

THE BOTANICAL THYMES

COASTAL MAINE BOTANICAL GARDENS NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2010



On with the Show!

There's Plenty to See and Do, Starting Right Now

You might not realize it yet, but this is the issue you've been waiting for! It's full to the brim with information to help you plan this season's visits to the Gardens. Our centerfold is the calendar of dozens of exciting happenings, including the July 8 grand opening of the Bibby and Harold Alfond Children's Garden. We look forward to seeing you there and hope you'll return often!

In this issue, you'll also learn about our super-green plans for a new building project. We're profiling donors and introducing membership options. Would you like to volunteer? We've got some ideas. And, as always, there's useful and intriguing horticulture information.

Our wonderful Kitchen Garden Café and Gardens Gift Shop are now open to satisfy your tastebuds and shopping desires. As if you don't already have enough reasons to visit, and soon, here's one of the best: Thousands upon thousands of spring flowers are in bloom. Wait till you see the show! ♡BHF

Above: This view of the Bibby and Harold Alfond Children's Garden is just a teaser. The July 8 grand opening will be the start of a weekend of excitement, learning, and fun.

PHOTO MONTAGE BY WILLIAM CULLINA



HIGHEST RATING!

Good News for the Gardens... and Our Donors

The respected resource Charity Navigator has just awarded Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens its highest, four-star rating. This indicates to potential donors that the Gardens is being run responsibly and resourcefully, has low administrative costs, and uses an



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THIS ISSUE IS SPONSORED BY:

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“You Must Do Something to Make the World More Beautiful...”

These words will welcome visitors to our exciting Bibby and Harold Alford Children's Garden when it opens this summer. In *Miss Rumphius* by Maine author Barbara Cooney, this is what the grandfather of a young Miss Rumphius tells her. The words inspire her to grow up and sow lupine seeds throughout Maine to make her part of the world more beautiful.

Our dream is that the Children's Garden will inspire tens of thousands of children to cherish and learn about the endlessly fascinating world of plants, gardens, and nature. We hope children who “grow up in this garden” become the kind of adults that make their world more beautiful and then inspire their children to do so.

The Harold Alford Foundation has indeed helped make the world more beautiful with its generous \$1.5 million grant to the Gardens. These funds, along with contributions by a number of other donors, enabled us to create a remarkable two-acre children's garden that's filled with beauty and educational opportunities.

Special thanks to the Gardens' boards; the many designers, builders, and artists; and Gardens staff and volunteers who have put their expertise, heart, and talents into every aspect of this garden.

Please join us to celebrate the Grand Opening of the Children's Garden on July 8. Admission is free for everyone that day. Activities and entertainment start at 9:00 a.m. with dedication remarks scheduled for 10:30. Then, after a festive parade, led by Miss Rumphius and other literary characters, we'll cut the ribbon and invite everyone to experience and enjoy this wonderful new garden. It will be a fun, memorable, and historic day for the Gardens.



All best wishes,
Maureen Heffernan
Executive Director

Mission Statement: To grow a living legacy of gardens and to conserve natural landscapes that will inspire all ages to study and appreciate plants and gardens and to conserve and treasure Maine's coastal and natural landscapes.

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Richard B. Zieg, Horticulturist
Justin Nichols, Horticulturist
Bruce McElroy, Grounds Manager
Sharmon Provan, Plant Records Coordinator

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Emily Ellingson, Environmental Education Intern
Frank Merrill, Seasonal Buildings & Grounds Assistant

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Visitor Services: **Elaine Harlow**, **Tim McFadden**,
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Gaye Wagner, **Suzi Whittemore**

Contact Us

Phone: (207) 633-4333

Fax: (207) 633-2366

Web: www.MaineGardens.org

E-mail: info@mainegardens.org

Location: Bartons Island Road,
Boothbay

Mailing: P.O. Box 234
Boothbay, ME 04537



An Awards Update

Thank you for voting for the Gardens!

First, we want to offer kudos to all of you who are Maine residents and heeded our call for votes in the Bangor Savings Bank's Community Matters More initiative. Because we had so many votes—and write-in votes at that—the Gardens has received a \$1,000 donation. Thanks so much to all who helped us win this award!

Now for the kudos received by the Gardens. In April, soon after we received the Governor's Tourism Award for Innovation and Creativity (announced in the last issue), the Gardens won the Casco Bay Award from the Convention & Visitors Bureau of Greater Portland. This honor is given to the attraction that best promotes the Greater Portland area as a vibrant destination that charms visitors and entices meetings and conventions to come to the area.

More good news. Two of the winners of this year's American Horticultural Society's Great American Gardeners Awards have strong connections to the Gardens. Our own director of horticulture and plant curator, William Cullina, a well-known author, photographer, and speaker, as well as a recognized authority on North American native plants, received the B.Y. Morrison Communications award. This honor recognizes effective and inspirational communication that advances public interest and participation in horticulture. Landscape architect Bruce John Riddell, whose firm LandArt is in Bar Harbor, has been instrumental in creating many of our gardens over the past decade. We congratulate him on winning this year's Landscape Design Award from AHS, based in part on his work at the Gardens.

SPONSOR PROFILE: **BATH SAVINGS INSTITUTION**

When You're Here, You're Home

There's nothing like a home in Maine, and a bank that makes you feel at home. Bath Savings Institution is a Maine-based mutual savings bank, proud to be managed and controlled locally.

Their commitment to exceptional service, strength and stability enables them to continue to grow and invest in the local economy to help keep our hometowns strong. The bank offers a full range of financial services, for individuals, businesses and organizations—and if you have a question, there are Maine people on the phone and in every office, ready to answer it. With convenient hours and drive-thru ATMs at all locations, it's easy to visit any of their coastal offices in Bath, Boothbay Harbor, Brunswick, Damariscotta, Falmouth, Freeport, Portland and Yarmouth, or their website: www.bathsavings.com. Member FDIC, Equal Housing Lender

