



The Torii

Volume 8.6

Winter, 2005

From the Director

Once more the gardens have completed their annual seasonal cycle and have transitioned into their dormant state. It is always sad to see all of the beautiful colors of the three earlier seasons fade as winter approaches. The next few weeks will be devoted to final preparations for the impending cold; and more importantly, to many hours of thought, planning and developing designs for next year. Early in 2006, David and Susan will begin the labor intensive task of starting and nurturing plants for the new season as well as numerous out door horticultural chores and organizing and updating our woody plant database. So, contrary to what one might assume, winter is a critical and busy time for our permanent staff.

In our effort each year to have the gardens be better than ever before, we constantly face

the challenge of greater demands on our financial resources. The great strides we have realized over the past several years have been made possible through the generous support of our family of members and donors. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts and hope you will continue to help us move forward.

This festive season is also a time for reflection and giving thanks for all of the wonderful things that we have an opportunity to experience during our short sojourn here on this magnificent planet. Sherry and I are especially grateful for the opportunity to be involved with the Schedel Arboretum and Gardens; and for the many wonderful friends we have found here. To each of you, we extend our very best wishes for the Holidays, and always.

Reg Noble



Earl Johnson Recognized



On October 19, the Schedel Gardens planted a 17', one of a kind, weeping white spruce tree in honor of Mr. Earl Johnson. This magnificent tree honors a truly outstanding resident of the region who, over his 94 years, has contributed mightily to public education, conservation, civic pride and much, much more. This tree appears to stand as a sentry on a bluff overlooking a lowland area of the gardens (yet to be fully developed), much as Earl has stood watch over his community. The beauty of this tree stands for the beautiful deeds of this outstanding individual.



OSU Landscape Architecture Classes

Thanks to the efforts of Dick Meyers, (Director's Council member), we have been able to involve two classes from the OSU Landscape Architecture Department in project development here at the gardens. The classes are under the direction of Professor Deborah Yale Georg and one of her associates. The project began with a day long visit by more than 40 students on October 17. The project will continue throughout the academic year and will offer special hands on educational opportunities for the students and will assist us with development of new landscape plans and creation of a master plan for the gardens and adjacent property.

Admission Fee Changes

Our Board of Directors has recommended an admission fee increase for 2006 and that we offer a discount to senior citizens. We will be consulting with our Director's Council prior to finalizing a decision.

Elmore Chamber Decorates Schedel Home for the Holidays

The Elmore Chamber of Commerce will again be decorating the Schedel home and the Trellis Gallery for an open house on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, December 3 & 4. Tickets may be purchased from the Chamber for tours of the home by calling 419-559-1031. Ticket holders will also be welcomed to the Trellis Gallery for treats and commercial displays by locale businesses.

Closed on Mondays

Next season the gardens will be closed on Monday's in order to give our staff a little breathing room. This will help alleviate some of the stress on gardeners and office staff alike during the hectic summer season. It will also allow opportunities for us to get certain chores done, such as spraying, when it is best not to have guests on the grounds. Reservations already booked for 2006 for tours or special events on Mondays will be honored.

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The Schedel Arboretum & Gardens is an operation of the Joseph J. and Marie P. Schedel Foundation. The Arboretum and Gardens is dedicated to preserving and improving this marvelous legacy from Joseph and Marie Schedel. It is funded by income from the Schedel Foundation, memberships, donations, grants, and special fund-raising events. The Schedel Foundation is governed by a Board of directors.

Fund Raiser

On September 11 we held our second annual Hidden Garden Party which, thanks to the efforts of Cheryl Hardy, of Hardy Communications, and our Director's Council, was an overwhelming success. It was a beautiful day and our approximately 200 guests were treated to food prepared and served under the watchful eyes of *Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano* executive chef while being serenaded to the music of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra's Jazz Trio. Tables went for donations of \$1,000 each, or \$300 per couple. Guests engaged in bidding on unique live and silent auction items, such as a landscape designer for a day, our own gardeners for a day, many unique plants, dinner for 8 in the Schedel Home and much, much more. The affair brought in over \$50,000 dollars for the gardens. If you would like to be included on next year's guest list, contact Dr. Noble.

