



# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 18 ♦ ISSUE 1 ♦ WINTER 2008

## ARBORETUM POLLEN DUST

by Michael Kopicki

### *“A Short History of A Little Contribution”*

After simplifying the original rough design for the Arboretum’s front ten acres into a format that seemed most practical and attainable in 1993 (having visited the Morris Arboretum and many nurseries and municipal grounds along the way), it was time to hit the road, officially.

Accompanied by Mike Buckley (official town escort/driver, etc), and Dick Fenicchia (fellow conservation board member, former Highland Park super) I took off, for a couple days in 1994’s hot summer, headed for Lake County Ohio, home of the greatest concentration of tree nurseries in the NE.

Our primary goal was to visit Jim Zampini’s Lake County Nursery; Jim being an old crony of Dick F. from his days sojourning to Highland Park to collect seed & scions, increasing his catalog holdings. Mike, Dick and I enjoyed Jim Z’s hospitality and conversation at his annual nursery open house & summer barbeque and gratefully accepted donations for the fledging Arboretum. (A few small trees and a promise of more to follow. They did come).

*(continued on page 2)*

## BRIDGE IS DEDICATED TO BELOVED VOLUNTEERS



**T**here is now a very lovely way to travel from one side of the Webster Arboretum to the other.

In early September Joe Callan, a Webster resident who built the picturesque Lion’s Club Gazebo that is a favorite place for Arboretum visitors to rest and/or pose for pictures, put the finishing touches on a wooden footbridge that he designed.



This welcome addition provides for handicapped accessibility and is so sturdy that it will hold an entire bridal party. On October 4 it was dedicated to a Webster couple who have given so much of their time and talent to the Arboretum—the late Robert Manning and his wife, Carroll. Rob had been the prime caretaker of the Arboretum’s rose garden for many years, and Carroll has served on the boards of both the Arboretum Advisory Board and the Arboretum Association and has been instrumental in planning the Arboretum’s annual auctions.

Mark Yaeger, Commissioner of the Webster Parks and Recreation Department, said he was honored to officially dedicate this bridge to two people “who have given so much of their time, talent and treasure to the Webster Arboretum.”

“The Manning’s commitment to this town jewel is a selfless act of stewardship,” added Yaeger, “and is indicative of what it truly means to be an active member of our community. It is something for all of us to aspire to.”

Carroll Manning attended the dedication and she commented that her husband was also there in spirit.

“It’s like the fairy tale, *‘Billy Goats Gruff,’*” said Carroll Manning. “Rob is like one of the trolls who sits under the bridge taking note of everyone who crosses it.”

— Karen Boughton Siegelman

**Available mid-February: Our new website is underway.**

## POLLEN DUST

continued...

Pete Girard's Nursery was the next stop. The affable Mr. Girard graciously offered some of his azalea crosses and hardy tree hybrids (in pots) before seeing us off. Pete has since succumbed to cancer.

Our last junket was to the Holden Arboretum in Mentor and Mr. David Leach's estate in nearby Madison, OH. The Holden's chief plant propagator, Charles Tubesing, ushered us through and over the extensive grounds and plant houses, then obliged us by donating some rooted cuttings of a few rare plants, long since neglected and lost.

From there, just a few miles over to Lake Plain we came to Madison and discovered

David Leach's estate:

A Frank Lloyd Wright-like bungalow immersed in an oak glade underplanted with a remarkable assortment of rhododendrons and azaleas; a textural display I've never seen since, but something you'd expect at the home grounds of the author of *Rhododendrons of The World*. One late blooming azalea I still covet, "S.D. Coleman", a Cumberland azalea cultivar with phosphorescent burnt-orange blooms, was glowing in the heat. We spent part of a delightful afternoon in Mr. Leach's company, listening to his reminiscences with Dick F. about the early days of The International Plant Propagation Society. Interesting conversation over lemonade.

(continued on back page)

## Building Our Story...Brick by Brick

This is a tale about 167 stories written in the form of about 1500 feet of a permanently brick paved walkway in the Webster Arboretum. A cooperative venture involving individual people honoring others; a volunteer organization, (Webster Arboretum Association) doing some publicity and coordination, and the Webster Parks and Recreations Department installing the walkways. All this to help others.

Each of the 166 inscribed bricks in the walkway located in the Arboretum has a narrative of its own – a friend, a parent, a sister, a brother, a spouse honored in a permanent and public way with an engraved remembrance. The first of the 166 stories began in December 2001, when Jane Laskey bought the first brick. The most recent story was added when Anita DeWitte was recognized this fall.