**Bath
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Since 1852

A Year of Excitement and Challenge

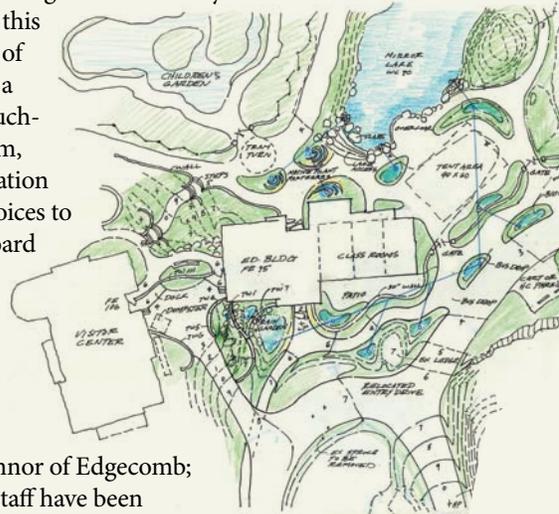
BY JOHN R. GILES, PRESIDENT

Each year since 2004, when the new entrance road was constructed and the Kulp Horticulture Building was built, has brought excitement and amazing progress to the Gardens; but in many ways this year promises to be the most exciting as the final major piece of the master plan is put into place! The Bibby and Harold Alford Children's Garden, along with innovative educational and reading programs related to it, will draw thousands of new visitors to the Gardens. They'll delight in what they see and learn!

Also taking place this year will be the Board of Directors' selection of a design for the new, much-needed LEED Platinum, net-zero-energy Education Center. The design choices to be presented to the Board will be the result of meetings facilitated by Fore Solutions of Portland, Maine.

The Education Center Building Committee, chaired by Dick O'Connor of Edgecomb; board members; and staff have been actively involved in the interesting process of selecting and working with the design team.

In addition, the organization is focused on ensuring its financial security. This involves building our endowment and meeting the challenge of making 2010 the year the Gardens' operational income from all sources will increase sufficiently to cover our operational expenses. I am optimistic that this goal can be achieved. What an exciting accomplishment it would be for this young organization to meet this challenge in the year 2010—in just our fourth year of operation!



Gardens Gets 4-Star Rating

◀ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

impressive percentage of contributions to further the Gardens' mission. This "Exceptional" designation from Charity Navigator differentiates the Gardens from its peers and demonstrates to the public that it is worthy of their trust.

Charity Navigator, America's premier independent charity evaluator, rates the financial health of more than 5,500 of America's largest charities. Its goal is to advance a more efficient and responsive philanthropic marketplace. To learn more, visit www.charitynavigator.com.



Will Bridges and Emily Ellingson spread mulch in the Rose & Perennial Garden. PHOTO BY WILLIAM CULLINA

Of Mulch and Men

BY WILLIAM CULLINA, PLANT AND GARDEN COORDINATOR

Spreading mulch is tiring and not very glamorous, but it is hands down the most important part of our organic program here at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. You have undoubtedly heard that mulch suppresses weeds, moderates the temperature of the soil in summer and winter, lessens evaporation of water, and, as it decomposes, improves soil structure and increases soil fertility. However, all mulch is not created equal and, unfortunately, much of what is now proffered through mass-merchandisers does more harm than good. The colored mulches that have become standard in the last few years are simply ground wood from construction wastes and forestry that are dyed to simulate various barks such as cedar, pine, and cypress. In this short space I do not have room to explain why, but suffice it to say that it is best to avoid these mulches in favor of a truly composted bark-based product.

Last year we began using a blended mulch (half compost and half composted softwood bark) called Nutrimulch, which is produced by New England Organics in Unity, Maine. Nutrimulch is very nutrient rich, so in addition to providing all the benefits listed above, it fertilizes the plants slowly and completely over the course of the year. The results last year were quite extraordinary, and this year we are spreading approximately 550 cubic yards in a layer one-to-two-inches thick over all our ornamental plantings.

For more information, visit the horticulture page on our website or stop by to pick up a one-page fact sheet. We try to get all of our mulching done in the two-to-three-week window between snowmelt and the widespread emergence of perennial flowers. This makes the process much quicker and gets the nutrients to the plants at the ideal time of year.

We Want You... AND Your Auction Items

You'll love the Down Home at the Gardens party and auction on Sunday, August 22. The feast catered by Beale Street Barbeque will be incredible; the Appalachian/Bluegrass music by Hope Hoffman and Jim Tolles will get your toes tapping; you might just learn that you've won thousands of dollars in our Go for the Green Raffle; and the auctions will have something for everyone.

Yes, that's auctions in the plural. Our silent auction will include as many as 100 items in a wide range of values. Then, to add to the after-dinner fun and excitement, auctioneer Bruce Gammage of Rockport will wield his gavel to sell a dozen or so specially selected items.

Success Depends on You!

By all means, purchase your tickets soon for "Down Home," but we also need your help. The organizers of this annual fundraiser, including event overseer Claire Hunt and raffle chair Larry Townley, ask you to pitch in and provide the kinds of wonderful items, artwork, experiences, vacations...what have you, that will appeal to bidders. Please ask friends and business owners you know to donate; and, while you're at it, why not take a look around your home to see if there's something just right for the occasion? Remember, donations to the auctions are tax deductible, and you'll be doing the Gardens a good turn.

Donors need only complete the auction form, available in the Visitor Center or by calling (207) 633-4333, and bring in the item, along with supporting information and/or photos. You can also call us if you need help transporting it. For more information, call Larry Townley at (207) 563-5535. In advance, thank you!!!

Go for the Green Raffle: Three Chances to Win Big!

Three lucky winners will take home a bushel of green this summer when we draw the winning tickets in the Go for the Green Raffle. Your chances are better than



ever this year because there are three cash prizes—\$1,000, \$2,000, and \$7,000! Only 500 raffle tickets will be sold at \$100 each.

You can either buy tickets individually or get a group together and share the winnings. To purchase your tickets, just stop by the Visitor Center or call (207) 633-4333. Good luck!

The drawing will be during the Down Home at the Gardens party on Sunday, August 22. While you don't have to be present to win, we hope you'll join in the fun at this event that features a great dinner, huge silent auction, special live auction, and music.

Calendar of Events

Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens is on Barter's Island Road in Boothbay, just over a mile from the Boothbay common. To sign up for events or for more information, stop by the Visitor Center, call (207) 633-4333, or visit www.MaineGardens.org.



SYMBOL KEY: 🕒 Time 📍 Location 💰 Cost ⓘ Note

EVENT TYPE COLOR CODE:

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 🟩 Ongoing Events | 🟦 Music at the Gardens | 🟨 Art & Exhibits |
| 🟩 Special Events | 🟧 Family Fun | 🟪 Kitchen Garden Series |
| | 🟨 Just for Kids | 🟫 Adult Educational Programs |

Because numbers are limited for some programs, pre-registration is often advised and sometimes required.

