



The Big Oak

The Landis Arboretum Newsletter

Lape Road

Esperance, New York

Fall 1998

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From the Garden - Patricia Rush

The Arboretum has been glorious this fall, as the green of summer gave way to the brilliant reds, yellows and russets of September and October. The mild sunny weather attracted crowds of visitors to our trails, and brought rave comments in the visitor's book.

We've had some exciting events this fall - the first Tree Badge Assistance Workshop for the Mohawk Pathways Council of Girl Scouts was held on Sunday, October 25, attended by 34 Scouts and their parents. The Esperance Boy Scout troop camped out under the Great Oak on a recent weekend and did wonderful work on the Woodland Trail.

A group of trustees and members of the Webster Arboretum, near Rochester, visited with us and toured the Arboretum; they are just developing their arboretum, in an old apple orchard, and wanted to learn from us. We had a great day with them.

Long Range Planning

A really significant event occurred with the formation of the Strategic Planning Committee of the Board, chaired by Trustee **Ken Wing**. Landis was visited by Dr. Donald Rakow, Director of Cornell Plantations, who toured the Arboretum with the Committee and spoke to the group on planning efforts at Cornell Plantations. As a follow-up to this initial meeting, the Board of Trustees is holding a retreat on November 7 to "revisit" the mission statement adopted

in 1996, and to develop a vision statement about the Arboretum's future.

Volunteer Recognition

Trustee **Carol Wock** has been awarded the Distinguished Service Award for her many years of service to Landis Arboretum, as treasurer, as Board President, as co-chair of the highly successful plant sales. Carol has been faithful to her commitment to the Arboretum during some difficult transitional years; we are very lucky to have her. At the Volunteer Recognition Breakfast on October 3, **Peter Rumora** and **Ron Neadle** were honored for their years of service. Thanks, Peter and Ron, for your loyalty and hard work.

Gifts and Grants

Landis has received a \$2,900 grant from DEC to support the purchase of interpretive signage for our 100 top trees, and for the development of a brochure.

William Vetter has given us a beautiful cedar garden bench in memory of his grandmother, Anna Zinglae Abramo. Thank you very much, Bill.

And thank you, as well, to **Alan Bugbee** for another group of engraved plastic identification signs.

Continued on page 2 >

