



## From the Director

There is much excitement here at the gardens as we anticipate the arrival of a new season. This excitement is accompanied with a good helping of anxiety as we keep waiting for winter to release its hold on us. As I look out over the gardens today, I see the ground blanketed with four inches of newly fallen snow. This brings our snowfall total for the season to nearly 60 inches, which ranks this season in the top

ten on record for most snowfall in our area. Thus far, our mean temperatures have been consistently below the norm with none on the extreme warm side; however, we have had more than the normal freeze – thaw cycles. Thanks to the former, there has been no need for concern about freeze injury, due to early bud break; but the frequent freezing and thawing are taking their toll on physical objects.

There will be a lot of beauty and excitement to experience here this season and I hope you will plan to visit often to ensure that you have an opportunity to fully appreciate it. As in the past, our goal is for the coming season to be our best ever. This goal becomes increasingly difficult to achieve, but with the dedicated efforts of our outstanding staff, and your support, we will make it once more.

## Update on Brown Welcome Center

As most of our readers are aware, we have undertaken the construction of a new facility here at the gardens. A major donation by one of our very special friends, Kim Jordan, made it possible for us to undertake the project. Kim is the sister of Beth Brown, who is the wife of the late Charles E. Brown. Charlie was



the President of our Board of Directors, and charter member of the Schedel Foundation (founded in 1966), until he passed away in 2006. Our board has opted to name the building the Charles E. and Beth H. Brown Welcome Center.

The building, with nearly 5,000 square feet of ground-level space (plus full basement), is perched on a bluff overlooking the lakes and lowland area. The first floor will offer a receiving area for arriving visitors, and a meeting room that will accommodate up to one hundred guests for conferences, workshops, training sessions, receptions, dinners, etc. Also included are a

smaller meeting room, a gallery for exhibiting art, staff offices, and a prep area for caterers, and storage space.

Construction is progressing well, in spite of an unusually bad winter. The building is expected to be completed in early June; however, landscaping, and related outside work, may not be completed by then.

As of this writing, we don't expect it to be possible to get started on grading and landscaping for some time. We will begin scheduling events in the building as soon as we can more precisely predict an opening date

Following Kim's donation, and our decision to go forward with this project, it was clear to us that additional funding would be necessary in order to complete the facility. Thus we have initiated a capital campaign with a goal of matching Kim's donation. Thus far, the response has been quite good; however, we still have a ways to go in order to achieve our goal. So, please consider lending your support.



## We need your assistance

Each year we ask for donations to help defray the cost of plants for the spring planting and for flower pots and urns. The cost of some twelve to fifteen thousand bedding plants each spring is quite significant, as is the cost of the specialty plants that we use in the more than 100 pots.

If you would like to help, just use the membership form in this issue and mark the box designated for plant donation. Donations of \$100 or more may be acknowledged with a sign in the pot naming the donor. Donations of \$250, or more, will be acknowledged with a sign designating a bed in honor of the donor or in memory of a loved one.

## Emmanuel Enriquez Curator of 2008 Exhibit

The 2008 Sculpture Exhibit will be curated by Emmanuel Enriquez. Manny has worked diligently lining up a talented group of sculptors to show their works in this year's exhibit. The show will be in place for our opening on May 1. Watch for more information on the show, including photographs, on our website as well as Manny's site at [www.emmanuel-enriquez-art.com/abstractstonesculpture.htm](http://www.emmanuel-enriquez-art.com/abstractstonesculpture.htm). You may recall that he is the sculptor who, for the past two years, has been creating the piece entitled "Las Bailadores Flamenco" here in the gardens.

## Save the Date

Our annual "Hidden Garden Party" Fundraiser will be held on the afternoon of Sunday September 6th. We hope that many of our readers will have interest in attending. Contact the office for further information. Please save the date!

### **SCHEDER ARBORETUM & GARDENS**

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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.

## Home & Garden Show Mania

Schedel Arboretum & Gardens returned to the Home & Garden Show at the IX Center in Cleveland again this year. The February event was the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Home & Garden Show set off with an Italian flare to gardening. We also participated in the Sandusky Home & Garden Show hosted by Kalahari Resort. During this March show many Schedel brochures were handed out as well as brochures for the Village of Elmore, Bench's Greenhouse & Packer Creek Pottery to eager visitors to our booth. A special thanks are extended to our volunteers: Elaine Mylander, Joe & Carolyn Johnson, Kari Eickert, Don & Vickie Johnson, Ellen Stella, Joyce Knipp, Dick Willer, Larry & Phyllis Coats, Myron & Sara Zibbel, David & Susan Halsey, Veronica Sheets, Larry & Phyllis Coats, Doug & Becky Ricci, & Donna Wollenslegel who gave their time and support by manning our booth. Without them we would not have been able to take advantage of these wonderful promotional opportunities.