The 167th account is that of the Walkway Project itself. The Walkway Project began with a concern and an idea. Lawns and loose gravel surfaces are difficult terrain for those who are physically challenged. To make the Arboretum accessible to all, a hard surface walkway was required or part of the Webster Community would be denied use of this lovely area. The thoughtfully developed plan works like this. An inscribed brick is donated at a price (\$50) which allows purchase of the inscribed brick, gravel and edging materials for the walkway. Then Parks and Rec. staff lay an additional segment of permanent walkway for the benefit of all of us, but particularly for those who are physically challenged.

To date, this program has generated about \$8,300 in gifts and resulted in the 1500 feet of walkway. Portions of the southernmost portion of the Arboretum are now available to all. The project continues. There is room for more bricks and more stories and more memories.

Those wishing to participate should call Carroll Manning (872-6665) to place their brick order. Encourage family & friends to follow this path.

— Bud Saylor

## — ARBORETUM EVENTS 2008 —

<b>March 2-9</b>	Sunday - Sunday	<b>Philadelphia Flower Show "Jazz It Up"</b>	Philadelphia, PA
<b>March 8-16</b>	Saturday - Sunday	<b>New England Spring Flower Show</b>	Boston, Mass.
<b>March 12-16</b>	Wednesday - Sunday	<b>Toronto Blooms</b>	Toronto, Ontario Canada
<b>March 13-16</b>	Thursday - Sunday	<b>GardenScape 2008 "It's A Garden Life"</b>	Monroe County Fair & Expo Center, Henrietta
<b>April 17</b>	Thursday 7PM	<b>ANNUAL MEETING including the Garden Clubs</b>	Cafetorium at Parks & Rec All welcome to attend
<b>April 26</b>	Saturday 10AM	<b>Arbor Day Ceremony (time to renew yearly \$25 membership)</b>	At the Arboretum
<b>May (TBA)</b>		<b>DAY OF CARING (replaces workday)</b>	At the Arboretum
<b>May 10</b>	Saturday 8AM-Noon	<b>Annual Plant Sale Check out our new T-shirt!</b>	At the Arboretum
<b>Months of June &amp; July</b>		<b>ROSE MONTH, featuring one of Western NY's largest collection of Old &amp; Tea Roses (best blooms June &amp; July)</b>	At the Arboretum
<b>Month of July</b>		<b>DAYLILY EXTRAVAGANZA (Not to be missed)</b>	At the Arboretum
<b>July 12</b>	Saturday 8AM-Noon	<b>Annual Daylily Sale</b>	At the Arboretum
<b>September 20 &amp; 21</b>	Saturday & Sunday	<b>FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL</b>	Kent Park and the Arboretum
<b>November 7</b>	Friday 7PM	<b>10TH ANNUAL AUCTION</b>	Webster Golf Club 440 Salt Road
<b>December 6</b>	Saturday	<b>ANNUAL HOLIDAY SALE Fresh greens, arrangements, wreaths, amaryllis and more!</b>	Parks & Recreation

## AUCTION 2007 – BEST YET!

Thanks to hard work on the part of our Chairmen Joann and Frank Genovese and their hardworking committee, we had our best year. We made just under \$8,000. The money will be used for new and replacement trees, signage, bridges, office supplies and savings, just to name a few needs. We are grateful to all of our volunteers who give so much of their thoughts, time and monetary donations to the success of the Auction. George Riehle, Tony Hubbard, Jo Thomson, Mary Ellen Oakes, Polly Ashley, John Stuart, Carole Huther, Anne Bardusch, Dolly Kujawa, Mary Kujawa, Toni Howe, Doug Pucci to name a few. Of course, grateful thanks to our Master of Ceremonies, Mark Yaeger, and our lovely redhead Auctioneer, Carol Ritter Wright.

**A HUGE thank you to Joann G. we couldn't do it without her!**  
— Carroll Manning

**Mark your calendar and join us Friday, November 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Webster Golf Club!**

### Upcoming Parks & Recreation Programs —

#### \*Meet the Arboretum\* (Program #164)

Tuesday, May 13, from 10:00-10:45 am. FREE!

Children 3 to 5 years old, accompanied by an adult, are invited to take a guided walking tour of the gardens, ponds and trails of the Arboretum.