ONGOING

First Wednesdays: FREE ADMISSION

▶ Free admission for all year-round residents of Lincoln County, Maine.

Thursdays & Saturdays: GUIDED WALKS

🕒 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

📍 Meet in the Visitor Center 💰 Free

▶ Knowledgeable docents lead walking tours. No reservations are necessary.

Daily: SHUTTLE SERVICE

🕒 11 a.m.–5 p.m. 💰 Free

Daily: ACCESSIBLE CART TOURS

🕒 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

💰 \$10 for adults and \$8 for visitors with disabilities and senior citizens; Wednesdays: free with Gardens admission

📍 Reservations required

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays beg.

July 8: STORYTIME IN THE GARDEN

🕒 10:30–11:30 a.m. 📍 Meet in the

Children's Garden Story Barn

💰 Free with Gardens admission

▶ In the magical setting of the Children's Garden, all ages are invited to join our storytellers for exciting themes that connect us to nature, gardening, Maine literature, and love for the outdoors.

BOOTHBAY COUNTRY CLUB STAY & PLAY VOUCHER

▶ With eighteen championship holes, Boothbay Country Club, just minutes from downtown, is the perfect Maine golf course: breathtaking vistas, challenging holes... and a sea breeze. Although the course is normally only open to its members, the Gardens has made a special arrangement so that our visitors may also play at our hometown course. Advance reservations are required; call the course directly at 207-633-6085. Mention code BOT2010.

Through Monday, May 31: ART EXHIBIT: "LOCAL COLOR I: GARDENS & FLOWERS"

🕒 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. daily

📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center

💰 Free with Gardens admission

▶ The focus will be on flowers and gardens in this art show featuring paintings by seven of Maine's finest artists: Kathleen Billis; Mitch Billis; Pam Creamer, Monique Parry; Andrea Peters; Joan Plummer; and Helen St. Clair. Join us at the reception to meet the artists and see—and perhaps purchase—their work. As in all our exhibits, sales benefit the Gardens.

Through Sunday, July 4: ART EXHIBIT: BENCHES: A SEAT IN THE GARDEN

🕒 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. daily

📍 Throughout Gardens

💰 Free with Gardens admission

▶ You'll want to take a turn on each of the benches in this exhibit of seating in a variety of materials and styles by New England artisans. All the pieces will be for sale, with proceeds benefiting the Gardens.

Saturday, May 15: CELEBRATE SPRING WITH WILDFLOWERS

🕒 10:00–11:30 a.m. 📍 Meet in Visitor Center

💰 \$7 members, \$10 non-members—per child or adult (includes plants & materials)

▶ Maine wildflowers have fascinating stories to tell! In this program for all ages, learn some of their secrets, see them emerging in the woods, and pot up some seedlings to start your own beautiful wildflower garden.

Saturday & Sunday, May 22 & 23: NATIVE PLANT SALE

🕒 9:00–4:00 Saturday (members only Saturday a.m.); 9:00 until sold out on Sunday

📍 Fir Parking Lot 💰 Free

▶ This is the perfect time and place to purchase hardy, robust, and in some cases rare, woodland wildflowers, sun-loving perennials, woody perennials, and other plants that thrive in New England—all selected by Director of Horticulture and Plant Curator William Cullina. Join Bill for a free demonstration at 11:00 a.m. Saturday.



Tuesday, June 1–Saturday, July 17:

ART EXHIBIT: "ROBERT MCCLOSKEY: FROM THE DRAWING BOARD TO THE PAGE"

🕒 9:00–5:00 daily

📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center 💰 Free

▶ In this extraordinary exhibit of works on loan—on public view for the first time—from the May Massee Collection at Emporia State University in Kansas, see how Robert McCloskey transformed his initial sketches for beloved children's books—Blueberries for Sal, Make Way for Ducklings, Burt Dow Deep-Water Man, One Day in Maine, and A Time of Wonder—into the final paintings and drawings for their covers and pages. You'll be charmed and delighted as you explore the making of these wonderful books. Sponsored by Bath Savings Institution.

■ Reception: Thursday, June 24, 5:00–7:00 p.m., with wine and hors d'oeuvres, free admission.

Saturday, May 22: BILL CULLINA DEMO AND TALK: "CREATING A WOODLAND GARDEN—WHEN ALL YOU HAVE ARE THE TREES"

🕒 11:00 a.m. 📍 Meet in Visitor Center

💰 Free with regular Gardens admission

▶ Using the Woodland Garden as his canvas, Director of Horticulture and Plant Curator William Cullina will offer a demo on soil preparation, fertilization, planting techniques, mulching, and selecting and caring for plants for wooded sites.

Thursday, May 27: UNDERSTANDING LADY-SLIPPER ORCHIDS

🕒 10 a.m.–noon. 📍 Meet in Visitor Center
💰 \$40 members; \$48 non-members (includes materials and plants)

Director of Horticulture and Plant Curator Bill Cullina will discuss the amazing biology and mysterious ecology of our beloved lady-slipper orchids. See the research under way on the Gardens' pink lady-slipper population, and try your hand at pollination techniques. Bill will demonstrate how to plant nursery-grown seedlings, and each participant will take home seedlings of both yellow lady-slipper and Kentucky lady-slipper.



Wednesday, June 2: GROWING EDIBLES IN CONTAINERS

🕒 9:30 a.m.–noon. 📍 Education Tent
💰 \$35 members, \$42 non-members (includes all materials)

▶ Containers are versatile, beautiful, and not just for ornamentals! Join Kerry Michaels, writer and photographer of the container gardening website www.containergardening.about.com, for a hands-on workshop. She'll discuss types of containers, design ideas, techniques, and tips for getting the most out of your container gardens. Each participant will make an herb garden in a surprisingly innovative container.



