 3 different types of bulbs selected by Yew Dell horticulture staff.



## Secret Garden Party

Sunday, October 20; 2:30 – 6:30 pm

**\$40 per person**

Are you ready to escape the world of the ordinary? Our Young Professional Leadership And Networking Team (YPLANT) is hosting their first event and this is not your mother's garden party. Life is better lived with a bit of mystery so we won't tell you where we plan to take you. Ticket holders will meet at a downtown location and we'll kidnap you for a half-day of imaginative art and weird and wonderful plants. We'll make 2 stops, including a private garden and art collection that will blow you away. Tickets to this exclusive experience must be purchased in advance. Light fare and cash bar.



## Don't Miss Boo Dell at Yew Dell!

Saturday, October 26; 10 am – 2 pm

Mr. Magic performance at 1 pm!

**Regular Admission/FREE for Members!**  
See page 3 for details.



## Wreath Workshops – Offered two days this year!

Saturday, December 7;

10:30 am– noon & 2:30 - 4 pm

Sunday, December 8;

10:30 am– noon & 2:30 - 4 pm

**\$40/\$50 - Member/Non-member**

This workshop has become a holiday tradition for many friends and families. In keeping with a growing demand we decided it was time to offer more classes! Join Nursery and Greenhouse Manager Jacob Stidham along with Karl Klein and Michael Boice as they show you the tricks-of-the-trade and walk you through the creative process of constructing a beautiful holiday wreath. Register yourself and/or your group early, we sell out fast! Space is limited to 20 participants per class.

## Yuletide at Yew Dell

Presented by  
**Commonwealth Bank &  
Trust Company**

Starts the Friday after Thanksgiving!  
See page 3 for details.

## THE GARDEN GIFT SHOP HAS SOME HOLIDAY STAFF PICKS TO SHARE!

Yew Dell's Garden Gift Shop is bursting with holiday gifts and stocking stuffers. With so much to choose from we thought we'd have the shop staff show off some of their favorite gift ideas.

The best thing about shopping in the Garden Gift Shop is that it is like giving two gifts in one, one to the gift receiver and one to Yew Dell, because all shop proceeds go directly to keeping the garden growing!



Shop Manager, Madge Huecker is a Christmas nut – she is pictured with a few of many holiday gift ideas:

- O – Deer! – a crazy Christmas game
- Every dog's favorite “woof” ornament
- Festive tree pillow
- Poinsettia décor garland and poinsettia pot
- And Reindeer glasses for added holiday flair!



Shop Associate, Darlene Bohannon is our shop cleaning machine. Since we don't sell cleaning supplies – she chose a couple of her favorite items that promote staying tidy and another couple items just for fun:

- Jellybean rug
- Atlas gardening gloves
- Pollinator pillow
- Wallaroo sun hat
- And a few pots to brighten any space!



Garden Gift Shop Assistant Manager, Lisa Allen's thing is jewelry. She is pictured with a variety of jewelry including jewelry from local artists:

- Sarah Belle
- Luci Morley
- Lisa Allen (one and the same)
- And a Wallaroo sun hat to top it all off!

### Garden Etiquette Help Us Preserve our Gardens

Success is a wonderful thing. But with our significant increase in activity has come increased pressure on the gardens. If you're reading this newsletter, the basics of garden etiquette are likely already a no-brainer for you. But that's not the case with everyone. So the next time you're on the grounds, won't you help us gently guide other guests who run astray? Here are a few of our basics...

- For visitor safety and for the safety of our plants, please don't walk in the beds;
- Please leave flowers, fruit and leaves on the plants for all to enjoy;
- While we all love active sports, we simply don't have the space for ball playing, drone flying or other activities that require more room.

Thanks for your help!



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# NOTES FROM THE GARDEN & NURSERY

## NOTES FROM THE NURSERY MANAGER

Jacob Stidham

I'm a gardener, plant geek and searcher of that next plant that I need/don't need. Above average rainfall in my opinion is always welcome. I have to water plants for a living at work, so Mother Nature can take care of that task in my home garden if she likes. But yowsers! During the 18 months of planning and building our nursery expansion project the Louisville area, we saw around 3 feet above average rainfall! Not what you want when pushing soil and spreading gravel with heavy equipment. It was a mud-fest. But we persisted and managed to stack up a few more impressive stats to go along with that extra yardstick of rain.

We now have 6,720 square feet of new greenhouse space and can heat over half that much area for late winter production. That means more awesome plants will be Yew Dell grown and ready for your garden at the Spring Plant Sale! We finished our large heated greenhouse this March just in time to provide over 2,000 annuals for the gardens here at Yew Dell. Greenhouses are greenhouses though. What you grow in them is the fun part. Don't think zonal geraniums, petunias and Stella d'Oro daylilies (yawn). We've got fun, crazy stuff. The fall-blooming, Glossy False Sinningia (*Hemiboea subcapitata*), the KY native Allegheny Spurge (*Pachysandra procumbens*), and the endangered Stinking Yew (*Torreya taxifolia*) should be enough to get you all excited!