#### \*Romance in the Park\* (Program #550)

Friday, May 30, from 7:30-10:00 pm. for those 21 years of age and older.

Raindate is scheduled for Friday, June 13. Cost: \$10 per person.

Participants will be treated to a candlelit table with wine, hors d'oeuvres and dessert while a strolling musician sets the mood. At 8:30 pm. the classic movie, *Casablanca*, will be shown on an outdoor screen.

Every spring *The Landmark Society of Western NY* invites all members to a free tour of an historic city neighborhood, village or town. This year Webster was chosen and the date is **May 4, 2:00-4:00 pm.** The former Grange Hall on Main St., the Baptist Church on South Ave., Joan and Mike Sassone's home on Dunning Ave., the Webster Museum on Lapham Pk., and the Webster Arboretum on Schlegel Rd., will all be open for the members to tour.



## “RAMBLIN’ ROSE”

My neighbor, Peggy, lovingly tends her small garden on Klem Road—perhaps you’ve seen it. This past fall I was impressed with the late blooming precious pink rose bushes in her garden, which looked so pretty alongside late blooming blue delphinium that she grew from seed. And earlier in the season they were flanked by Shasta daisies and pink Echinacea.

I’m planning on acquiring a couple of these same rose bushes for the re-landscaping project in front of my house, hoping that they need less care than the existing shrubs. Peggy told me the rose’s name is *Bonica* and it is an “old” variety. I’m sure you rose gardeners know lots more about this rose than I do, but I’m impressed with its compactness, pretty bloom and its everblooming quality.

The dedication of the new bridge in Rob’s and my honor was lovely in October—thank you to many donors and supporters, as well as proceeds from the Auction. The event was skillfully executed by Joann Genovese and her helpers! The bridge certainly does what we had hoped for in that it beckons people to travel further back into the Arboretum. A few Sundays ago I enjoyed seeing a little girl running back and forth on it—gleefully teasing her parents!

The new walks are almost completed, and the tiny gravel stone surface makes them more pedestrian friendly. As one wanders these paths you can see that lilacs and azaleas on either side of the pond are increasingly planted in garden groups, which are more pleasing to the eye and easier to maintain for the lawnmowers.

Also, thanks to George Riehle for providing more and more readable markers that identify our trees with the Arboretum’s logo, as well as their Latin and common names. And don’t forget to see the wonderful two groves of *acer griseum* (paperbark maples) with their reddish exfoliating bark. Michael Kopicki says this is a unique stand with two groves of these beauties.

Currently the *Ilex verticillata* (serpentine hedge), located on the west side, is capped with brilliant red berries. And the crabapples along the roadway are a lovely subtle fading red-wood for birds. Although we are in the midst of winter, remember to put the April daffodils on your “must see” list—a Cindy Kindle planting that is sensational.

And apologies to Jack Petz for forgetting to thank him for the super photos of the gorgeous tree peonies that he supplied us for the Summer newsletter. Thanks Jack!

— by Carroll Manning, as “Rose”



## GARDENING Q&A?

**What can I use on blackspot spores?** When you get the beds clean you can spray with Pentathalon, Mancozeb or Manzate.

These are all the same product. What they do is KILL blackspot spores. They need to be applied every 3 days for 3 doses. The air temperature needs to be between 40 and 80 degrees. As long as the spray has time to dry on the plants it’s OK if it rains later in the day. Other fungicides such as Immunox, Banner Max, etc. are just fungus preventative and need to be sprayed at the recommended intervals. You can use the Pentathalon, etc. any time of the year as the blackspot appears. The chemical fertilizers and 1/2 c. of Epsom salts per plant (just in the spring) can be applied when growth appears on your plants. Some chemical fertilizers have systemic insecticides in them. I find them quite effective. Fertilizer recommendations range from every 4-6 wks. Stop these about Labor Day so they can harden off for the winter.

**Post Holiday Amaryllis Care:** If flowering now, will last for several weeks. Cut the old flowers from the stem after flowering. When the stem starts to sag, cut it to the top of the bulb. You need to allow the leaves to continue to grow well into the spring. These put food back into the bulb for next year’s flowers. Place the plant in a sunny window or move it to a cooler location with lots of light. Keep the soil slightly moist and fertilize with well balanced fertilizer at regular intervals. The bulb can be a year round houseplant or can be planted pot and all into a low light area of the garden when all danger of frost is past. Avoid placing the bulb where it will dry out. Continue to water and fertilize it as normal all summer, or at least 5-6 months. This will allow the leaves to fully develop and grow. When the leaves begin to yellow, which normally occurs in early fall, cut the leaves back to about 2 inches from the top of the bulb and remove the bulb from the soil. Due to falling temperatures the bulb should be brought into the house in September.