Lost But Not Forgotten:

Anita MacCammon – Anita was a relatively new friend to the gardens and enjoyed golf cart tours and a long stop at the rose garden. She knew many of the roses by name and enjoyed testing their fragrance. She looked forward to receiving the three rose buds we gave her each time to take home. The tranquility here helped boost her spirits as her health failed. Anita designated the gardens for memorial gifts in her name and remembered us in her will. She was a very special lady who lives on in our hearts and minds.

Norman Swaisgood – Norman was a loyal friend to the gardens and served in 2004 as an office volunteer. He was always glad to help out when called upon. We will miss his warm smile.

Please Help Us Save!!

Help us conserve our mailing costs by allowing us to offer you the Torri on the internet. Send us an email message saying you are willing to receive your Torri via email. The website version offers numerous benefits to recipients including full color. Our email address is; schedelgardens@woh.rr.com

Photo Contest in 2006

In past years we have seen so many wonderful photos taken by our visitors, amateurs and professionals alike, that we decided that we will conduct a photo contest during the 2006 season. Planning is still in the early stages; however, we anticipate that one of the requirements will be that photos have to have been taken at the gardens during 2006. Entries will be judged by a panel of experts and exhibited in the Trellis Gallery for two to three weeks in the latter part of the season. We hope to post details on our website early in 2006.

An Abbreviated History of the Christmas Tree

This time of year there are many trucks on the roads loaded with Christmas trees. The Christmas tree has become one of the symbols of Christ's birth. It's hard to believe that at one point it was banned from Christmas. But that's starting in the middle – let me start at the beginning.

Ancient times: The shortest day and longest night of the year falls between December 21 -23 in the Northern hemisphere and is called the winter solstice. Many ancient people worshiped the sun as a god and believed that winter came every year because the sun god had become sick and weak. The solstice was a time of celebration because it meant that at last the sun god would begin to get well. Evergreen boughs reminded them of all the green plants that would grow again when the sun god was strong and summer would return. The ancient Egyptians would bring in green Palm tree rushes to symbolize the triumph of life over death. The early Romans celebrated the feast of Saturnalia, to honor Saturn, the god of agriculture. They knew that soon after the solstice, farms and orchards would soon begin to grow and produce. They marked this time by adorning their homes and temples with evergreen boughs. Evergreens, because they remain green throughout the cold winter, seemed to have magical powers that enabled them to withstand the rigors of winter. Druids and Vikings also used the evergreen in their religious ceremonies during the solstice.

Seventh Century: Legend has it that St. Boniface, a monk who was converting people to Christianity in Germany, cut down an oak, once sacred to the former pagans, in the presence of newly baptized Christians. It miraculously split into four pieces, revealing an evergreen growing from the center of the stump. He used the triangular shape of the Fir tree to describe the Holy Trinity of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As the converted people had once revered the oak tree, they now began to revere the Fir. By the 12th century it was being hung, upside down, from ceilings at Christmastime in Central Europe, a symbol of Christianity.

Sixteenth Century: In the early 1500's, Martin Luther, the protestant reformer, is said to have brought in a small evergreen tree and decorated it with candles to symbolize the sparkling night sky.

Germany is credited with starting the Christmas tree tradition as we know it today. Christmas trees became popular in England during Queen Victoria's reign (mid 1800's). She married a German prince, Albert, who brought his traditions with him. Decorations became fancier, and trees more lavishly decorated during her

reign. Small trees were more commonly set on tables with gifts placed on the table.

