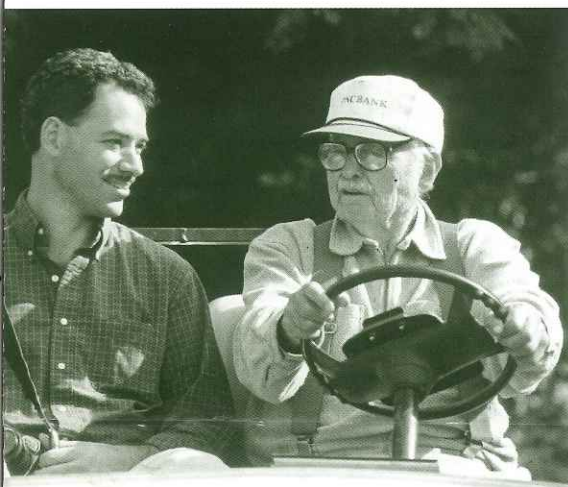


The Castle CHRONICLES

www.yewdellgardens.org

YEW DELL GARDENS LANDS INTERNATIONALLY-RENOWNED HORTICULTURIST AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION FROM THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY



Paul Cappiello and Theodore Klein tour Yew Dell Gardens in 1997, shortly before Klein's death.

By hiring its first executive director and gaining recognition from the nation's leading conservator of historic gardens, Yew Dell, Inc. has taken two huge steps in its quest to preserve the legacy of renowned horticulturist Theodore Klein. We move closer each month to our goal of transforming Klein's 33-acre Crestwood estate into an educational and recreational resource for all ages.

With the recent hiring of Paul Cappiello as executive director and a new partnership with the Garden Conservancy, Yew Dell is entering a season of rebirth.

Cappiello, an educator and researcher who has earned an international reputation in the horticulture world, began his new role as Yew Dell Garden's executive director on December 1. *continued, page seven*

Paul Cappiello, Former Professor and Bernheim Horticulture Director, Joins Yew Dell as Executive Director

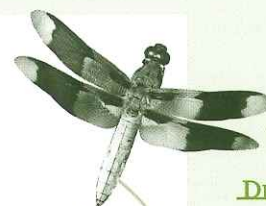
When Paul Cappiello first visited Yew Dell Gardens in 1997, the young horticulture professor bonded quickly with Theodore Klein as they toured the aging plantsman's paradise.

"I was in gardeners' heaven," said Cappiello, who was selected this fall as Yew Dell Gardens' new executive director. "Little did I know that I would be back here five years later. I'm just delighted to have a chance to be a part of it."

During an Oct. 28 press conference to announce his hiring, Cappiello told about 40 friends of Yew Dell, Klein relatives, journalists and photographers that he fondly recalls the first time he met Klein, who became his mentor.



Weezie Hickox, Paul Cappiello, Karen Whitty and Mary Rounsavall gathered outside the castle at Yew Dell Gardens following the press conference announcing Paul's appointment as executive director.



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

continued, page six

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We are deeply grateful for the support of all of our donors. The names listed are donors to Yew Dell as of June through December 2002. We are also grateful for the support of our inkind donors. See our list of inkind donors on page 8. We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of these lists and regret any errors it may contain. Please call Windi Burdette (502) 241-4788 with any questions or changes.

Y E W D E L L R E C E I V E S

T H I R D G R A N T

from Division of Forestry

In its 18-month existence, the Yew Dell Inc. board has raised over \$1.5 million of a total of \$4.8 million it has determined necessary to purchase, preserve, stabilize and renovate the gardens and the structures and to provide an ongoing endowment.

Thanks to a \$20,000 grant from the Kentucky Division of Forestry and other specially designated support, we were able to hire our new executive director, Paul Cappiello. The 2002 Urban and Forestry grant was the third one Yew Dell has received from the state Division of Forestry.