## Pond Clinic

Ottawa Co. Soil & Water Conservation District & OSU Extension will be partnering with S A & G for a "Twilight" Pond Clinic on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The event will begin at 6:00pm with speaker, Bill Lynch of the OSU Extension office, discussing pond management, weed identification, etc. Refreshments & hot dogs will be served during a question and answer segment with Bill. The event will conclude with a wonderful and informative garden tour guided by Elaine Mylander, Master Gardener and one of our devoted volunteers. The clinic registration fee will be \$10 and will cover admission, your meal, the guided tour and an Ohio Pond Management guide. Please contact Ottawa Co. SWCD at 419-898-1595 by May 20<sup>th</sup> to pre-pay. We will have plants for sale at this time, for those interested!

## May Blooms & Plant Sale

May and early June bring us many wonderful treats that you won't want to miss. Among these are our flowering trees, peonies (65 different varieties), a colorful iris garden, and a wall of fragrant lilacs that splash their fragrance throughout the grounds. Exactly when they bloom, and the duration of blooming varies from a few to several days, depending on weather conditions. Make sure you time your spring visit to catch the show. For those of you thinking about future blossoms in your garden, we will have some perennials divided from our collection available for sale starting opening day and throughout the season. These will include peonies, garden phlox, and many others. Surplus annuals, and our much sought after pepper plants, won't be available until a little later.

## Winter Interest in Your NW Ohio Garden

While there is a certain austere beauty in a wind-swept, snow covered cornfield, it does get mundane after a while. Weeks upon weeks of snow and ice and gray and gloom play havoc with one's serenity; we are cooped up in our houses getting cabin fever, and we need something "good" to look at out our windows. Often, when people landscape their yards, winter seasonal interest is ignored, and I believe that this is when it is most needed. Here are a few suggestions for plantings that may help liven up the winter blahs.

Everyone knows evergreens add a lot to winter scenery – and they come in so many shades of green and blue. But the ones that really shine are the yellow conifers. In the winter, their color is so much more intense than in the summer. Even on overcast days they are beautiful, and when we do get peeks of sun shining through our cloudy season, they shimmer. ***Chamaecyparis obtusa 'Nana Aurea'***, ***Chamaecyparis pisifera 'Filifera Aurea'*** and ***Pinus mugo 'Aurea'*** are three varieties of gold foliaged evergreens that I have been enjoying at the gardens all winter. A bonus in using evergreens in your landscape is wildlife also appreciates them for protection from the weather and predators.

Broadleaf evergreens add different textures to the landscape in all seasons. Boxwood and Holly are two favorites in our areas, with holly having the added benefit of bright red berries in winter.

As for deciduous plants, winter interest can be added by bark, branching structure, twig color, berries and even blooms. Yes, blooms. But I'll get to those in a minute. First, **bark**: who hasn't admired a grove or grouping of white birch trees? And Paperbark Maple, ***Acer griseum***, has gorgeous shiny cinnamon-brown bark, a perfect foil for frosty white snow. Beech trees, with their gray, elephant skin-like bark that often is covered by leaves in the summer, can now show off the beautiful texture of their trunk and branches. And speaking of **branches**, the twisted branches of Contorted Filbert, ***Corylus avellana***, are a perfect perch for a small flock of birds waiting patiently for you to fill their feeder. This is a photo opportunity waiting to be taken advantage of. Redtwig dogwoods, ***Cornus stolonifera***, ***C. sericea***, and ***C. sanguinea***, offer a splash of color in what may be an otherwise monochromatic scene. They come in so many color variations that it is difficult to choose a favorite. 'Bud's Yellow' is bright yellow, 'Winter Flame' is yellow, orange and red, 'Cardinal' is coral in fall and deep, cherry red in winter, and 'Arctic Fire' is dark red.