There is so much new area covered with plants that we can't possibly hand water all of it so we now have the ability to irrigate 1500 large containers with a drip irrigation system. On these systems are the more unusual and much-needed plants for area gardens. Anyone interested in Chinese Ironwood (*Parrotia subaequalis*), the columnar Goldspire™ Maiden Tree (*Ginkgo biloba*), and of course Big Leaf Magnolia (*Magnolia macrophylla*) from seed collected from our awesome specimen in the arboretum? Be sure to mark our upcoming plant sales on your calendars.

Its humbling to think all of this has happened during mind-boggling rain events, construction, and even that surprise tornado. We are ready to get to work next year doing what we like - growing plants! Imagine how much more fun stuff we will find to grow when we don't have to orchestrate a symphony of dump trucks, bulldozers, electricians, and cement trucks!

## NOTES FROM THE GARDEN MANAGER

Sayde Heckman

Pollinators, pollinators, pollinators. Everyone loves pollinators! But why do we love pollinators? Because they're pretty and fun to watch in the garden or because they're in decline, like the monarch butterfly?

Pollinators, while beautiful, also play a major role in the production of most fruit and vegetables, they are a staple in a healthy food chain and are an extremely important part of the ecosystem. And there are all kinds of things we can do in our gardens to support them and other wildlife.

When taking a look at pollinators there are a few things we need to know in order to help them thrive.

1. A pollinator is anything that transfers pollen from one flower to another – a process that can be accomplished by millions of pollinators including ants, bees, butterflies, birds or even bats;
2. Just like all living things, pollinators require food, water and shelter to survive;
3. All garden plants can be pollinator plants.

Now before you freak out about my last statement, let me explain. A plant which provides food, water, and/or shelter for pollinators is, in my mind, a pollinator plant. Many of us tend to think that plants that flower and provide nectar are the only plants important to pollinators. But that's only one part of the story.

Plants that provide shelter, support for egg-laying, food for emerging larvae and even cover from predators are all essential to fully support pollinators. And it's only when we provide a diversity of plants, meeting all the survival needs, that we fully support pollinators and other wildlife. One of the simplest things gardeners can do to support pollinators and other wildlife is to think about leaving structure in the garden through the winter.

1. Hold off on cutting back your perennials, such as grasses and phlox. By doing this you will be providing shelter for a variety of insects, birds, and other wildlife, bettering their chances of surviving the cold winter months. These types of plants also provide wonderful cover for non-pollinator beneficials, such as the praying mantis, to deposit their egg cases.
2. Leave spent flower heads from your coneflowers (*Echinacea*) and other composite family members to provide a winter seed source for birds and cover for other wildlife. Just remember that some modern coneflower hybrids are sterile and produce no seed. These will also be great shelter for smaller insects that overwinter in the hollow stems.

So this fall let's try something new and continue supporting our pollinators and wildlife all year long! You never know - maybe you'll come to agree that "A plant is only worth growing if it looks good when dead." (Dutch garden designer, Piet Oudolf)



Glossy False  
(*Hemiboea s*



*Rubekia Ma*  
Seed head



*Lespedeza l*  
with mantis

# THE PLANT PAGE

## JAPANESE FOREST GRASS

*Hakonechloa macra* and its cultivars

One of the great parts of being in the plant business is being witness to a rather mundane plant as it takes its place on center stage. Take an ok plant and put it in the hands of a mad plant scientist or grower with a million seedlings and a good eye for what's different and a plant can go from zero to 60 in the blink of an eye. Such is the case with Japanese forest grass.

The straight species is a graceful, mounding shade grass that spreads slowly and grows to about 2' tall. It is native to moist mountain and woodland areas in central Japan where it grows beneath oaks, maples and chestnuts. And while the straight species green form can make a nice planting, it just lacks the star power many people look for in today's new plant market. But that's not the case with the best cultivars available in nurseries today.



**'All Gold'**

Hands down, this is our favorite of the bunch. The most vigorous growing, even compared to the green type, and also the most sun tolerant. While we wouldn't recommend full-on, baking hot afternoon sun, 'All Gold' can take more sun than most. Its foliage is a brilliant yellow/gold through most of the summer, fading slowly in fall with a few red blade tips. If grown in shade the foliage emerges brilliant gold but fades to a bright yellow-green as the summer progresses. Just keep it from getting too dry in summer and you'll be rewarded with a great, season-long show.



**'Albo Striata'**

Definitely not one for the hot sun but in shade, it is a gem. While this is a bit of a shy grower, if given some extra time it makes a very graceful pocket plant in the garden. White to ivory bands give the foliage a nice little bit of light in a shady garden. Probably needs a little more TLC than the other forms but worth it in the end.



