

# YADDO GARDEN ASSOCIATION POTPOURRI

Spring 2017

Margaret Jacobson: Editor

*“Window in the Queen’s high tower, this should be thy magic power, shut the darkness and the doubt, shut the storm and conflict out. Wind and hail and sun and rain dash against thee all in vain. Let in nothing from the night, let in nothing but the light!” - Henry Van Dyck poem etched on window in Katrina’s tower room in the Yaddo Mansion*



is the time of year when the Yaddo Gardens prepare for the magic show of blossoming roses that mark the glorious time of the light of the summer to come.

In keeping with this time of renewal Yaddo is excited to announce that the Yaddo Mansion, which in many ways serves as the heart and soul of the residency program and is the architectural centerpiece of the 207 acre property, will receive a much needed restoration this summer with an 18-24 month closure of the historic building. The project will involve a rigorous assessment of every aspect of the building, guided, and informed by Yaddo’s facilities master plan.

The closure will necessitate the relocation of a meeting place for the Yaddo Garden Association’s annual volunteer recognition party, which traditionally takes place in the mansion. Volunteers

will be informed of the new location as the fall date approaches.

## 2016 YGA ANNUAL MEETING RECAP



At the November 2016 annual meeting of the Yaddo Garden Association, members of the YGA Board presented their reports of what had taken place in the past year in their areas of concern. The minutes of this meeting containing a synopsis of these reports can be accessed online at the Yaddo website [www.Yaddo.Org](http://www.Yaddo.Org) by clicking on Yaddo Gardens.

As the last item on the agenda for the evening President Jean Dugan announced that it was a wonderful opportunity to recognize the dedication and leadership of Jane Wait, the founder and Lifetime Board Member of the Yaddo Garden Association. With this in mind, the YGA commissioned the creation of a granite bench in her honor which is now placed at the south end of the pergola where it commands a great view of the rose gardens as well as the entire length of the Pergola. This gift will add beauty to the Gardens and provide enjoyment for all its visitors. It is a most fitting way to recognize her leadership.

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Later in June, at a date to be announced, there will be a garden dedication of the bench which is inscribed:

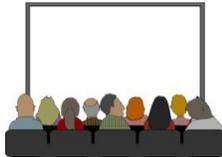
“IN HONOR OF JANE A. WAIT  
FOUNDER OF THE YADDO GARDEN  
ASSOCIATION 1991”



To give you a taste of the program, it includes highlights from the founding of YGA in 1991 to the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year as well as photos of volunteers at work in the gardens, docents, ghost tours, and restorations of the ST KT Gate, the Four Seasons Statues bases, the Pergola, and the water features in the Rock Garden. Also to be viewed are the Floral Fete and the Festival of Trees Christmas trees made by YGA volunteers.

Our traditional power point program is also available for viewing and may be booked by calling the phone number already listed, at the same cost.

## CLOSING PROGRAM FOR THE NOVEMBER 2016 ANNUAL MEETING



The very well received program entitled YGA-THIS IS YOUR LIFE, narrated by Volunteer Life Member Gay Gamage, ended the evening. It is of interest to note that this marks a new Power Point Program available for viewing by area groups. The presentation includes a docent volunteer as commentator and is available for an honorarium of \$100.00. If your group is interested in viewing it please call Yaddo at 584-0746.

## THE MERRY MONTH OF



in the Yaddo Gardens will be preceded by our experienced volunteers being asked to report for action on April 29<sup>th</sup>, to be joined by new volunteers on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The second and fourth Tuesday of May will see BOCES students aiding in spring gardening tasks and 20 seniors from Saratoga High School will also be found among the garden volunteers to mark their Annual Give Back Day on May 26.

May is also traditionally the month that rose preparation begins, with the start of

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planting on May 6 following delivery of roses on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, with fertilizing to follow on the 16<sup>th</sup> of the month. The roses will also be sprayed for leaf disease the first time on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Other May tasks include preparation for annual plants to be placed in the jardinières lining the garden steps. Fish will be returned to the center pool on May 25<sup>th</sup> for the pleasure of garden visitors.

their garden tours. The guide will also now be a part of the regular power point presentation available to area groups.

The rock garden has added new plant materials, which can be found in the new guides, as well as new signs asking visitors to keep off the rocks not only because they can be slippery because of the water features, but also to protect the delicate plants found among them.

## ROCK GARDEN NEWS



In the rock garden the news is that Verena Takekoshi, Tracy Battles, and Mary Curtis have completed work on a guide to the flowering plants in the rock garden and the seasons in which they bloom, which includes the plants' Latin names and locations in the rock or entrance gardens, as well as their seasons of bloom.

