

THE BOTANICAL THYMES

COASTAL MAINE BOTANICAL GARDENS NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2010

Plans for the Gardens' new LEED-Platinum Bosarge Family Education Center



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Giant Step Forward

BY JOHN R. GILES, PRESIDENT

◀ Were you here for the great and grand opening of the Bibby and Harold Alford Children's Garden? You can relive the day through the photos on page 5.

Those of you who have read this column during the last year know that, due to the great success of the Gardens and the dramatic increase in the number of visitors, we are in need of space for our educational programs. To help provide the highest quality visitor experience, we also need additional space for our growing staff. During the course of the winter, plans were developed and the location determined for a LEED (Leadership

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The Bosarge Family Foundation recently gave the Gardens a \$2 million gift to help fund the new Education Center. Pictured are Foundation directors Ed and Marie Bosarge.



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Coastal Maine
**BOTANICAL
GARDENS**

Great News All Around

Since the opening of the Bibby and Harold Alford Children's Garden in July, our attendance has nearly doubled. This wonderful new garden has attracted thousands of families, and we are thrilled to have so many new visitors, members, and, especially, wee guests who are delighting in its many beautiful and fun areas.

I often stop to ask children what their favorite thing is in the garden—and almost all of them say “everything!” I just love hearing that.

The joy of going out in the garden and watching children run around the maze, read books in the Story Barn, pump water and water the plants, throw the lobster pot off the dock, duck into the bear cave, plant a seed in the greenhouse, harvest tomatoes, and more reminds me why the Gardens undertook this major project. It is all about joy, education, inspiration, play, discovery, imagination, and fun.

We are thrilled that our members and so many others have embraced this garden and are coming back repeatedly to enjoy it.

On top of this exciting opening, the Gardens had the great news of a substantial gift and challenge from The Bosarge Family Foundation to name our new Education Center, which is currently in the design-development stage. Due to the increasing number of visitors we have had since opening in 2007, the Gardens has many “good problems,” as we call them. The primary good problem is the urgent need for more space for education programs; information resources; special events; educational exhibits; storage; and offices for volunteers, interns, and staff.

Sincere thanks to everyone who supports the Gardens by visiting us, becoming members, and spreading the word that this is a very special place to visit.



All best wishes,
Maureen Heffernan
Executive Director

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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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President's Message

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in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum, net-zero-energy Education Center to address these needs.

These plans have recently taken a major step toward becoming a reality thanks to the generosity of a major gift from the Bosarge Family Foundation! Directors of the foundation, Ed and Marie Bosarge, were particularly attracted to the renewable component of the Education Center design, as well as the large Education and Cultural Hall, which will provide flexible space for classes, workshops, symposia, and cultural events. The \$2-million gift includes a \$1.5-million challenge that, if met, will allow the Gardens to begin construction this fall with a completion date next summer.

The Gardens' success over a short period of time is a direct result of the tremendous generosity of hundreds of donors at all levels of giving: Volunteers with their gift of time and resources and members' and other donors' gifts, large and small, have combined to make the Gardens the success it is today. I thank each and every one of you for the important part you have played.

Now, with this new challenge, we have an important opportunity to take the Gardens to the next level, which will not only address significant needs but will, at the same time, showcase alternative sources of energy and teach visitors about the Education Center's sustainable features and net-zero-energy technology.

The magnificent Bosarge gift and challenge presents an extraordinary opportunity for the Gardens! Let's all join together to ensure the successful completion of this challenge!



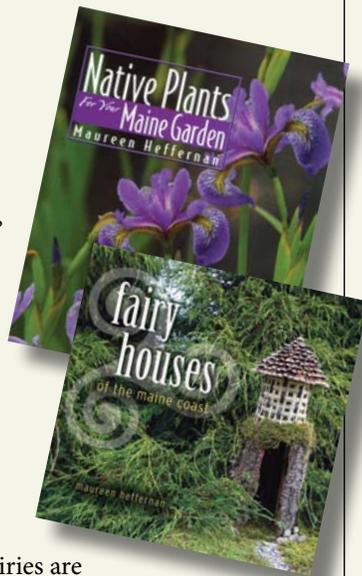
The Bosarge Family Education Center will have much-needed dynamic spaces for people of all ages to engage in learning and cultural activities.

A Pair of Winning Books by Maureen Heffernan

Congratulations are in order. Not only has Executive Director Maureen Heffernan had two books published by Down East this year, but they're flying off the shelves. You'll surely want one or both for yourself, with more as gifts. You can find them, among other places, in the Gardens Gift Shop or online in the "Shop" section of www.MaineGardens.org. See the back page for information about a members-only talk and book signing.

Fairy Houses of the Maine Coast is a magical book, just the right size for little hands. Interspersed with gorgeous photos of fairy houses of every description, atmospheric landscapes, and even a few fairies are history and lore, guidelines for making fairy houses, quotations, and poems. There's also plenty of encouragement and inspiration for readers, no matter what their age, who want to create fairy houses of their own. Most of the photos are by Robert Mitchell, with others by Barbara Freeman and William Cullina.