Friday–Sunday, June 4–6: ERNIE EGAN RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL

🕒 9:00–5:00 daily
📍 Giles Rhododendron & Perennial Garden
💰 Free with Gardens admission

▶ Celebrate the species Rhododendron with us with activities; free presentations by noted experts (see below); and guided tours of the Giles Rhododendron & Perennial Garden in peak bloom. Discover the world of rhodies, azaleas, mountain laurel, blueberries, and other related plants through our outstanding collection, inaugurated for the Gardens by the late Ernie Egan. A fine variety of plants will be for sale. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Speakers are:



■ **Dick Jaynes:** Friday, June 4, 10:00 a.m. Mr. Jaynes, a foremost expert on mountain laurel (*kalmia*) will be here from his Broken Arrow Nursery for an illustrated slide talk in the library.
■ **Wayne Mezitt:** Saturday, June 5, 10:00 a.m. Mr. Mezitt, a descendant of the man who developed the PJM rhododendron, will be here from his Weston Nurseries in Massachusetts to give a talk and lead a walk focusing on his favorite species. Meet at the group tour tent.
■ **Carol Yee:** Sunday, June 6, 10:00 a.m. Ms. Yee will talk about rhodie propagation. Meet at the group tour tent.

Saturday, June 26: ERGONOMIC GARDENING

🕒 10 a.m.–noon
📍 Lerner Garden of the Five Senses
💰 \$15 members, \$20 non-members

▶ Be kind to your joints and muscles. Master gardener and occupational and horticultural therapist Amy Wagenfeld will explain ergonomically sound gardening techniques and practices. Try out a variety of tools that are easy to use, and learn some strategies to help you continue gardening, no matter what your age or physical challenges.



Tuesday, June 29: SUPER SENSES

🕒 10:00–11:30 a.m.
📍 Lerner Garden of the Five Senses
💰 \$5 members, \$8 non-members (per child)
👤 For children ages 3–5

▶ We invite young children to unleash their natural curiosity, using all their senses to find and describe new sights, sounds, smells, sensations, and tastes. Then we'll exercise our super sensory powers with a creative garden craft activity.

Saturday & Sunday, July 3 & 4: PLEIN-AIR PAINTING DAYS

🕒 9:00–7:00 Saturday; 9:00–5:00 Sunday
📍 Throughout Gardens 📍 No admission charge for artists registered in advance

▶ All painters who enjoy working outdoors are invited to sign up to paint en plein air at the Gardens. Selected works will be on exhibit in the Visitor Center from July 18–25, with an artists' reception on July 19, from 5:00–7:00 p.m. To register, call (207) 633-4333.



Tuesday, July 6: CONCERT: BAROQUE & BEYOND

🕒 7:00 p.m. (Gates open at 5:30)
📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
💰 \$15 members, \$20 non-members

▶ The Maine Friends of Music, an ensemble of professional musicians who summer in Maine, will perform Baroque music on contemporary instruments. Bring a picnic and BYOB. Sponsorship opportunities are available.



Friday–Sunday, June 18–20: GARDEN FAIR: THE MAINE GARDENERS AND ARTISANS FESTIVAL

🕒 9:00–5:00 daily
📍 Throughout Gardens
💰 Free with Gardens admission

▶ You'll delight in an amazing array of merchandise by vendors from many areas of the U.S. Each day will bring new entertainment, tours, and talks, including Saturday's keynote lecture by Barbara Damrosch and Eliot Coleman—all free for visitors. See, and perhaps purchase, beautiful container gardens created by professionals and amateur gardeners, and take part in our plant swap. Garden Fair media sponsors are WHOM and Down East Magazine, Books & Online. Sponsors are Fish in the Garden, Green Thumb, Laura Cabot Catering, Penmor Lithographers, Skillins Greenhouses and Spruce Point Inn. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available.



Friday, June 18: COMMUNITY PLANT EXCHANGE

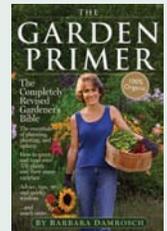
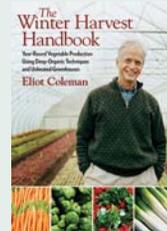
🕒 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
📍 Fir Parking Lot
💰 Free and open to the public

▶ Share your plant divisions with others, and find some others you'd like to try in your own garden. If you don't bring plants, you can still buy plants!

Saturday, June 19: BARBARA DAMROSCH AND ELIOT COLEMAN: "EATING FROM THE GARDEN YEAR-ROUND, EVEN IN MAINE"

🕒 5:00 p.m. 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
💰 Free with Gardens admission, but seating is limited. Tickets will be available in Kerr Hall at 9:00 a.m. on June 19.

▶ These legendary gardeners and authors from Four Season Farm in downeast Maine will give a presentation about the how's and why's of year-round gardening...even in Maine.



Thursday, July 8: GRAND OPENING: THE BIBBY AND HAROLD ALFOND CHILDREN'S GARDEN

🕒 Activities begin at 9:30, ceremony at 10:30
 📍 Children's Garden, Visitor Center
 💰 Free with no Gardens admission charge
 ▶ Entertainment, activities, a festive parade, the grand opening ceremony with special guests, live animals, and much more will kick off the Grand Opening weekend full of fun in the new Bibby and Harold Alfond Children's Garden. Free trolley transportation will be available from the Boothbay Region High School lot all day. Sponsored by Downeast Energy & Building Supply.



DOWNEAST ENERGY & BUILDING SUPPLY



Saturday, July 10–Monday, October 11: ART EXHIBIT: THREE-WOMAN SCULPTURE SHOW: CAROLE HANSON, SQUIDGE DAVIS, AND LISE BECU

🕒 9:00–5:00 daily 📍 Central Gardens
 💰 Free with Gardens admission
 ▶ The work of three talented sculptors will grace the Gardens grounds this summer. Carole Hanson and Lise Becu create their pieces of stone, and Squidge Davis works in unglazed ceramic. Visitors have delighted in sculpture by Davis and Becu in past years' exhibits and in the Gardens' permanent collection, and Hanson's dragon heads and whales will surely become iconic images of the children's garden.
 ■ **Reception:** Saturday, July 10, 5:00–7:00 p.m., with wine and hors d'oeuvres, free admission PLUS artists' talks that afternoon



Sunday, July 18 through Sunday, July 25: ART EXHIBIT: "PLEIN-AIR PAINTERS: ARTISTS IN THE GARDENS"

🕒 9:00–5:00 daily 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
 💰 Free with Gardens admission
 ▶ After artists enjoy a weekend of painting outdoors (en plein air) at the Gardens earlier in July, selected works will be on exhibit and for sale for a week in the Visitor Center.
 ■ **Reception:** Monday, July 19, 5:00–7:00 p.m. with wine and hors d'oeuvres, free admission.