American Trees: Christmas trees were introduced to America by Hessian soldiers in the mid 1700's. The Pennsylvanian German settlements had community trees as early as 1747. There were isolated areas where trees were popular, America being the huge melting pot that it was. But as late as 1840, Christmas trees were still viewed as pagan symbols and not accepted by the majority of Americans. In 1659, the Puritans in Massachusetts enacted a law making it a penal offence to celebrate Christmas by any event other than a church service, and fined anyone for decorating for the holiday. In the 19th century, the influx of Irish and German immigrants undermined the Puritan influence. By the 1890's, the Christmas tree and decorating for the holidays was on the rise. And larger trees were placed on the floor. Many ornaments and decorations were imported from Germany. Artificial trees got their start in Germany in the 1880's with the Feather tree. This was to combat the destruction of the fir trees there. In America, the Addis Brush Company made an artificial tree with the same machinery that produced their toilet brushes. American patents for electric Christmas lights appeared in 1882 and for ornament hangers in 1892. And the rest is decorating history! Today we use cut, artificial and live trees to decorate our homes for the holidays. The tradition, the lights, the fragrance, the ambiance of the Christmas tree all enhance this wonderful season.

We wish the very best of the Holidays to you.

by Susan Shaffer

Calvin Babich Donates Sculpture



We are pleased to report that Calvin Babich is donating his entry to our "2005 Sculpture in the Gardens Exhibit) to us. We welcome this piece to our permanent collection and thank Calvin for his generosity.

Thanks to our members and donors

Thanks to your generosity, 2005 is shaping up to be another good year for income, especially in the categories of memberships and donations. Without this support, we could not possibly carry on at the level our visitors have come to expect. Nor, would it be possible for us to look forward to the improvements that we expect to realize in the coming months and years. No words of thanks can express our appreciation; however, we continue our pledge to do our best to live up to the expectations that accompany your support. Following is a list of donors and members listed via cumulative donation category as of 11/25/05

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Deborah Sniderhan
Rev. Larry & Beth Snyder
Doris Stark
Norma Stark
John & Pat Stewart
Marianne Stewart
Buck Stoiber
Gary Stough
Elsie Strausbaugh
Mary Struck
Kim M. Sutkus
Joanne Sutton
Anna Belle Swaisgood
Mr. & Mrs. John Swanson
John & Patricia
 Szymanowski
Vera Tarnow
Cynthia & Peter Taylor
Patty Teufel
Isle Thomas
Dr. & Mrs. Warren Tipton
Don & Ann Titus
Lloyd Treadway
Robert Tuite
Jean Vance
Jim VanDerLaar
Nancy & Thomas Verner
Sandra VonGlahn
Phyllis Wade
Norman & Charlotte
 Wagener
Sandra Migani Wall
Miriam Ward
Cathy Warnecke,
 Images By Cathy
Joan Waters
Erwin & Jean Wegert
Jamie Weidner
Joe Weller
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Werner
Mary Ann Whipple
Cynthia White
Cindy White
Henry & Rose Wiemken
Terrence N. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Wolfe
Don & Dorothy Wukotich
Marcy Yaffe
Linda Younker
Gen. Richard Yudkin
John & Peggy Zinkand
Pat Zolman

We Need Your Help!!

David and Susan have some very ambitious plans for the gardens in 2006. Our cost for plant materials is going to exceed \$15,000 next year. You can help by making a donation to help purchase plants. All donations of \$100 or more will be acknowledged on a plaque that will be displayed in the gardens naming donors and indicating they helped make the beautiful plantings possible. Donations of \$1,000 or more will be acknowl-

edged with a sign naming a special bed in honor of the donor next year. On the accompanying page there is a membership/donor form. Just fill in the line earmarking your donation for purchasing plants for 2006. As you walk through the gardens next year, you can look with special pride on the beautiful flowers that you helped make possible

Schedel Arboretum and Gardens - Membership Program

FRIEND'S CIRCLE

Buckeye Level -- \$35

Single membership (fully tax deductible †)

Redbud Level -- \$50

Family membership. (fully tax deductible †)

Lilac Level -- \$100

Family membership and four passes.