"In order to operate a facility such as Yew Dell Gardens, there must be a staff," said Sarah Gracey, State Urban Forestry coordinator. "It's the best thing to do. We like to promote the hiring of people."

Hiring a director shows the board's dedication to establishing a secure future for the gardens and proves Yew Dell will be a promising investment for the general public through the Division of Forestry, Gracey said.

Hiring an executive director shows that the project is a maturing one, not a budding thought, she added. "We want projects that want to build upon themselves like Yew Dell," she explained.

Gracey said the amount of community support Yew Dell has already received plays a positive role in receiving future grant money.

Yew Dell used an Urban and Forestry grant to inventory and catalogue the vast number of specimens in Klein's plant collection. During the inventory, which was conducted by arborist Paul Clinton with help from members of the University of Kentucky's horticulture faculty among other specialists, each plant was identified and tagged. The results were published in a bound guide, called the "Guide to Trees and Shrubs at Yew Dell."

The inventory will help us develop a management and maintenance plan, and can be used to promote Yew Dell as a horticultural and educational resource for the

area. Although the inventory will continue through next year, the preliminary compilation has determined that Yew Dell contains 114 genera of plants and at least 528 unique species and/or cultivars. There are also about 200 plants that have not been identified at the cultivar level.

The inventory process is rigorous and time-consuming, but necessary. Tracking down each plant's origins is a mammoth task, considering Klein's gardens were ongoing projects for more than 60 years. Many of the plants in Yew Dell are those that Klein, himself, propagated, named and introduced to the trade.

Yew Dell's first Urban and Forestry grant, received in 2000, was used to develop a strategic plan. Debbie Skaggs, who worked for 14 years with the Kentucky Arts & Crafts Foundation, helped our group to clearly define Yew Dell's mission, core values and most important strategic issues.



Klein's pleached arbor of hollies that lead to the secret garden.

Capital Campaign Update

Yew Dell's Hidden Treasures:

SPEED ART MUSEUM CURATOR ENCOURAGES
PRESERVATION OF CASTLE, ANTIQUE FURNISHINGS
AND FARM IMPLEMENTS

When Theodore Klein and his wife, Martha Lee, bought their 33-acre Crestwood farm in 1941, the property was the perfect blank canvas for Klein's creativity. Over the decades, Klein poured his heart and spirit into his fanciful creation known as Yew Dell Gardens. Along with assembling an outstanding private horticultural collection of well over 1,137 unique plants, Klein also used his artistic ability and his innate sense as a collector to build and decorate Yew Dell's miniature castle and to amass a wonderful array of antique furniture and farm implements.

J.B. Speed Art Museum curator Scott Erbes recently toured Yew Dell to appraise items located within the castle walls. The collection of antiques - a mix of 19th Century European and far-Eastern designs - is "quite interesting" and worthy of preservation, according to Erbes.

Erbes toured the miniature castle, which Klein originally constructed as a pool house. Situated behind Klein's main home, the creekstone and slate roof structure overlooks a splendid forest valley. The whimsical castle is one of the most adored pieces of Yew Dell Gardens. Not only does it provide a wonderful photo opportunity, but it's also filled with an eclectic array of items crafted by Klein and antiques collected from around the world.

The works of Klein - whether horticultural, structural or artistic - are spiced by the styles of artisans worldwide. That influence is particularly evident inside the castle. Theodore Klein had told many people that the castle was built to house an impressive set of andirons he purchased while traveling. The five-foot-tall heavy iron pieces look as though the castle was built around them. Every aspect of the structure's design seems to compliment and co-exist with the prized metal work. With details like serpents and fine lines, the andirons are one of the most coveted items within the castle's walls.

In addition to the andirons, the castle also includes several other iron pieces that were forged by Klein.

Other furnishings inside the castle showcase Chinese, Indian, European and domestic craftsmanship. The amazing collection was accumulated over years from many places. For example, several chairs and other 17th Century-style furnishings were acquired from churches.

The ornate carvings of the Indianesque sign-in desk at the castle's front door remind visitors of Klein's global reach.