Monday & Tuesday, July 19 & 20: BEDROCK EXPOSURE: GEOLOGY OF THE GARDENS

🕒 1:00–4:00 p.m. 📍 Meet in Visitor Center
 💰 Members: \$45; non-members \$55
 ▶ This two-session set of field walks with geologist Robert Doyle provides exposure to the fascinating rocks of the Gardens and an overview of the geological history of Maine. On Sunday, we'll examine the Lerner Garden of the Five Senses and Great Lawn, focusing on folding, faulting, and metamorphic rocks; glacially-shaped "sugarloafs" along the Birch Allée; and the Rhododendron Garden's waterfall. On the second day, we'll traverse the Haney Hillside Garden to study the Back River fault, the incredible rocks placed along the hillside and in the Meditation Garden, and numerous shoreline features. This class is for beginners and anyone interested in learning more about local geology.



Tuesday, July 20: CONCERT: THE DAPONTE STRING QUARTET: VIOLA QUINTETS WITH GUEST MARCUS THOMPSON

🕒 7:30 p.m. (Gates open at 5:30)
 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
 💰 \$25; free for under age 21
 📌 Reservations required
 ▶ Violist Marcus Thompson and members of the DaPonte String Quartet will play Beethoven's C Major Quintet and Brahms' G Major Quintet. Bring a picnic and BYOB. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Wednesday, July 21: TREE-MENDOUS TREES

🕒 2:00–3:30 p.m. 📍 Meet at the Children's Garden Activity Pavilion
 💰 \$5 members, \$8 non-members (per child)
 📌 For children ages 4–7
 ▶ What are the largest living things on earth? What makes much of the oxygen we breathe? Trees, of course! In this fun-filled program, we'll get up close and learn some surprising things about trees along wooded trails and in the treehouse in the Children's Garden. Included is a healthy snack made entirely of edibles produced by our tree-mendous friends.

Friday & Saturday, July 23 & 24: ANTIQUES IN THE GARDENS

🕒 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. 📍 Fir Parking Lot
 💰 Preview Party - \$75; Show - \$12; Show and Gardens—\$20 (All Preview Party tickets include admission to the show and gardens throughout the weekend)
 ▶ This fabulous antiques show with dozens of top dealers just keeps getting better, and the Preview Party is the party of the season—fantastic food and drink, live music, and a first chance to see and buy wonderful antiques. Our media partner is Maine Home + Design. Sponsored by Knickerbocker Group.
 ■ **Gala Preview Party:** Thursday, July 22, 5:00–8:00 p.m.



Monday, July 26–Sunday, August 15: ART EXHIBIT: BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATIONS BY LINDA HEPPES FUNK

🕒 9:00–5:00 daily
 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
 💰 Free with Gardens admission
 ▶ Linda Heppes Funk works only from live plant specimens and depicts them in pencil, drybrush watercolor, gouache, and metal-pointe drawing. She tutors private students at her Maine studio and has taught at the New York Botanical Garden; the College of the Atlantic and Farnsworth Art Museum in Maine; and at colleges and art centers in Massachusetts. Her work is exhibited widely and appears in many publications.
 ■ **Reception:** Thursday, July 29, 5:00–7:00 p.m. —wine and hors d'oeuvres; free admission.

Monday-Wednesday, July 26-28: INTRODUCTION TO NATIVE PLANT IDENTIFICATION

🕒 10:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m. each day.
 📍 Meet at the Visitor Center
 💰 \$120 members, \$140 non-members
 ▶ In this three-day course, consulting botanist Melissa Dow Cullina will introduce the wild plants of Coastal Maine. Learn basic plant anatomy and simple terminology to describe plant parts and study the major groups of plants and how they differ. We'll explore local habitats to identify some of Maine's common native plants using field guides, keys, herbarium collections, and web resources. Bring a hand lens, Newcomb's Wildflower Guide, and a bag lunch.



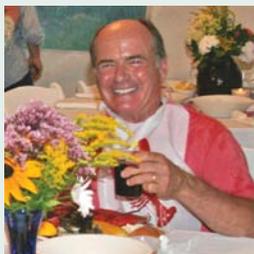
Sunday, August 22: **DOWN HOME AT THE GARDENS—DINNER & AUCTION**

🕒 5:30–8:30 p.m. 📍 Fir Parking Lot
💰 \$55 members; \$65 non-members; \$25 children 12 and under—reservations required.

▶ Down home meets down east in this party that will be festive, delicious, and fun with features galore. Feast on a buffet-style meal with hardwood-smoked St. Louis ribs, smoked sausage, pulled pork, chicken, and beans, plus accompaniments—all prepared by Beale Street Barbeque. Beverages, too (cash bar for wine and beer). Hope Hoffman and Jim Tolles will perform Appalachian/Bluegrass music.

In addition to a silent auction of as many as 100 items of every description and many price ranges, there will be a live auction of another dozen or so selected items.

This will also be the event where we'll draw the three raffle winners of \$7,000, \$2,000, and \$1,000. Only 500 raffle tickets will be sold at \$100 each; purchase tickets now!



July and August: **NATURAL KIDS**

🕒 Two-day sessions, 9:30 am–12:30 pm.

📍 Mondays & Tuesdays for ages 5-7

📍 Thursdays & Fridays for ages 8-10

📍 Children's garden and Gardens grounds

💰 Each two-day session is \$48 members; \$58 non-members

▶ Observe, investigate, and discover! These two-day sessions are designed to bring out the naturalist in any child. Our instructors are experienced in helping kids get the most from



outdoor exploration of habitats filled with life. Crafts and healthy snacks add to the fun. You can sign up for individual or multiple sessions; however, single-day enrollment is not an option. Spaces fill up quickly, so please register early. Sessions are as follows:

■ **Session 1:** July 26-27 for ages 5-7

■ **Session 2:** July 29-30 for ages 8-10

■ **Session 3:** August 2-3 for ages 5-7

■ **Session 4:** August 5-6 for ages 8-10

■ **Session 5:** August 9-10 for ages 5-7

■ **Session 6:** August 12-13 for ages 8-10

■ **Session 7:** August 16-17 for ages 5-7

■ **Session 8:** August 19-20 for ages 8-10

Friday, July 30: **CONCERT: PRIMO CUBANO**

🕒 7:00 p.m. (Gates open at 5:30)

📍 Great Lawn (inside if weather is poor)

💰 \$15 members; \$20 non-members

▶ This five piece band has a lively, traditional sound with plenty of pizzazz.