10% discounts on plant and gift sales.

(fully tax deductible †)

Family = Spouse and dependent children.

Dogwood Level -- \$250

Family membership and four passes.

SA&G tee shirt for new members.

10% discounts on plant and gift shop sales.

(fully tax deductible †)

Magnolia Level* -- \$500

Family membership and four passes.

SA&G tee shirt for new members.

10% discounts on plant and gift shop sales.

10% discount for a hosted social event. ††

(\$465 is tax deductible †)

* At this level, payments may be made quarterly.

† Estimated for Federal Income Tax purposes.

Consult a tax advisor.

†† Arrangements to be mutually agreed upon.

Benefits at any level may be waived to maximize tax deduction.

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE

Benefits also include all those at Friend's Circle levels.

Lily Level* -- \$1,000

An invitation for two to attend the Director's Reception and Dinner at the gardens.

(\$930 is tax deductible†)

Dahlia Level* -- \$2,500

An invitation for two to attend the Director's Reception and Dinner at the gardens.

Use of the gardens for a social event for up to 100 guests at no charge. ††

(\$2,320 is tax deductible†)

Rose Level* -- \$5,000

An invitation for two to attend the Director's Reception and Dinner at the gardens.

Use of the gardens for a social event for up to 200 guests at no charge. †† (\$4500 is tax deductible†)

Life Membership

An invitation for two to attend the Director's Reception and dinner at the gardens. Use of the gardens for a social event for up to 200 guests.†† Recognition with a plaque in the gardens.

1 - \$10,000 one time payment.

2 - 10 annual installments of \$1,250 each

3 - Cumulative gifts exceeding \$15,000.

December

Please cut out and return with your check to:
Schedel Foundation, P.O. Box 81, Elmore, OH 43416

2005

Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ E-mail Address _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for my membership at the _____ level.

\$ _____ for general garden improvements \$ _____ purchasing plants for 2006 season

\$ _____ for the following use _____

_____ I am interested in Volunteer Work. Please contact me with more information.

To Our Volunteers We Extend Thanks!

Volunteers become a more critical component of our operation each year. Without their dedication and hard work it would be impossible for us to carry on. We can account for nearly 3,000 hours of volunteer work, by some 75 individuals, this year. They come to us with a broad range of skills that are invaluable. We strive to have all feel a sense of ownership in this wonderful place and part of our Schedel Gardens "family" in pursuit of a labor of love.

Earl Avers
Amy Barnes
Angie Batt
Shirley Beck
Bud Book
Chuck Bryant
Betty & Walt Busdiecker
Larry & Phyllis Coats
Dori Corbley
Grant Cummings
Kari Eickert
Nancy Fahle
Ann Ferguson
Donna Foss
Barbara Gould

Peg Greider
Karen Haensch
Evelyn Hanneman
Jeanette Hanthorn
Cheryl Hardy
Wil Hesselbart
Marty Hosley
John Hovis
Mair Jividen
Don & Vicki Johnson
Stan & Joann Kajfasz
Snady Kessler
Joyce Knipp
Jim Larrow
Natasha Lemke

We capped off the season on October 21 with a volunteer appreciation cookout. It was a real treat to have everyone get together and enjoy great food, fellowship, and a last look at the gardens before they revert to their winter state. We regret that not everyone could attend, and we fear that we might have inadvertently left someone off of the invitation list. Thanks to each of you:

Susan Lowe
Ed & Kathy Magsig
Christine Michael
Blair & Anita Miller
Terry & Susan Millinger
Rus & Rose Motter
Mel & Elaine Mylander
Barb Nelson
Beatrice Ohms
Mary Paetow
Ronnie Pearce
Leo Pelka
Mary Pitts
Laura Lee Purdy
Leon Rader

Doug & Becky Ricci
Karen Schultz
Lori Skees
Ellen Stella
Ginny Utendorf
Gail Vasko
Donna Wallenslegel
Jean Wegert
Nancy Weidner
Edgar & Ina Weis
Robert & Neva Wilburt
Dick Willer
Ann Zeibold
Myron & Sarah Zibbel

Director's Council

Our Director's Council continues to assist and advise the Foundation Board as well as actively assist with many activities here at the Gardens. Worthy of special note is their major role in our June "Meet the Artists Reception," and our September "Hidden Garden Party" fundraiser.