Indeed, Erbes agreed, the castle is a jewelry box filled with ornate furnishings and delicate craftsmanship that tell a great deal about Klein.

Another look into Klein's life comes from his collection of farm tools, which were used by Klein and his crews in Yew Dell's greenhouses and fields.

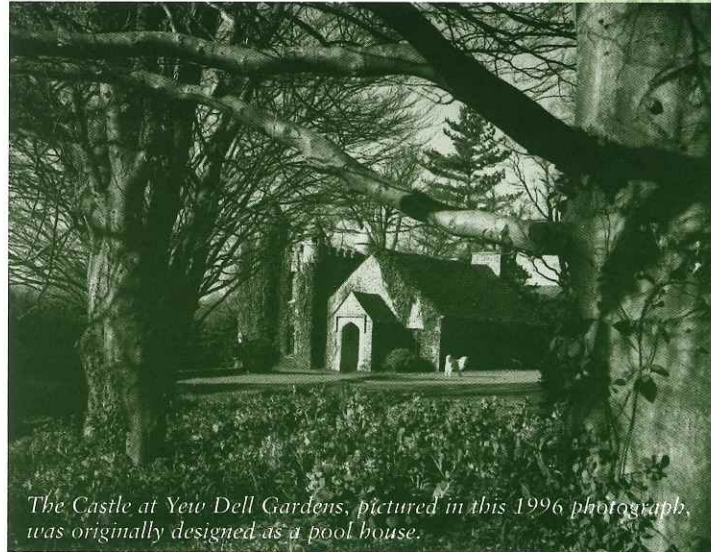
"Preserving that knowledge is wonderful," said Frank Luecke, a former board member and special friend of the project. Efforts are underway to salvage the bank barn, greenhouses and farm implements. The goal is to create a living history for visitors to enjoy.

"It would be nice to tell children about the trees and even get them involved with planting seeds to watch grow upon follow-up visits," Luecke said.

Although the job of renovating the barn and greenhouses might seem like a Herculean task to some, Luecke said he's confident that the board of Yew Dell can make it happen.

Along with preserving Klein's horticultural legacy, it's important that we also salvage Yew Dell's other secret treasures.

The millstone used to grind corn by the Berry family where Abraham Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks, was a seamstress, the vine that Klein smuggled from an Irish castle at Blarney to decorate his Crestwood castle - these are among the hidden jewels that gel together to make Yew Dell Gardens a one-of-a-kind experience for all who visit.



The Castle at Yew Dell Gardens, pictured in this 1996 photograph, was originally designed as a pool house.

HORTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Working Diligently to Stabilize Yew Dell

Horticultural Advisory Committee

Yew Dell board member Suzette White recalls a telephone conversation with a sobbing Marian Klein Koehler, who was saddened by the possibility that her father's 33-acre patch of Eden could be lost by its division or sale.

A long-time family friend and admirer of Theodore Klein's many talents, White decided it was time to do her share to preserve Yew Dell for the sake of generations to come.

White, who majored in horticulture and minored in floral design at the University of Kentucky, grew close to Theodore Klein while working in the landscaping business. Now - as chairman of Yew Dell's horticultural advisory committee - White is helping to oversee her mentor's creations.

The nine-member advisory committee meets regularly to discuss plans to preserve Yew Dell.

White says she had no trouble recruiting committee members, thanks to Klein's reputation. "All you have to do is mention Theodore and they're ready to help," she said. "Most say it's the least they can do to preserve Yew Dell. Theodore's name has made it easy to make it as far as we have."

She drafted a formidable group, including Courier-Journal photographer and "volunteer arborist" Mike Hayman, and Cave Hill Cemetery director Lee Squires.

White, who owns Nature by Design landscaping service, said Yew Dell's horticultural advisory committee is working hard to stabilize the trees and plants that received little care since Klein's death in 1998.