These dedicated volunteers are to be highly commended for the wealth of information they have provided and for all the hard work this has involved.

A copy of the laminated guide will be placed in the volunteer shed and docent volunteers will receive a copy for use on

## NEW PROJECTS IN THE YADDO GARDENS



Shane Cassidy, Yaddo's Facility Manager, and his crew added some major improvements to the gardens this past winter. Visitors have commented admiringly on the covers which they made in the Yaddo workshop and placed over the Four Seasons Statues to protect them from the winter elements but still allow them to be viewed in all their beauty. The statues are now each covered in the late fall by 10 foot tall framed mahogany cases with transparent Plexiglas. Shane designed the cases using materials left over from other projects and designed them to match the architecture of buildings already on the grounds. Because of their

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light weight they were easily removed this spring.

Everyone is hopeful the new statue covers will entice more people to visit the gardens during the winter. It will definitely improve the visitor's experience.

Shane and his crew have also made wooden and metal gates which complement the statue covers. They have been placed at the entrance area to each of the four rose beds. Their 40 inch width allows the entry of the work carts used by volunteers to bring in supplies to the area and to remove vegetative debris. The gates are meant to discourage people from entering the rose beds, as this greatly disturbs the area so faithfully maintained by YGA volunteers.



While on the subject of new projects, Yaddo has reported that they have contracted in the year 2017 with the LA Group to recommend needed repair for garden structures including the sundial, staircase, and drainage issues. Our readers will be updated on this in the fall issue of the Potpourri.

## CHANGING OF THE GUARD



As we start this spring season it is with great sadness that his friends here at The Yaddo Garden Association note the passing of longtime volunteer Charlie DiSanto. A paid life member, Charlie also had achieved Honorary Voluntary Life Membership by virtue of reaching the necessary volunteer hours by 2001. He added to those totals over the years, having acquired almost 3,000 hours by the end of 2016. For many of those years he volunteered as the Pergola Rose Captain. Beginning in 2008 Charlie was also designated to be in charge of sheds and equipment where he was the "Go-to Guy" known as "Mr. Fixit" for taking care of everything necessary to help the gardeners in their work. A past YGA Board Member and Treasurer (2006-2008), he has been profiled as an

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outstanding YGA volunteer in a past issue of the Potpourri.

As a tribute to Charlie the garden tractor that he was instrumental in acquiring now sports a new license plate with his name on it. The work shed where he could often be found arranging or ordering new equipment will shortly have a sign honoring him.

The Pergola Captain will now be Kathy Mattes, past treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Association. Summing it all up for her fellow volunteers, she says: "It was always a better day when Charlie was in the gardens."

Taking Charlie's place as shed and equipment supervisor is another long time garden volunteer, John Yurcik, who has been the volunteer responsible for the plants and maintenance of the center pool with its Florentine Fountain.

The Entrance Garden will now be under the oversight of Cosette Lotz and Roxanne Day. Many thanks are owed to Marilyn DeLorio and Dorothy Kelliher, who have shared this responsibility for the past few years. They will still be found working in the Entrance Garden as garden volunteers.



The Yaddo Garden Association tour season will begin on June 24<sup>th</sup> this year and end on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. YGA Docent led tours are scheduled for Saturdays and Sundays at 11:00 A.M. and begin at the Entrance Pool outside the ST-KT Gates. During racing season, tours are also offered on Tuesdays. There is an honorarium of \$10.00 for each participant.

The Soroptomists' Secret Garden Tour is scheduled this year for July 9<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The Yaddo Gardens will once again be a part of the Tour, which is looked forward to each summer by area gardening fans.

The rose garden should be at the height of its bloom and there will also be various perennials in bloom in the Rock Garden. YGA Docents will explain the history and features of the gardens at various sites throughout them. This would be is a perfect time to visit Yaddo Gardens, which has been listed as #30 on the internet as one the best things to do in New York State.