— Answered by Donna Shayder

## POLLEN DUST

continued...

Mr. Leach was a planet traveller, world famous author, collector extraordinaire and bosom buddy of Richard Brush, then president of Sentry Safe Co. (in East Rochester), neck deep working on creating a genetic bank of Rododendron cultivars conducted under the auspices of Holden Arboretum. Mr. Leach was in the final stage of an "enlightened beneficence", donating property and money, assuming the bank's completion, and that project taking up all his time. As a coda to our visit, he suggested I call Dick Brush: he will listen I was told. The long and short of it is, I made a call to Dick Brush when we returned and a few weeks later paid him a visit, at his Sentry headquarters accompanied by Pete Chatfield. We discussed his connection with Mr. Leach and some of his travels and informed him of our undertaking The Arboretum project in Webster; "would he be interested...?" We were sent packing after 20 minutes, but not before he had promised to send a little contribution toward our endeavor, in his eminent friend's name. A thousand dollar check was received by Donna Fauth, Webster Parks & Recreation Director, a couple of weeks later. Mr. Brush liked the idea of the Arboretum.

## Webster Arboretum Association Inc.

# Treasurer's Report, January 2008

The Webster Arboretum Association Inc., ended 2007 having completed many projects to support the arboretum and we have a healthy balance sheet as well.

### Association Fund Balances as of December 1, 2007 are:

Checking Account	\$ 5,510
Money Market Account	26,664
Rochester Community Foundation	<u>39,082</u>
	\$71,256

The top two sources of income for the association in 2007 were the annual auction which netted \$7,980 and gifts which totaled \$5,801. Over \$15,000 was spent to improve the arboretum including the new Dr. Robert and Carroll Manning Bridge, various plantings and the purchase of a tree spade for the department of parks and recreation to enable easier planting and transplanting of trees. A new allocation this year was funding for the summer conservation educational program conducted by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The association contributed \$1,960 toward the cost of that program.

We thank all of our annual members who renewed their membership in 2007 and for those of you who made other gifts or supported the annual auction so well this year.

If you have any questions about the Webster Arboretum Association finances or if you have recommendations to pass on to the board of directors please contact me at 585-265-1224.

— Tony Hubbard, Treasurer

**LOOK FOR OUR *NEW* ARBORETUM T-SHIRTS**  
*at the Annual Plant Sale, Sat. May 10th at the Arboretum!*

## **IMPORTANT REMINDER!**

TO THOSE  
WHO WALK/



**RUN THEIR DOGS AT THE ARBORETUM. PLEASE JUST TUCK A PLASTIC BAG IN YOUR POCKET AND CLEAN UP AFTER "BOWSER". THE BLUE BAG THAT ENCOMPASSES THE DAILY PAPER, IF YOU GET ONE, MAKES A HANDY RECEPTACLE. THIS THOUGHTFUL GESTURE MAKES WALKING MORE PLEASANT AND LESS HAZARDOUS FOR ALL THE NICE PEOPLE WHO COME TO ENJOY OUR LOVELY ARBORETUM, ESPECIALLY OUR CHILDREN WHO SOMETIMES DON'T WATCH WHERE THEY WALK.**

## WEBSTER ARBORETUM ASSOCIATION, INC.

Present board members of the Webster Arboretum Association, Inc. are:

George Riehle, *Chairmen*

Tony Hubbard, *Treasurer*

Polly Ashley, *Vice Chairman*

Mary Ellen Oakes, *Secretary*

*Members:* Anne Bardusch, Donna Shayder, Jim Hach, Carroll Manning,  
Carole Huther, Stephanie Lux and Bud Saylor

The board meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Ebner Drive Facility at 7 PM.

## THE WEBSTER ARBORETUM ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

**Co-editors:** Carroll Manning and Jo Thomson.

**Contributors:** Tony Hubbard, Michael Kopicki, Carroll Manning, Bud Saylor, Donna Shayder and Karen Boughton Siegelman. **Photo acknowledgement:** A belated thanks to Jack Petz for the beautiful peony photos in the 2007 July newsletter.

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