The stabilization process is moving along,

White said, thanks to countless volunteers and Yew Dell supporters. She expressed appreciation to numerous professionals and businesses who have pitched in by pruning, spraying and helping with other tasks around Yew Dell.

White said Yew Dell may be a step ahead of other gardens seeking preservation because Yew Dell has so many unique, existing facilities. But she cautioned that plenty of work must be done before the horticulture advisory committee's focus

shifts from stabilization to long-range planning.

"The new big thing will be deciding exactly what we want to achieve," she said.

"We want to keep this place alive - active... versus merely an arboretum or some type of museum."

Along with long-range plans, the committee is also addressing basic

issues such as infrastructure. "We need parking and restrooms first," White explained.

The second phase of developing a rough draft for the direction of Yew Dell is right around the corner, she said. The stabilization phase continues through January and then the committee will turn its attention to drafting policies and maintaining the plantings.

One of the advisory committee's goals is to restore at least one of Klein's unique greenhouses to working condition.

"How do we keep his spirit alive here...He was so giving and welcoming and always had time to show people around," White concluded. "Finding people who think outside the box, as he did, will be a challenge."



(l-r) Cecil Caldwell, Patsy Harkess, Gretchen Clark and Jill Davenport, with garden tools in hand, volunteered to spruce-up the arboretum during a recent November workday at Yew Dell Gardens.

continued from cover

*Paul Cappiello, Former Professor and
Bernheim Horticulture Director,
Joins Yew Dell as Executive Director*

"When I first saw this place, I knew there was something really special here...in the way this land had been worked, in the way the house and castle were built...and now it's special in the way this group has come together to save Theodore Klein's wonderful legacy," Cappiello said.

"By coincidence, it was Theodore's 92nd birthday when I stopped by the first time," he recalled. "He said, 'Put the food away. Let's look at trees.'"

Looking at trees is something Cappiello enjoys immensely. Before joining Yew Dell, Cappiello was the horticulture director at the 14,000-acre Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, south of Louisville.

With masters and doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois, his research and professional work in horticulture has focused on bringing better plants to the market. He communicates his love of the science and craft of plants in speeches and writing to a spectrum of audiences ranging from fellow researchers to the general public.

As a professor for nine years at the University of Maine's horticulture department, he was director of the university's Lyle E. Littlefield Ornamentals Trial Garden. The Littlefield Garden was a 12-acre display and research garden, for which Cappiello was responsible for the fund raising, program development and daily operations.



(l-r) Theodore Klein and Paul Cappiello strolled through the arboretum on Klein's 92nd birthday.

Cappiello also has a productive research career. He has published scores of papers in professional, trade and consumer journals and magazines pointed toward the horticultural world. Much of his current work is focused on cold tolerance of certain varieties of plants.

Cappiello is also anticipating the publication of the first major book on dogwoods, which he is co-authoring with internationally recognized dogwood expert, Don Shadow.

We feel incredibly fortunate that Paul Cappiello has decided to follow his work at Bernheim and follow in Theodore Klein's footsteps by joining us to undertake the challenge of restoring Yew Dell as an outstanding regional and national horticultural resource.

\$20,000 GIFT FROM CALIFORNIA TRUST

Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust Supports Yew Dell Gardens

Yew Dell Gardens has just received a 2002 grant of \$20,000 from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust to help fund the executive director's salary for the Gardens. This gift provides the matching funds needed for a grant received by Yew Dell this past Summer from the Kentucky Division of Forestry for the same purpose.

The Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust supports education in ornamental horticulture in not-for-profit, tax-exempt institutions, primarily in North and South America.

continued from cover

Cappiello's hiring was announced at a press conference at Yew Dell on October 28. During the conference, Mary Rounsavall, president of the non-profit Yew Dell, Inc., also announced that Yew Dell has been designated as one of only nine Partnership Gardens nationwide by the Garden Conservancy.