**Fruits and Berries** can add quite a bit of color, too. With hundreds of crabapples (***Malus spp.***) in the trade, there is a wide range of sizes, shapes and fruit

colors – a crabapple for every need. Many people are not pleased with the "mess" crabapple fruits make when they fall, but quite a few newer varieties have smaller crabapples that stay on the tree all winter, and only fall in the spring when the new flowers and foliage start pushing. Crabapple fruit can be dark red, bright red, orange, blush and yellow. Hawthorns, (***Crataegus spp.***), also are very fruitful with bright red or orange berries. Robins love to visit them in the spring – and they get a little "happy" as the fruit ferments on the tree. Other fall/winter fruiting plants include Viburnum (so many cultivars!), Deciduous Holly (***Ilex verticillata***), Rugosa roses, Cotoneaster, Barberry and Coral Berry/Snowberry (***Symphoricarpos spp.***).

Now for some plants that will grace your garden with late winter and early spring blooms. One of the best shrubs for our area is the witch hazel. There are several kinds of witch hazel, and some do better than others in our zone. Spike Winter Hazel (***Corylopsis spicata***) is somewhat hardy in our area – I've read both zones 5 and 6. I would place it in a protected area with rich soil and a bit of shade. It has yellow flowers, blooms mid to late April, and grows 4-6' tall. Chinese Witch Hazel (***Hamamelis mollis***) is a large shrub or a small tree, 10-15' tall. It has yellow, fragrant, strap-petaled flowers in Feb/March. Hybrid Witch Hazels (***H. x intermedia***) offer the largest selection of flower color, from pale to bright yellow, orange, copper and red. They bloom in March and the shrub can range in height from 6-20' tall, depending on the cultivar. The Vernal Witch Hazel (***H. vernalis***) grows to 8' tall and blooms as early as Jan/Feb, if we have a warm spell, and persists into March or early April. The flowers are typically bright yellow to dull orange, and fragrant.

The Cornelian Cherry (***Cornus mas***) is a 15-20' dogwood shrub or small tree that has an early bloom time. In late March/early April it produces small yellow flowers in numerous rounded clusters. This display shows up best against a darker background.

Quince (***Chaenomeles spp.***) and Fragrant or Clove Current (***Ribes odorata***) are two more spring blooming plants. Quince shrubs bloom in April in colors of pinks, salmons, reds and whites. Fragrant Current blooms a bit later, has bright yellow flowers and smells like cloves. I have this by my back door, and I am always amazed at its wonderful scent.

And don't forget the perennials. The main perennial that is known for its winter flower is the Hellebore (Helleborus spp.), with most species blooming between December and March. Pasque Flower (***Pulsatilla vulgaris***), blooming purple or white in April and Snowcap Arabis

(*Arbis alpina* 'Snowcap'), flowering in late March and April, are the two earliest blooming perennials we have in our gardens. It is such a delight each spring to walk to the perennial beds to rediscover these plants performing amongst the "sticks" of last years plants. And remember the bulbs! Earlier than crocus, Spring Snowdrops (*Galanthus nivalis*) with white flowers in January through March, depending on the season, and

Winter Aconite (*Eranthus hyemalis*), having buttercup yellow blooms in Feb/March, will bloom through late spring snows. What a great Harbinger of Spring. So don't under estimate the little guys when designing your winter landscape.

Be Prepared for Next Winter by Planting for it Now!!!

## Trellis Gallery Exhibit

Starting off the 2008 season in the Trellis Gallery will be an exhibit featuring the Quilting talents of Amy Reitzel. Amy participates in shows such as: the American Quilting Society Expo, Kaleidoscope of Quilts (Sylvania), Monroe Co. Fair, and the Michigan State Fair and has received numerous "Best in Show" awards and first place honors. She will be doing a live demonstration on both Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup>. Also in May, Woodmore High School will feature its top students in an exhibit from May 12<sup>th</sup>-22. This will be followed by a showing of the works of Genoa High School students that will run from May 23<sup>rd</sup> through June 4<sup>th</sup>. Then in June we will offer a show featuring the paintings of the Toledo Tuesday Morning Painters.



## Photo Contest 2008

We will be hosting our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Photo Contest this fall. Monetary prizes will be awarded to the top photographers; 1<sup>st</sup> place \$150, 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$100, 3<sup>rd</sup> place \$75, and special Merit (up to 5 awards) \$25 each. A Directors Award of \$50, gift cards totaling \$250 for gear at Castle Photo, and numerous award ribbons will also be presented. All photos must be taken here at the gardens between September 2007 and August 31, 2008. The deadline for submitting entries will be September 1, 2008. Entry fees apply. Please visit our website for more details.

## On-line Calendar of Events

In case you have not noticed. We are posting a calendar of events on our web-site [www.schedel-gardens.org](http://www.schedel-gardens.org). Simply go to our site and click on the Calendar tab, it will lead you to the calendar, and then scroll to the month desired. This of course, is a work in progress and updates are frequent. We hope this will be a useful tool for both members and visitors.