Think Buena Vista Social Club with a contemporary, acoustic sound perfect for listening, foot tapping, and even salsa dancing. For anyone who's moved to move, a dance instructor will be at the concert to help you get started. Bring a picnic and BYOB. Sponsored by Jorgensen Landscaping.



Saturday, July 31: **DESIGNING GARDENS FOR THE FIVE SENSES**

🕒 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. 📍 Visitor Center Library

💰 \$30 members, \$35 non-members

▶ Take your garden beyond the visual, and stimulate all your senses for a richer, more fulfilling use of outdoor spaces. In this seminar for both home and professional gardeners, designer Irene Barber will discuss how to select plants and strategically place them for maximum sensory effect. You'll be inspired by her illustrations from successful residential gardens and gain further insight with a focused tour of the Lerner Garden of the Five Senses.

Tuesday, August 3: **CONCERT: THE DAPONTE STRING QUARTET: STRING QUARTETS**

🕒 7:30 p.m. 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center

💰 \$25; free for under age 21

📍 Reservations required

▶ String quartets presented by the DaPonte String Quartet: Early Mozart, Ravel, Beethoven Op. 59, No. 1.

Friday-Sunday, August 6-8: **MAINE FAIRY HOUSE FESTIVAL**

🕒 1:00–4:00 daily 📍 Visitor Center, Great Lawn, Children's Garden

📍 Free with Gardens admission

▶ This magical and popular event returns for its fourth year, better than ever thanks to our newest addition, the Bibby and Harold Alford Children's Garden. Enjoy building fairy houses, fairy arts and crafts, and games including the Gnome Toss and, new this year, Gnome Bowling. Stories and readings by popular authors and storytellers, book signings by Tracy Kane, a parade, fairy teas, live performances, workshops, a designer fairy house display, and the great bubble machine! Sponsorship opportunities are available.



Friday, August 13: **CONCERT: BOREAL TORDU**

🕒 7:00 p.m. (Gates open at 5:30)

📍 Great Lawn (inside if the weather is poor)

💰 \$15 members; \$20 non-members; \$5 ages 3-17; under 3 free

▶ The members of Boreal Tordu are masters of their musical instruments and the Acadian music they play with such energy, expertise, and enthusiasm. You'll love this band—and their music!

We invite you to dance, should you feel so inclined. Bring a picnic and BYOB. Sponsorship opportunities are available.



Saturday, August 14: **SEMINARS WITH KERRY MENDEZ**

🕒 Flowering Shrubs: 10:30 a.m.–noon;

Blue Ribbon Perennials: 12:30–2:00 p.m.

📍 Visitor Center, Library

💰 Per seminar: \$16 members, \$20 non-members (\$30/\$38 for both seminars)

▶ Kerry Mendez is owner of Perennially Yours, a gardening business offering low-maintenance gardening and landscaping classes, consultations, and garden designs. She lectures widely and is author of The Ultimate Gardener's Top Ten Lists. Join us for one or both of these back-to-back programs, but sign up early because her programs at the Gardens are always full.

■ **Branch Out with Flowering Shrubs:** Do you want to add drama, winter interest, and colorful flowers while reducing your maintenance time? Kerry will introduce a variety of beautiful flowering shrubs for northern climates and show you how to use them as workhorses for spectacular effect in your garden.

■ **Blue Ribbon Perennials:** And the Winner is...! Which perennials outshine the competition with their extensive bloom time and easy-care requirements? Kerry uses tough love when picking leaders for top performance. Her garden-tested recommendations mean less work and more enjoyment for you. She says, "You can thank me later."



Tuesday, August 17: **CONCERT: THE DAPONTE STRING QUARTET: A FAMILY AFFAIR WITH GUEST SUZANNE NANCE OF MPBN**

🕒 7:30 p.m. (Gates open at 5:30)

📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center

💰 \$25; free for under 21

📍 Reservations required

▶ This "family affair" concert will feature the music of Felix and Fanny Mendelssohn, with soprano Suzanne Nance from MPBN reading Mendelssohn family letters and the DaPonte String Quartet playing early fugues by Felix (when he was 11 years old), a song and a string quartet by Fanny, and the Op. 80 quartet by Felix, written soon after Fanny's death. Bring a picnic and BYOB.



Monday, August 23–Sunday, September 12: ART EXHIBIT: SUSAN HEADLEY VAN CAMPEN

🕒 9:00–5:00 daily 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center

🆓 Free with Gardens admission

▶ "I like to paint what I see that strikes me at the moment," says the artist, "things that don't last long—like flowers and skies, water, the sunrise, clouds, approaching storms, a dandelion, an open tulip just before the petals fall off—a poppy bud before it bursts ... as simple as possible, without laboring. I am trying to capture the color and shape the first time, that's all." Susan was featured in the March, 2009, issue of Maine Home + Design Magazine.

■ **Reception:** Thursday, August 26, 5:00–7:00 p.m., with wine and hors d'oeuvres. Admission is free.

Tuesday, August 24: AFTER-SUNSET FULL MOON HIKE

🕒 7:30–9:30 p.m. 📍 Meet in Visitor Center

🎟 \$7 members, \$10 non-members (family program - per each child and adult)

▶ The Gardens are alive with night sounds and moonlit sights. Join us for a full-moon experience. We'll look and listen for nocturnal activity in the woods and along the shore and learn about adaptations for the dark that plants and animals have made. Bring a flashlight, but be prepared to turn it off! Family participants will then gather for a special story, ending with s'mores in the Children's Garden. Rain date August 25.



Friday, Sunday, and Tuesday, August 27, 29, & 31: CONCERTS: BOOTHBAY CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL AT THE GARDENS

🕒 7:30 p.m. (Gates open at 5:30)

📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center

🎟 \$25 per concert; free for under age 21

📌 Reservations required

▶ Returning for the third year, the acclaimed DaPonte String Quartet, along with guest artists, will present a variety of music for appreciative audiences. Be sure to reserve early and arrive in good time for these concerts. In fact, why not bring a picnic and BYOB?