**'Aureola'**

The original and still a winner. This selection combines green foliage with soft yellow/gold variegation. It is a more robust grower than 'Albo Striata' but not as vigorous as 'All Gold'. This is a Theodore Klein Plant Award Winner and has also been awarded the Perennial Plant Association Plant of the Year (2009) and the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit. Hard to argue with all that!



**Sun Flare™ 'HABsf1007'**

Yes, this is one of those annoying plants with a nonsense cultivar name and fancy trademark name. But nonetheless, it is an excellent new selection. Found as a sport of 'All Gold' this is a smaller growing (but not lacking vigor) and compact form with deeper yellow coloration and redder in the petioles and at the tips of the leaf blades. This one is in early trials at Yew Dell but we are impressed already.

# VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS



## SHARON SENGLAUB

Fall's Volunteer e-Newsletter Spotlight

**Q: What surprised you the most about volunteering at Yew Dell?**

*A. I am most surprised by the passion of the staff and volunteer force that I discovered very early in my volunteer journey. At the same time, it does not surprise me because anything that works well and shines has to be supported by passion.*

## VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



You're looking at two Jack Marcums! Jack recruited his grand-nephew Jack Jr. to assist him in his adopted garden, The Glen Garden, throughout the summer. It's so special to witness multiple generations gardening together.



Jack Graves, along with help from his fellow scouts, built a beautiful retaining wall with railroad ties behind the Horticulture center for his Eagle Scout Project. This new growing area will showcase plants from Yew Dell's nursery.



Our Nursery Workday volunteers have been a tremendous help as we gear up for the Members-Only Fall Plant Sale. When you shop our sales you are not only supporting our gardens but the people who grow the plants.

## WELCOME TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS; MARTHA HARGIS



We are delighted to announce that Oldham County resident, Martha Hargis, has joined the Yew Dell board. Martha is an avid gardener who brings a great deal of enthusiasm for Yew Dell. She is also an experienced non-profit board member having just finished a board stint with Gilda's Club of Louisville. We're excited to add her passion and energy to our already fabulous board of directors. Welcome, Martha!

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Boo Dell

**Saturday, October 26; 10 am-2 pm**  
We have special Fall-themed volunteer projects for groups and individuals along with a host of other volunteer opportunities.

### Boo Dell Break down

**Monday, October 28; 10 am -2 pm**

### Weekly/Monthly Opportunities

**Weekly workdays 10 am-12 pm**

**Wednesday: garden workday**

**Thursday: nursery workday**

**March-November**

**Arboretum workdays 10 am-12 pm**

**Third Tuesday of the month**

**Year-round (excluding December)**

### Yuletide

**Hanging the decorative lights**

**Event Support**

**4:30 - 7:30 pm**

**Fridays: November 29 & December 6**

**Saturdays: November 30 & December 7**

**Sundays: December 1 & December 8**

**Volunteer Orientation 9-10 am**

**Second Saturday**

**March-November**

**Second Saturday**

**Second Saturday Workdays**

**9 am-12 pm**

Fall is a great time to schedule a volunteer group project! Yew Dell can accommodate school groups, church groups, group volunteer projects and employee outings.

**Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Lindsay Duncan,  
at [lindsayd@yewdellgardens.org](mailto:lindsayd@yewdellgardens.org) for more information or to get involved!**



# GROWING YOUNG GARDENERS



## DID YEW KNOW?

When you visit Yew Dell you can leave a letter for our resident fairies! The fairy mailbox is at the entrance to the Fairy Forest. In true fairy form, you have to look twice to see it because it is disguised as a tree stump... those fairies are very crafty that way.

Despite the mailbox's disguise, we have received hundreds of fairy letters from visitors, young and young at heart. Here are a few we'd like to share with you:

*"Let's flutter around the garden together."*

-Alierah, age 9

*"You all should come to our house. We have fairy houses you can use for free."*

-Bri, age 10

*"Dear fairies, please keep this world expanding with something new each day."*

-Kadence, age 10

*"Dear fairies, we really enjoyed your village and hope to build some fairy homes at our place."*

-Ethan and Beth, ages 8 and 67

*"I love your village. Are there any unicorns? Because I want one."*

-Emma, age 4

*"A lot of people say that fairies are not real but they are. My dream came true today because I met you. I love you fairies!"*

-Addison, age 9

*"Dear Receiver, enjoy some blueberries- I dropped some by our car."*

-Corinne, age 11

*"Please fly to my home to live in our fairy garden so all my grandchildren will keep magic in their hearts."*