Yew Dell's unique horticultural and historic elements garnered praise by the Garden Conservancy, a national, non-profit organization founded in 1989 to help preserve America's exceptional gardens. By being designated as one of the group's limited number of Preservation Projects, Yew Dell is pinpointed as a garden that merits consideration as part of our national legacy. The Garden Conservancy will work in partnership with Yew Dell to meet the immediate preservation needs of the garden and to develop an effective operation program for its long-term success.

As Yew Dell's new executive director, Cappiello will coordinate the Garden Conservancy's assistance as Yew Dell's board develops Yew Dell as a fully-formed community resource.

Both announcements mark "a special and important milestone" for Yew Dell, Rounsavall said. "This day has been a long time coming," she said. "We feel very fortunate to have someone of Paul's caliber to help oversee, with the board, the future of Yew Dell."

Members of the Klein family and Friends of Yew Dell who attended the October 28 conference said Theodore Klein would have been happy with the selection of Cappiello.

"I think when we were children, we kind of took it for granted that everybody had 1,000 trees in their front yard," recalled Theodore's daughter, Marian Klein Koehler. "That was Papa's job. I know he's up in heaven, thinking this is a good thing."

Others agreed.

When asked about Cappiello's impressive credentials, Yew Dell board member Weezie Hickox laughed as she added, "If it was cooking, we've got Julia Childs."



Theodore Klein included in his Yew Dell Gardens this secret garden, pictured in this 1978 photograph.

Cappiello joins an effort that has already reached important milestones. With his new guidance and the continuing support from Friends of Yew Dell, we look forward to opening the facility to the public in 2004.

Castle

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This formal garden, photographed in 1971, was one of the horticultural creations designed by Theodore Klein in his Yew Dell Gardens.



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

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Castle

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A N N O U N C E M E N T

Just before this newsletter went to press we received a great bit of wonderful news. Yew Dell has received a \$500,000 grant from Louisville's James Graham Brown Foundation. The grant will be used for renovation and capital improvements to Yew Dell's main house, castle, gardens, arboretum and toward site development. This is great news indeed.

The grant will go a long way toward development of a strong and stable physical infrastructure on which to build future programming at Yew Dell. We are very thankful to the Brown Foundation for this generous support and for helping to save and secure one of Kentucky's very special treasures.

continued from page three

**HEAD TRUST FUND
AWARDS \$50,000 TO
YEW DELL GARDENS**

Yew Dell Gardens is honored to be the recipient of a \$50,000 grant from the Peyton Samuel Head Trust, a fund set up to help specialized projects in Oldham County.

The grant, awarded in September, will go toward Yew Dell Gardens' overall purchase price of \$1 million, said Yew Dell, Inc. board member Karen Whitty. Whitty said she, and other Friends of Yew Dell, are grateful to receive funding from the special trust. "We were absolutely thrilled when we heard Yew Dell was selected," she added, "This is the second gift from the trust," which gifted Yew Dell \$50,000 in the fall of 2001.

The trust was established in 1990 by the former Louise Head Duncan, an Oldham County native and civic-minded lady who left a vast estate valued at more than \$5 million to the people of Oldham County.

The Peyton Samuel Head Family Trust, named after Duncan's father, donates funds to organizations working in the county in "charitable, educational, religious, literary, medical, scientific, fine arts and civic matters."

Grants from the trust are distributed each year by three trustees and an administrator that reviews applications submitted for the funds.

We'd like to thank the Head Trust for awarding a grant to Yew Dell. With the Trust's generosity and the community's assistance, plans are moving forward rapidly to turn Yew Dell into an educational, public garden for the Oldham County Community and for the region as well.



Capital Campaign Update
Castle 9

Special thanks to our underwriters—

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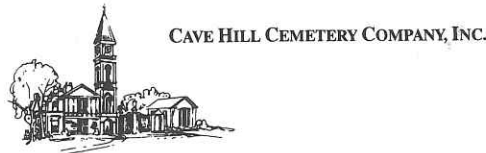
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The Castle
CHRONICLES

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