

The Garden News

University of Nebraska Lincoln Botanical Garden and Arboretum

May 2009

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From The President

Kay Logan-Peters

One of the most delightful things about a garden is the anticipation it provides. ~W.E. Johns, *The Passing Show*.

Anticipation—a word with special meaning to gardeners. Who among us doesn't peruse seed catalogs and scan the Spring Affair News plant list without feeling a surge of anticipation? UNL Garden Friends are eagerly anticipating the renovated Love and Cather Gardens, as well as a new and exciting venue for the 2010 Preview Party. However, before I anticipate further I would like to reflect on what we have accomplished in the recent past.

Our annual fundraising event, the *Spring Affair Preview Party—a Blue Ribbon Event!*, was a smashing success. This year, we hosted a record 410 people for dinner, drinks, and of course, plant shopping. In addition to the incredible array of plants, we also sold an incredible array of auction items donated by our loyal supporters. Thank you to our donors for the unique auction items and to Hope Robb for organizing the auction once again. And a big thank you is also in order for our table sponsors: Eagle Nursery, St. Elizabeth Hospital, and the St. Anthony Foundation.

Special thanks go out to our volunteers who make this event such a success year after year. In particular our thanks go to Donna Ewoldt, UNL Garden Friends Executive Board member, for her tireless efforts to make the Preview Party such a well organized event. Thanks also to Deb Arends for her creative and fun decorations. Together Donna and Deb spend hours planning and decorating, managing every detail, to make the Preview Party a unique and enjoyable event. This year we admired fabulous floral arrangements courtesy of Professor David Lambe's Advanced Floral Arranging class. These students outdid

themselves with their fantastic interpretations of our theme. Dozens of other people volunteer for the Preview Party, including the entire Garden Friends Executive Board, and I would be remiss if I didn't also mention the staff of UNL Landscape Services, State Fair Park, and the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum. Thanks to everyone!

Many of our members know that we received a generous gift from the Ken Good estate to create an endowment to support the Love and Cather Gardens. We are committed to raising an additional \$50,000 and *anticipate* that our members will help us reach our goal. We also *anticipate* a members-only garden tour this fall—the Garden of Love Tour—that will focus on recent renovations to the Love Library perennial gardens. We *anticipate* an increase in membership, we *anticipate* more members-only activities, and finally, we *anticipate* a beautiful summer courtesy of the UNL Botanical Garden and Arboretum!



Ken Good-Garden Philanthropist

Due to the generosity of Kenneth J. Good, Love Library Garden and Cather Garden will be renovated through a generous estate gift to the UNL Garden Friends, a non-profit organization established in 1993 to support the UNL Botanical Gardens and Arboretum. The "Growing Ken's Garden" project involves a base gift of \$150,000 from the Kenneth J. Good estate, with an additional \$50,000 being sought in matching grants. Funds will provide new plants, signage, seating and other garden improvements. Once the gardens are renovated, an endowment will be established to ensure a funding source for annual maintenance costs.

continued

Ken Good graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1937 with a Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Science majoring in Agronomy. He was drafted into the US Air Force during WWII, serving mainly in England. Upon his return, he enjoyed a 31-year career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service as a Soil Scientist where he quickly developed a reputation for drafting meticulous, high quality soil maps.

In his retirement years, Ken traveled extensively, but was always happiest working along side his beloved Basenji dogs in the large, flower-filled garden of peonies, daylilies and iris surrounding his family home. Ken, an active member of the Lincoln Garden Club, enjoyed opening his garden for tours on several occasions. Some of Ken's favorite plants will be incorporated into the garden renovation planned and executed by UNL Landscape Services.



**Ken Good training African soil scientists in 1962*

Persons interested in helping "Grow Ken's Garden" by providing a matching charitable gift should contact Andy Kafka, UNL Garden Friends Treasurer, 402-323-1709, PO Box 81501, Lincoln, NE 68501-1501.

** History of Nebraska Soil Survey, Nebraska Society of Professional Soil Scientists, USDA, 1999*

Thank You Matching Donors!

We would like to acknowledge the following individuals or foundations for making generous matching contributions toward the Ken Good Garden project.

Catherine Angle
 Kinder Porter Scott Family Foundation
 Hugh & Lila Aspegren Foundation
 Linda Hillegass
 Nancy Rakes
 Susan Dinsmore
 Kathryn Burden
 Walker Kennedy
 Kim Hachiya

UNL Students Create Blue Ribbon Displays

While enjoying their dinners at tables festooned with brightly colored flowers, Spring Affair Preview Party guests enjoyed some State Fair-like competition. The UNL Advanced Floral Design and Shop Management class students created 74 brightly colored floral displays for our tables, some of which were submitted for judging by Kay Logan-Peters, GF President and Eileen Bergt, UNL Landscape Services Director.

