PLANTS SALE SUCCESS: $49,296 BROUGHT IN!

The Arnold Arboretum Plant Sale is the “Rite of Fall.”

On Sunday, September 17, more than 2,000 people came to the Case Estates to take home some of the thousands of unusual plants sold to benefit the Arnold Arboretum. By 8 a.m. a line wound round the Barn. Inside the Barn, sponsors were thanked for their generosity with a continental breakfast and Preview Purchase Privilege prior to the opening of the main doors. During the course of the day, hundreds of plants were “checked” by 350 shoppers in the “Plant Sitting” service, 900 riders rode the shuttle bus from the parking areas to the sale, and a record 74 new members joined the Friends of the Arnold Arboretum.

The Silent Auction and Straight Sales areas, organized by the 25 Arnold Arboretum Associates, contained donations from 100 nurseries and 30 individuals, including plants from China and California as well as New England. The nearly 1,700 plants assembled by Auction hunter Ellen McFarland and her team produced a premier selection of 43 candidates for the Rare and Unusual Auction, the climax of the day.

Staff auctioneers Jim Allen, Gary Koller, and Dave Michener maintained a brisk pace to help the “Rare” raise a record high of $9,218. Allen Haskell of New Bedford, Massachusetts was the day’s top bidder, donating $1,000 for a double-flowered Hosta. An Acer triflorum at $525 brought the next highest figure.

Proceeds from Straight Sales and the Silent and Rare Auctions help support special staff projects through competitive proposals to the Arnold Arboretum Associates.

As 1989’s Plant Sale ended, plans and plants were readied for 1990. Next year look for greatly increased space and improved lighting and signage in the general plant sales area, more special parking areas, and additional use of paved parking lots. And of course More Plants.

To whet appetites in advance, the staff and volunteers at the Case Estates will sponsor a Seasonal Plant Table each Monday morning during the growing season (call 894-0208 for details) from 9 a.m. to noon and on a “self-service” basis throughout the week. It’s all aimed at encouraging more people to join our “growing obsession” with plants.
Arnold Arboretum Symposium

WINTER LANDSCAPES:
THE UNEXPLORED SEASON

The fourth season of the year is the ultimate test of the success of a garden. Encouraging the experienced gardener to greater achievements, the Arnold Arboretum has organized a special symposium for landscape architects, designers, and gardeners who want to increase the delights of the garden in winter. Participating in the symposium:

Patrick Chassé teaches design at the Radcliffe Seminars, the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and the Arnold Arboretum. He also maintains an active landscape architecture practice in Northeast Harbor, Maine. He is director of the Maine Citizens for Historic Preservation and an advisor to The Garden Conservancy. Recognizing the importance of detail in the winter landscape, he will speak on courtyard and entrance gardens in “A Space for All Seasons.”

Peter Del Tredici, Editor of Arnoldia and a self-confessed conifer addict, will discuss the ecology, physiological adaptation to cold, and cultural requirements of both broadleaved and needled evergreens in “Evergreens: Winter’s Star Performers.”

Susan Dumaine is a gardener-designer who plans for four-season pleasure in her own sizeable garden in suburban Boston. Long known for her broad understanding of woodland gardening, as well as her work with the New England Wild Flower Garden, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and the Arnold Arboretum, she is well fitted to explore the topic of “Hardy Flowers in Late Winter and Beyond.”

John Elsley combines his study of botany and horticulture with his enthusiasm as a home gardener in his work as Horticultural Director of Wayside Gardens. Formerly Curator of Hardy Plants at the Missouri Botanical Garden, he will survey “Trees and Shrubs for the Multi-Season Garden.”

Michael Van Valkenberg, known for his innovative and award-winning designs, is also a professor at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design and co-author of Gertrude Jekyll: A Vision of Garden and Wood. He emphasizes the sculptural qualities of winter in “The Transparent Landscape.”

The symposium will be held at the New York Botanical Garden on Thursday, March 1; in Jamaica Plain for the Arnold Arboretum at the Alfred L. Frechette Conference Center of the State Laboratory of Massachusetts on Friday, March 2; and at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Illinois, on Saturday, March 3. Special winter garden workshops are also scheduled for the three locations.