The Board welcomes Cheryl Hardy as our newest Director's Council Member. Current Council members are: Ashel Bryan (Chairman emeritus), Larry Dillin, Cheryl Hardy, Dick & Mary Igoe Meyers, Ed & Linda Reiter (currently on leave), Dick & Libby Ruppert, Phil Jr. & Marylou Rudolph, and Jean Ward (Chairman) and Janet George Ward.

The Significance of Your Gifts

This year we anticipate again setting a new income record thanks to the generosity of our members and donors. This additional support comes at a critical time when Schedel Foundation income, which funds a major portion of our operating cost, has not kept up with our ever increasing operating expenses. If we are to continue to grow and improve, our resource base must also continue to increase. Thus, your support is more crucial than ever before. As we enter the holiday season, please consider making a gift to the Schedel Foundation (a 501 3c Public Foundation) in support of the Schedel Arboretum & Gardens. Your (tax deductible) gift will help ensure the continued existence of this hidden treasure in northwest Ohio.



· A gift membership for the Gardens might be just the thing. This holiday season, share the best kept secret in Northwest Ohio with family and friends by giving a SA&G membership. Check the enclosed membership information, select a membership level, and send us the name and address of the gift recipient along with your check; or call us to make arrangements.

· We have a wonderful DVD featuring beautiful photographs and movie clips of some of the most striking scenes and plants at various stages throughout the growing season. This 15 minute video on DVD is presented such that the viewer feels as though he or she is on a tour of the gardens. It was professionally produced and narrated especially for sale in our gift center. The price is \$12.00 including tax.

· Also available is last year's offering entitled "The Schedel Gardens: A Living Vision" This 26 minute video on the house and gardens was professionally prepared and broadcast by WBGU-TV and is available on DVD or in VHS format (\$18).

We can mail to you or to the person you designate with a holiday greeting in your name. Call (419-862-3182) or send an e-mail for further information.

Schedel Arboretum & Gardens

P.O. Box 81
Elmore, OH 43416-0081
(419) 862-3182

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Fall/Winter Gardening Tidbits

Covering rose bushes too early can be detrimental to them. The whole idea of winter protection is to keep the plant uniformly cold and frozen all winter and prevent the damaging effects of alternate freezing and thawing. Don't begin covering plants too early. Wait until a hard killing frost has caused most of the leaves to fall. You may also want to wait until the temperature has dropped into the teens for several nights. Prior to covering, remove any foliage or other debris that might harbor disease for the next season.

Bulbs can be planted in the fall until the soil freezes. It is better to get them planted by late October, but if you didn't, you can still plant with success. The idea of getting them in the ground earlier is so the bulbs will root. Once rooted, they will not freeze. So if you are planting late, make sure to mulch them with straw, mulch or pine needles to pre-

vent the ground from freezing until they are rooted.

Peonies should be cut back to about 4" above the ground. This is to prevent any diseases on the peony plant from overwintering in the soil.

Rabbit proof susceptible young plants before the snow comes.

Burlap young evergreens to prevent desiccation from drying winter winds.

Support limbs of evergreens and deciduous trees that are prone to collecting snow to prevent damage from heavy snow loads.

Pruning woody plants that flower in spring at this time of year reduces flowering. They have already set their flower buds for next year. If you cut them back now, you will remove these flower buds. It is usually best to prune spring flowering trees and shrubs right after they bloom.