## Bird Watching Tour

Chris Ashley, our birder and amateur naturalist has volunteered his time to lead a bird watching tour here at the gardens. We are hoping to conduct this sometime in early May to catch some of the unusual migrating birds during their journey. Please keep an eye on the web calendar for dates or call for more information.

## Did you know?

-That trees planted around your home can save as much as 30% on energy costs? They shade the house in the summer and drop leaves in the fall to let sunlight through during colder months. Strategically planted evergreens can block cold winter winds and provide habitat for wildlife.

-The tallest living tree in the world is the Mendocino Tree, a coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) located in California. When measured in 1998 it was 367.5 feet tall.

-Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants and tobacco are all members of the deadly Nightshade family (*Solanaceae*).



## Volunteer Alert

New and returning volunteers are invited to our Orientation & Luncheon in the Trellis Gallery Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 11-1:00. We look forward to getting together, conducting a little business and training, then having a nice lunch. Please RSVP via email [schedelgardens@woh.rr.com](mailto:schedelgardens@woh.rr.com) or phone (419)862-3182 no later than April 7th. If it isn't possible for you to attend, please contact us and we will go over the various bits of information and get your scheduling information. Bring a friend with Volunteer interest and please R.S.V.P.

# 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 "one day" passes.  
10% discounts on plant and gift sales.  
(fully tax deductible †)

### Bald Cypress Level -- \$150

Family membership and four passes.  
10% discounts on plant and gift sales.  
Invitation to selected Receptions.  
(fully tax deductible †)  
Family = Spouse and dependent children

### Dawn Redwood Level -- \$200

Family membership and four passes  
Invitation to Selected Receptions  
15% discounts on plant & gift sales  
(fully tax deductible †)

### Dogwood Level -- \$250

Family membership and four passes  
Invitation to Selected Receptions.  
20% discounts on plant & gift sales  
(fully tax deductible †)

### Magnolia Level\* -- \$500

Family membership and six passes.  
Invitation to Selected Receptions  
20% discounts on plant and gift shop sales.  
10% discount for a hosted social event. ††  
(\$465 is tax deductible †)

## 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†)

\* 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.

### 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.

April

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

2008

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, in order to save on printing and mailing costs, I am willing to receive my "Torii" via email.

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

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ my donation for general garden improvements

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ plant donations \$ \_\_\_\_\_ flower pots \$ \_\_\_\_\_ memorial donations

## Schedel Arboretum & Gardens

P.O. Box 81

Elmore, OH 43416-0081

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### Pruning Basics

I wanted to touch on some pruning basics that will help even the most novice of pruners to successfully prune trees and shrubs. There are some basic rules to follow when pruning and doing so will make your job much easier. You should have a good pair of sharp bypass pruners along with a sharp pruning saw. Keep in mind that the old method of pruning involved flush cuts or cutting very close to the trunk, and that this method is no longer acceptable. There is a branch collar on the underside of the branch that looks like a swollen area and directly above that is the branch bark ridge that looks wrinkled and is different from the branch to be cut or the trunk. Your cut should not cut into either of these areas but should cut outside of them at a slight angle. Any tree that we can't reach with a good ladder, we contract that type of

work out, as should you.

#### **1. Remove dead and diseased branches**

Dead branches are easy to break or cut off and look quite different from live ones. A diseased branch will have shriveled or missing bark and will look noticeably different from healthy tissue.

#### **2. Remove crossing branches**

Crossing branches if not already, will eventually touch each other and begin to wear away at each other, stressing the plant and opening it up for disease and pests. After doing this, you may not need to remove anything further after having cleaned up the tree.

#### **3. Shaping**

This is where knowledge of the tree and its natural growing habit come into play. You can't (or shouldn't) expect a tree that can

grow to fifty feet to stay twelve feet tall. If you are unsure of what your tree's habit should be, then do a search on the internet or visit the gardens and take a look at our Tree Guide. Sometimes a branch may be hanging over the house too much, possibly endangering its residents. Obviously these types of situations require different actions, but obtain advice from a trusted arborist.

The bottom line is this. Remember that your tree is a living organism that responds to pruning like you and I would to an injury. The tree immediately begins repairs to the affected area, and improper cuts or damaging actions will have detrimental effects. So before you top a tree, saw off a huge branch or aggressively prune, remember to follow some of the basic rules and educate yourself whenever you can by attending seminars, and reading horticultural materials and seeking the advice of a certified arborist.