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*The Yaddo Garden Association once again would like to thank all those who have supported our organization with gifts and memberships since the last issue of the Potpourri in the Fall of 2016. Without your backing it would be impossible to sustain the work that is vital to our mission in maintaining these gardens for the appreciation of our visitors.*

## **Gifts and Memberships**

10/1/2016 – 4/30/2017

### **Memberships**

#### **Individuals**

Janice Connors  
Lynn Farenell in memory of Delaphine Farenell  
Dorothy Kelliher  
Barbara Kolapakka  
Nancy O'Leary  
Marie Oppenheim  
Kathleen Sweet  
Kelly Underwood

#### **Seniors/Students**

Anonymous  
Eleanor Boyle  
Margaret Bradley  
Ellen Brown  
Florence Campion  
Gloria Ciejka  
Ellen deLalla  
Patricia Gallagher  
Angela Green

Margaret Jacobson  
Barbara Parrish  
Christine Root  
Nancy Stevens  
Susan Zampier

#### **Family**

Richard and Donna Bates  
Marilyn and Dominick DeLorio  
Nancy Downing  
Deirdre Leland  
Hannah Thomas in memory of Barbara R. Thomas  
Martha and Grant Van Patten  
Joseph and Joyce Zanchelli

#### **Contributors**

Judith Banks in honor of Clarita Mango  
Corinna Bishop  
Susan Brynteson  
Ellen Downing  
Barbara Hefter  
Elizabeth Ireland  
R. Paul and Kathleen A. McCarty  
Steven and Elena Porter  
Helen Porter  
Katie and Charles Richman  
Robert Vessels  
Shirley and Robert Voelker  
Vera Weiss  
Nancy and David Wilder  
Domenique and Dmitriy Yermolayev

#### **Patrons**

Jean Dugan and Ben Ford  
Pat Meaney and Joseph Zarzynski  
Sheila Nelson

#### **Benefactor**

Jill and Jonathan Gainor

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## General Gifts to the Garden

Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library  
Janice Conners  
GE Fund Matching Gifts Program  
Glenville Hills Garden Club  
Heritage Garden Club  
Nancy and Edward O'Leary  
Linda Vigars-Amyot

Joan Rorick  
Stephen and Sharon Sassaman  
Barbara Sutherland  
Verena and Tohru Takekoshi  
Jane Adams Wait  
Vera and Marvin Weiss  
Nancy and David Wilder

Byron Evans  
Jane Adams Wait

## Gifts In Memory

Richard Berger  
Michael and Donna Gnip

Dr. James Fleck  
Susan and Anthony DePaula

Nancy Bickelhaupt  
Holly K. Grande  
Linda Macica  
Marilyn Madden

Stuart Hefter  
Linda Hoyt

David Hoffman  
Barbara Hefter

Warren Bowhall  
Jane Adams Wait

Christopher Hoyt  
Linda Hoyt

Charlie DiSanto  
John and Lynn Adams  
Eleanor Boyle  
Peg, Jerry and Ellen Bradley  
Florence Campion  
Marilyn and Dominick DeLorio  
Ellen and Todd Downing  
Jean Dugan and Ben Ford  
Jill and Jonathan Gainor  
Gay Gamage  
Dorothy and Stephen Harran  
Barbara Hefter  
Linda Hoyt  
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Dave Madden  
Jill and Jonathan Gainor  
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Linda Hoyt  
Dorothy Kelliher  
Verena and Tohru Takekoshi

Elaine Mann  
Jane Adams Wait

Eleanor Martin  
Patricia and Robert Hoyt

Doris Moss  
Maggie Moss-Tucker

Diane Perkins  
Audrey Christensen

Rose Riggi  
Deborah Fuller

Barbara Thomas  
John J. Thomas

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## Gifts in Memory cont'd:

Rickey Tanno  
Susan and Anthony DePaula

Rachel Watts  
Linda Hoyt

## In Honor

Jane Adams Wait  
Florence Andresen  
Dorothy and Stephen Harran  
Elizabeth Ireland  
Marilyn Madden  
Beth and George Vodapive

Jean Dugan and Ben Ford  
The Pages

Dorothy Harran  
Jane Adams Wait

Clarita Mango  
Judith Banks

Meg Putman and Max Stern's marriage  
Jane and John Corrou

Barbara Sutherland  
Mellicent and William Hawke

## A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY



*Step into the garden. Lift  
your face to the sun and just  
breathe. It will help you  
remember all that is bright  
and beautiful in the world*

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## YADDO GARDEN ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 395

SARATOGA SPRINGS New York 12866

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE E-MAIL

I wish to support the YGA by becoming a garden volunteer \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to become an annual YGA member

Individual \$35.00 to \$49.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Senior/student rate \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Family \$50.00 to \$99.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Contributor \$100.00 to \$249.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Patron \$250.00 to \$499.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor \$500.00 to \$999.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Benefactor \$1,000.00 and above \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to give a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
to support the maintenance of the Yaddo  
Gardens

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

Please recognize my gift in memory \_\_\_\_\_  
or in honor \_\_\_\_\_ of (check one)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please notify the following of my gift:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

Please mail the amount of the Gift /  
Membership together with the completed  
form to the address above or donate online  
at Yaddo. org.