■ **August 27:** Mozart G Major Violin and Piano Sonata, Shostakovich Piano Quintet, Chausson Concerto for Violin, Piano, and String Quartet. Guest Artists: Maria Bachmann, violin, Jon Klibonoff, piano, with members of the DaPonte String Quartet

■ **August 29:** Mozart Piano Quartet, Chopin Polonaise for 'Cello and Piano, Schumann Piano Quintet. Artists: Paul Berkowitz, piano, with members of the DaPonte String Quartet.

■ **August 31:** Ravel Op. Post. Violin and Piano Sonata, Martinu Madrigals for Violin and Viola, Rachmaninoff Vocalise for Violin and Piano, Brahms Piano Quintet. Artists: Haesun Paik, piano, with members of the DaPonte String Quartet.

Sunday, August 29: WILD MUSHROOM IDENTIFICATION

🕒 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. 📍 Visitor Center, Library 🎟 \$60 members, \$75 non-members

▶ Gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to identify common Maine wild mushrooms in this day-long workshop with noted amateur mycologist Greg Marley. This mix of illustrated lecture, demonstrations, and field identification will focus on mushrooms that fruit in late August. Participants are invited to bring mushrooms collected on their own property for identification and to add to the day's diversity.



SAVE THE DATES!

- **Friday, September 3:** Pruning Fundamentals Workshop
- **Friday, September 3:** The Power of Natural Light: An Evening with Photographer Allen Rokach
- **Saturday & Sunday, September 4 & 5:** Mastering the Art of Flower and Garden Photography, a Two-Day Workshop with Allen Rokach
- **Monday, September 13–Sunday, October 17:** Art Exhibit: Joan W. Hooker —A Maine Harvest (**Reception: Friday, September 17**)
- **Sunday, September 19:** Annual Meeting
- **Tuesday, September 21:** 1st Annual Gardens Open Golf Tournament
- **Monday, October 18–Sunday, November 14:** Art Exhibit: Jacobus Baas (**Reception: Friday, October 22**)
- **Saturday, October 30:** Halloween at the Gardens
- **Monday, November 15–Sunday, December 19:** Art Exhibit: Colin Page (**Reception: Thursday, November 18**)
- **Tuesday, November 16:** Kitchen Garden Series Dinner by Chef Larry Matthews of Back Bay Grill
- **Saturday, November 20:** Frozen Turkey Hunt
- **Saturday, December 11:** Christmas Market at the Gardens
- **Monday, December 13:** Kitchen Garden Series Dinner by Chef Pierre Gignac of 98 Provence

Visit www.MaineGardens.org for more details on these and other upcoming events.



Docent Training

Leading group tours for visitors from near and far is a wonderful way to volunteer at the Gardens. Through training and practice, we give you all the information you need to become a confident, knowledgeable guide.



Would you like to become, or continue as, a Gardens docent? Below is the list of classes. Optional monthly walking tours/classes with experts are a chance to learn still more. To sign up, call Volunteer Coordinator Amanda Russell at (207) 633-4333, or e-mail arussell@mainegardens.org.

NEW-DOCENT TRAINING (select one)

- **#1:** Mon.-Wed., May 24, 25 & 26, 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. each day
- **#2:** Mon.-Wed., June 7, 8 & 9, 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. each day

VETERAN-DOCENT TRAINING

■ Wednesday & Thursday, June 9 & 10. The hours are Wed. 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. and Thurs., 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Announcing...A Trio of New Gardens Getaways

We have three new trips to entice you to travel with Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. These Gardens Getaways were meticulously planned for us by Patsy West, Director of Valerie Wilson Travel. Pricing and detailed itineraries will be announced soon and posted on www.MaineGardens.org. However, since our group sizes are intentionally kept small, we suggest you reserve space now with a refundable deposit of \$100 per person. Contact Patsy at 207-633-4883 or distvoy@gwi.net.

Please note too that at press time just two spaces remain on the exciting trip "Gardens & Castles of the National Trust for Scotland," from September 13-24, 2010. Why not call Patsy now and sign up?

Gardens Galore—Vancouver & Victoria, British Columbia

April 22–29, 2011

This memorable, seven-night visit begins in cosmopolitan Vancouver, one of the most beautifully sited cities in North America, with dazzling views of the Pacific Ocean, majestic mountains, and a glittering skyline. From our home base in the deluxe Fairmont Waterfront Hotel, we'll take privately guided tours of the gorgeous Van Dusen Botanic Gardens, UBC Botanic Garden, and Minter Gardens and venture into the city's historic Gastown, Chinatown, and Stanley Park.

Then we'll board a ferry and cruise across the Strait of Georgia to Vancouver Island and the elegant city of Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, where the Hotel Grand Pacific awaits. Our guides will orient us with a tour of the beautiful Inner Harbour, the ornate Parliament Buildings, and Bastion Square. And yes, we'll have tea in the elegantly restored lobby of the Fairmont Empress!

The highlight of the trip will surely be a Canadian National Historic Site, Butchart Gardens. We'll have plenty of time to truly enjoy the fabulous floral displays and landscapes. Our visit will also include a very special breakfast hosted by one of Butchart's popular horticulturists in the conservatory of the Blue Poppy Restaurant.



Butchart Gardens



Totem poles at Stanley Park

Holiday Time—New York City

November 28–December 2, 2010

There's nothing quite like the sparkle of New York City during the holidays. See the city at its best, with four nights in the New York Barclay at 111 East 48th St., a perfect spot for taking in the glittering shop windows and sights.

During a private tour at the legendary New York Botanical Garden, we'll marvel at the spectacular Holiday Train Show and the largest Victorian-era glasshouse in America and savor luncheon in their new river-front Stone Mill Restaurant. By exclusive arrangement with the Flower School of New York, one of the city's greatest designers will show us how to make festive arrangements and take us to New York's wholesale flower market. We'll thoroughly enjoy visits to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's conservatories and the Brooklyn Museum of Art.

We'll take in "Promises, Promises" on Broadway, "Carmen" at the Met, and the Rockettes performing their Radio City Christmas Spectacular! Altogether a magical holiday journey!