For further information or to request a brochure call (617) 524-1718...
NEW DIRECTIONS FOR THE HARVARD FOREST

The Harvard Forest of Harvard University, located in Petersham, Massachusetts, has recently been designated a Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) site by the National Science Foundation. Harvard University has been awarded a grant of $2.4 million for six years in support of the operation and development of the site in Petersham. Harvard Forest joins an existing network of 17 LTER sites around the United States for the study of large-scale, long-term changes in ecosystems.

The LTER-funded research at the Harvard Forest will focus on major problems confronting land utilization caused by natural catastrophes as well as man-made environmental problems. Initial phases of the study involve the installation of new computer facilities at the Harvard Forest, overflights of the Petersham area by NASA aircraft, and construction of a new Environmental Monitoring Station in a remote part of the Harvard Forest.

The project will involve faculty of several departments of Harvard University including the Departments of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences and the Department of Landscape Architecture of the Graduate School of Design. The research effort will be coordinated by Professors J. G. Torrey and D. R. Foster. Close cooperation through the Program in Forest Microbiology will continue with the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies of Yale University, with support of the A. W. Mellon Foundation of New York.

On September 14, 1989, ownership of the Harvard Black Rock Forest was officially transferred from the Harvard Forest to the Golden Family Foundation of New York City. The sale culminates years of uncertainty and controversy about the future of the woodland. According to the settlement that was reached, the Golden Family Foundation purchased the land for $400,000, which Harvard agreed to turn over to an endowment that will be used to defray forest maintenance expenses. The original Black Rock Forest endowment will be transferred to the Harvard Forest in Petersham.

In November of this year, the Golden Family Foundation officially transferred ownership of the woodlands to the Black Rock Forest Preserve, a non-profit group that will manage the woods. "The land is going to be absolutely restricted from any possible commercial use and will be used only for educational and scientific purposes," said William Golden, who heads the Foundation.

Arnoldia Search

The North Carolina Arboretum is seeking the following issues of *Arnoldia*. Please contact Clara Curtis, The North Carolina Arboretum, Route 3, Box 1249-B, Asheville, NC 28806, (704) 665-2492 if you have available copies.
1930, all (Bulletin of Popular Information)
1936, no. 1 and no. 2 (Bulletin of Popular Information)
1984, fall (vol. 44, no. 4)
1985, spring (vol. 45, no. 2)
NEW FACES AT THE ARBORETUM

During the long life of the Arnold Arboretum, the living collections have grown to include a wide variety of plant material, both native and exotic. In the same way, the staff have come together from many different backgrounds. One recent addition is Richard Schulhof, who has a Putnam Fellowship for a year’s work related to the Living Collections. Two others are Kendra Sikes and Kevin Burgess, who stayed on after their summer internships in the Horticultural Training Program were completed.

Richard is working at two separate but closely related tasks. Half his time is spent entering plants on the computerized mapping system in the Plant Records office, and the other half on working out a master plan for the Living Collections. A California native and University of California graduate, he attended the Longwood Graduate Program in Public Garden Administration before coming to the Arnold Arboretum.

Kendra Sikes, also a California native, received her B. A. in Biology from Brown University in Providence, R.I., where she learned of the internship opportunity at the Arnold Arboretum. She began an internship in grounds maintenance in April, 1989. In September, she began to work in the Greenhouse.

Kevin Burgess came to the Arnold Arboretum from Nova Scotia, Canada, in April, 1989. In Canada he worked for several years in the nursery business under the guidance of a well known plantsman, Capt. R. M. Steele. He studied at the University of Guelph, Ontario, and at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, where he earned a diploma in Plant Science.

He is interested in mapping and labelling, so he began his internship in that area. Since a position became available in the Plant Records office in September, when Ethan Johnson, Curatorial Assistant, moved to the Holden Arboretum in Mentor, Ohio, he has continued his work, using the Arboretum’s new state-of-the-art computerized plant records system. He says, “Even in this short time I feel that the spirit of the Arboretum has entered me, and that I will leave the Arboretum enriched, having been, like its trees, collected from afar and brought to the Arnold Arboretum to grow.”

SEEING THE WOODS AND THE TREES IN FOUR SEASONS: Our new postcard series

The Bookstore has introduced a new line of 25 postcard images of the Living Collections from the people who know it best, the Arboretum’s own volunteers and staff, to provide a colorful sampling of the grounds at all seasons of the year. Individual cards are 50c with a special purchase available of the full set of 25 by sending a check for $10 to: Arboretum Bookstore, Postcards, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130