Floral categories and winning students were:



Nebraska Sunset – Sarah Haskill
 Best Use of Theme – Amanda Dennell
 Vegetable/Fruit Creation – Kristen Hanson
 Designer's Choice - Stacie Velehradsky & Amanda Cayler

UNL Professor Dave Lambe and Interior Designer, Deb Arends of Arends Interiors, worked with the **following students** to create a real-life design and installation experience for their future work portfolios. This project fulfills one important Garden Friends goal: to promote the UNL Botanical Gardens as a teaching resource. These students earned class credit as well as helped raise funds to beautify the UNL Botanical Gardens and Arboretum for all students, staff and visitors to enjoy. Thank you students!



Some of the floral students



Jazz in June Tours

June 2nd

Eileen Bergt and Amy Alderman from Landscape Services will give a tour and scavenger hunt of Love Garden, the

large perennial display gardens at the entrance to City Campus. They will discuss plants that are in bloom at this time along with their uses. The tour and scavenger hunt will be for the children and their parents.

June 9th

Emily Casper from Landscape Services will give a tour highlighting low maintenance shrubs that have less water requirements and are drought tolerant. These types of plants are great additions to a “green” home landscape.

June 16th

Karen Janovy from the Sheldon Museum of Art will give a tour of the Sheldon outdoor Sculpture Garden.

June 23rd

Mark J Awakuni-Swetland a UNL Assistant Professor of Anthropology & Ethnic Studies (Native American Studies) will stroll through campus and tell how local plants were used by Native Americans and early Nebraska pioneers for food, fiber, medicine, and more.

June 30th

Kirby Baird and Fred Thorne from Landscape Services will discuss how to be water wise when irrigating your turf. They will also talk about ways to have a sustainable landscape.

Kelaidis Wows Garden Friends at Annual Meeting

By: Bob Bleicher, Past President

Panayoti Kelaidis, Senior Curator, Denver Botanic Gardens, entertained and educated the UNL Garden Friends at their annual meeting and lecture January 11, 2009.

Mr. Kelaidis, with over 30 years of experience with xeric and alpine plants, showed a group of nearly 100 attendees an enticing array of rock garden and drought-tolerant plants that would perform well in any south or west-facing garden in Nebraska.

His images took us from Denver, to the Himalayas, to South Africa, and the Andes in a beautiful panorama of plants, both in their native climes as well as in the Denver Botanic garden. Bluebird Nursery is already growing many of these plants in Nebraska.

He introduced us to a plant breeding and marketing program called “Plant Select” which promotes these plants as water-wise, long blooming, and beautiful. Many in the audience were excited to try these in their own yards and to visit the Denver Botanic Gardens for more ideas in the near future.



Preview Party Silent Auction Donors

Eileen Bergt
Bluebird Nursery – Tom Hammernik
Campbell’s Nursery – Bryan Poppe
Mark Canney
Clay Capek & Susie Taylor
Down Under Pottery – Kathleen Grossman
Eagle Nurseries – Bob Bleicher
Earl May Nursery & Garden Center, 48th & Highway 2
Earl May Nursery & Garden Center, 70th & O
Donna Ewoldt
Faller Landscape – Todd Faller
Fanchon's Natural Nails - Fanchon Blythe
Catherine Griesen/Linda Helton
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Joel Sartore, Contributing Photographer
National Geographic Magazine
Seeds of Life – Blake Gipson
Roxanne Smith
Diane Snow
Stock Seeds Farm - Dave Stock
Tailored Landscapes - Jake Sittner
Urban Trail Gardens – Ron Harvey
UNL Landscape Services
Bonnie Williams & Arlene Hanna

Garden of Love Tour

Watch for this Garden Friends members only event this fall. Details to follow at a later date.



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 Botanical Gardens & Arboretum
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Bob & Stacie Bleicher	Debra & Bob Evnen *	Cheri Jensen	Catherine Newman	Betty Selby-Syslo	UNL Garden Friends above and
Raymond & Elizabeth Bloomquist	Donna & Bob Ewoldt *	Gladys Jeurink	Lorrie Nichelson	Lynn & Anne Senkbeil *	beyond membership dues.
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Current as of May 1, 2009

If you have not paid your dues as of May 1st, this will be the last newsletter you receive until you renew your membership.