Brooklyn Botanic Garden



Glass House, NY Botanical Garden

The Land of the Green!—Ireland

September 12–22, 2011

Explore the tapestry of Irish history and rich tradition with Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens' private guides and escorts, experiencing the glory of internationally renowned gardens and indulging our senses in rare and beautiful botanical treasures. Journeying through time, we'll visit formal 17th century gardens, landscape parkland of the 18th century, kitchen gardens, and 20th century cottage gardens! Traveling from Dublin to Cork and Limerick to Galway, we'll visit the Talbot Botanic Gardens, historical water gardens of Knockabbey Castle, Brigit's Garden, Vandeleur Walled Garden, and so many more! Our ten nights of accommodations will be in well-located castles and great houses!



A panoramic view in Killarney



Hore Abbey near the Rock of Cashel

Join Our Family Today!

With a Family membership, come as often you want!

Because the new Bibby and Harold Alford Children's Garden opens this season, there has never been a better time for your family to become members of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. Along with the many other benefits of membership at all levels, family memberships offer free, unlimited admission for you and your children or grandchildren under age 18 to all facilities, including the Children's Garden. You'll be the first to know about new programs, exhibits, and special opportunities; and you'll enjoy discounts galore at family-oriented workshops and our Natural Kids two-day camps. The Gardens has something to entice every member of your family, from toddlers to teens.

Imagine the delight of your children or grandchildren as they explore the tree-house adjoining Blueberry Island, navigate our authentic Wabanaki village, discover the live chickens, or just relax and page through one of more than 300 children's books in our charming Story Barn.

But becoming a Gardens member is about more than the benefits of membership. It also means you join a family of people committed to protecting and preserving the botanical heritage of Maine and carrying on the mission of our Gardens.

Please take out a family membership today, and enjoy a summer of unlimited possibilities at the very special place that is Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens.

To purchase or renew your membership, visit our secure website, MaineGardens.org, stop by the Visitor Center, or call us at (207) 633-4333. We look forward to seeing you soon!



WANTED: Drivers for Our Volunteer Courtesy Shuttle Program

As with many of the volunteer programs this year, we've expanded the Volunteer Courtesy Shuttle Program, which will now include a 3:00-5:00 p.m. shift. Visitors to the Gardens arrive early and stay right up until closing—indeed, a wonderful “problem” to have! We need drivers, particularly on Saturdays and Sundays during all shifts: 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 1:00-3:00 p.m., and 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Volunteer Courtesy Shuttle Drivers have a set itinerary, transporting visitors in our free shuttle throughout selected areas of the Gardens and the parking lots. Gardens drivers love this job and return year after year to pitch in. And why not? They meet and greet visitors as they transport them through beautiful parts of the Gardens. Helping our visitors and having fun is the essence of being a Gardens volunteer.

The Volunteer Coordinator and Volunteer Peer Shuttle Drivers offer extensive training and plenty of practice time in the fleet of quiet, electric carts that are very easy to drive. Volunteer Coordinator Amanda Russell invites all who are interested in driving a shuttle, or volunteering in any of numerous ways, to contact her at (207) 633-4333, ext. 107, or arussell@mainegardens.org.

Free Subscription to Better Homes and Gardens with Paid Membership

Being a member of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens offer fabulous benefits. In addition to free admission and discounts on programs, special events and gift shop purchases, for a short time only we are offering you another way to save. If you purchase a new membership, renew your membership, or purchase a gift of membership by June 15, you'll receive a *free one-year subscription to Better Homes and Gardens magazine!*

Better Homes and Gardens is America's leading lifestyle magazine and delivers smart, approachable articles on design and individual style, decorating and gardening, food and entertaining, and personal and family well-being.

Take advantage of this limited-time offer by visiting the membership page on our website, www.MaineGardens.org, or calling (207) 633-4333.



FALL FOR OUR SPRING BULB SALE!



Plan now for a bevy of spring blooms. We've selected only the best-quality bulbs from the same source we use for the Gardens' glorious and long-lasting

displays. And even better, your purchase supports the continued growth of the Gardens. **To download an order form, visit MaineGardens.org.**



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DONOR PROFILE

Children's Garden Springs to Life through Donor Support

BY **CONNIE CAMERON**, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

With the dedication of the Bibby and Harold Alford Children's Garden on July 8, a unique and dynamic new garden will come to life in the heart of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. In the midst of our ornamental gardens and woodland trails, an oasis will beckon where children are encouraged to laugh, run, jump, play, and learn about gardening and Maine's botanical heritage.

This whimsical and innovative garden is the result of careful design combined with large doses of imagination and generous donor support. The igniting spark for the extraordinary children's garden was a lead

challenge gift from the Harold Alford Foundation. However, many smaller, targeted donations have also contributed to the successful completion of this garden.

One example is a gift from the **Sears-Swetland Family Foundation**, which helped with enhancements to the Keeper's Cottage area and stone paths to the pond. **Ruth Eppig**, a trustee of the Foundation and also of the Cleveland Botanical Garden, said the gift was in recognition of the outstanding work of Maureen Heffernan, executive director of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, who was also instrumental in the creation of the very successful Hershey Children's Garden in Cleveland.

Another donation, from the **Parker Poe Charitable Trust**, was inspired by trustee **Kate Ireland**, a long-time summer resident of the nearby Pemaquid peninsula and a previous donor to the Giles Rhododendron & Perennial Garden. This gift was used to supply boats for the pond and dock areas, which recall images from *Burt Dow*, *Deep-Water Man* and *One Morning in Maine* by well-known Maine author Robert McCloskey. Providing the boats is the Carpenter's Boatshop, an organization

located on the Pemaquid peninsula and another of Kate's favorite local charities.

On the other side of the children's garden are dragon sculptures that another donor, **Lauren Emery**, helped to underwrite. Local sculptor Carole Hanson carved the dragons' heads, as well as the misting whales at the garden's entrance, from large granite boulders. The resulting Dragon Wall near the labyrinth will encourage children to use their imaginations to "see the extraordinary in the ordinary," as in *The Stone Wall Dragon* by Maine author Rochelle Draper.

These are just some of the many examples of how donors have come forward to support the work of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. Although the Children's Garden is nearing completion, there are still several very exciting ways to help, some of which carry naming opportunities. If you would like to learn more about donor opportunities at the Gardens, please contact me in the Development Office at 207-633-4333 x104.



Ruth Eppig with a photo of the Keeper's Cottage area she helped fund



Kate Ireland with a picture of a boat she helped fund



PHOTO BY CONNIE CAMERON

Dragon head in progress by sculptor Carole Hanson.