-Becky, age 57

*"I love the fairy village."*

-Luke, age 5

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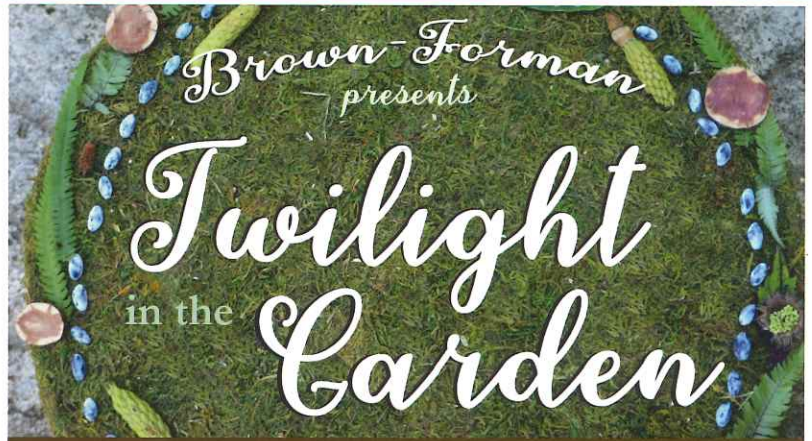
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# DONOR SPOTLIGHT

## OUR BEST-KEPT SECRET



It is so wonderful to see a group of committed garden lovers making a huge difference at Yew Dell. One of our most dedicated groups, The Ramblers Garden Club, was involved with Yew Dell even before we were a botanical garden! Theodore Klein, who owned and operated his nursery and family home out of what is now Yew Dell Botanical Gardens, gave a talk at a Rambler Garden Club meeting. Inspired by his talk to her garden group, Jean Ohlmann paid a visit to Yew Dell to attend a plant industry event just before Theodore passed away. Later, as Yew Dell Nursery was becoming a nonprofit botanical garden, the Ramblers needed a volunteer project and Yew Dell's Secret Garden became the perfect match for their group. As Rambler club member Jacquelyn McGrail said, "It's hard to imagine what the gardens looked like then--but picture Sleeping Beauty's castle after she had been asleep for decades! The Secret Garden was REALLY a secret--it was completely covered with vegetation, much of it invasive species. But, we set to work and over time the garden was cleaned up and planted, and the rest is history."

The Ramblers were one of the first groups to adopt a specific garden area and their members continue to work to keep the Secret Garden looking great for all of our visitors. In addition to their hard work maintaining the garden, many of their members support Yew Dell through membership and gifts, individually and as a garden group. Jean Ohlman, inspired by her many years in helping the Ramblers care for the area, decided in 2017 to give a naming gift to support the Secret Garden in perpetuity. Yew Dell is thankful for the dedicated individuals who keep the Jean Ohlmann Secret Garden looking great and know that their impact on our organization will continue for many years to come.

## PLANNED GIVING & YEW



Yew Dell is lucky to have a wonderful community of members, volunteers, donors, and cheerleaders and many times we have a couple like Bob and Rhonda Buchanan who are all of those things! Rhonda and Bob both work at the University of Louisville – she is a Professor of Spanish for 35 years, a translator, and Director of U of L's Latin American and Latino Studies program and he is a Professor of Chemistry since 1982, and the Associate Dean of Research. They both share a love of giving back to the community and, of course, gardening! The couple chose their current home because of the expansive back yard where they could plant trees and garden and their pride and joy is a 25-year-old lemon tree.

A couple of years ago, one of their friends told them all about Yew Dell and recommended that they check the place out for themselves. They came out for the first time and fell so in love with the place that they decided to become members that same day! Since becoming members, the two have enjoyed bringing their yellow lab and Therapy Dog extraordinaire, Jake, out for Hounds on the Grounds, learning about various plants through our extensive plant labels, seeing what is new in the Fairy Garden, and finding just the right thing in our garden gift shop. Recently, Rhonda has started working with our volunteer coordinator, Lindsay, to bring in Day of the Dead traditions to enhance future Boo Dells and to help connect Yew Dell to the local Latino Community.

Rhonda said "Yew Dell is a little gem, an oasis in a sea of noise and distractions. Every time we come here it's like taking a mini vacation for the ears and eyes. That's what we love the most – the tranquil, quiet beauty of nature." While making some updates to their will recently, they decided to include Yew Dell as a beneficiary. Little did they know, but the day they signed the paperwork to include a planned gift for Yew Dell also happened to be Theodore Klein's birthday – as if it was meant to be. The couple said, "We wanted to make a gift to Yew Dell and hope that others will too, so that the garden can thrive and live forever for future generations." Thank you Rhonda and Bob for being such wonderful supporters of Yew Dell. We appreciate you!



# YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

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## YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

October • November • December 2019



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**Fridays:** November 29 & December 6

**Saturdays:** November 30 & December 7

**Sundays:** December 1 & December 8

4:30 – 7:30 pm

# DON'T MISS YULETIDE AT YEW DELL!

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**  
United Mail, Inc.