As Maureen says in the introduction to her *Native Plants for Your Maine Garden*, "Reintroducing native plants into landscapes strengthens a sense of place...natives make great choices, aesthetically and ecologically." She goes on to show us how, profiling more than 140 natives of all descriptions, helping us choose the best plants for various locations, and suggesting designs for a woodland border and a garden to attract birds and butterflies. All but a few of the photos in *Native Plants for Your Maine Garden* are by William Cullina. ♡BHF



Help our Gardens Grow: Support the Gardens' 2010 Annual Fund

BY CONNIE CAMERON, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens is a happening place! With the opening of the new Bibby and Harold Alford Children's Garden, expanded educational and cultural offerings, and an exciting and varied event schedule, we are the place to be in Maine. We are proud to offer an outstanding visitor experience for all ages and interests, and we hope the Gardens will be your place too.

Gifts to the Gardens' Annual Fund are an important way to help us meet our annual operating expenses and assure a first-class garden experience. Donations to the Annual Fund are put to work immediately and benefit every aspect of the Gardens.

The Gardens' Annual Fund goal for 2010 is \$200,000. We are off to a great start with gifts and pledges of \$65,000, but we need your help to guarantee success. Every gift of any amount will help us raise the additional \$135,000 needed to reach our goal before December 31.

Please consider making your gift today. Either visit our website at MaineGardens.org, or call the Annual Fund office at (207) 633-4333 x109, or send a check to The Annual Fund of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. Gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Thank you for your support! Your gift will make a difference.



CHECK OUT PHOTOS
FROM THE
GRAND OPENING OF

More
photos
online!

The Bibby and Harold Alfond Children's GARDEN



PLUGGED IN

BY WILLIAM CULLINA, DIRECTOR OF HORTICULTURE AND PLANT CURATOR

A part of our garden aesthetic here at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens is to mass plants in groups, or drifts, of as many as 100 or more. This can quickly get very expensive if we use standardized perennials, annuals, and groundcovers. Even at wholesale prices, a coral bell in a 6-inch pot may cost five or six dollars, while an annual such as a fuchsia in a 4-inch pot goes for about three dollars. To keep costs down this year, we purchased most of our annuals and a portion of our perennials and groundcovers as plugs—trays of small individual cells measuring an inch or two in diameter.

We plant these small plants directly into the garden, and within a few weeks or months, the plants are equal in size to companions from larger containers. Plug trays come in standard dimensions (usually 10 × 20 inches), but the size and thus the number of individual cells varies from tiny to large. For direct planting, we use trays of between 32 and 84 cells. Obviously, the plants in 32-cell trays are larger and more expensive than those in an 84 cell. I prefer to use the larger plugs for slower-growing perennials and groundcovers and small ones for the most vigorous annuals.

Plugs are primarily marketed to wholesale growers who pot them into larger pots and then grow them on for retail sale. Accordingly, they are not widely available from retail nurseries. However, a few—especially retail nurseries specializing in



Left: *Heuchera* 'Brownies' (hairy alumroot) and *Vernonia lettermannii* 'Iron Butterfly' (Letterman's Ironweed) just after planting above the Harold and Bibby Alfond Children's Garden in May. The tray pictured contains 50 individual cells of ironweed. Right: The same plants three months later in August (the alumroot has been interplanted with *Lilium regale* (regal lily)).

meadow and prairie plants—are starting to sell directly to home gardeners. Alternatively, you might ask your local nursery or garden professional to order plugs for you from one of the wholesale suppliers.

The key to success with these small plants is good soil preparation, spring planting, and careful watering for the few weeks until they get some roots established. After that they can be treated just like their larger brethren.



Plan Ahead: It's Key for You *and* the Gardens

BY CONNIE CAMERON, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Planned giving is a key component in the Garden's long-term financial security. Although planned giving is a long-range strategy, it is something donors can begin to think about today.

Most bequests are directed toward the Gardens' endowment, a pool of invested funds whose income helps sustain the day-to-day operations of the organization. A primary goal of the Planting a Living Legacy Capital Campaign is to build a substantial endowment, a stable foundation allowing the Gardens to continue to grow and thrive for the enjoyment and education of future generations.

Some critical activities that planned gifts support are a rich and varied curriculum of educational offerings; garden maintenance; improvements to gardens, trails, and facilities; internships and volunteer programs; attracting and retaining the very best professional talent in the field of horticulture; ensuring flexibility to take advantage of new opportunities; and buffering the Gardens against the effects of economic fluctuations.

The future of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens depends largely on today's conscientious planning. The Perennial Society was created to recognize and honor those who, through their generosity and thoughtful planning, are providing for the preservation and future of the Gardens.

It isn't too soon to get started. Planned gifts can include outright gifts of cash, stock, and mutual funds, as well as non-cash assets, such as retirement plans, life-insurance policies, closely held businesses, partnerships, real estate, and stock options, as appropriate. For example; recently, Karen Bartholomew, a member of the board of directors and, along with her late husband, Claude Brinegar, a longtime member and supporter of the Gardens, became a member of The Perennial Society when she committed her IRA and 403b retirement funds to the Gardens.

Please contact Connie Cameron, director of development, to discuss your planned gift.

Be a Volunteer!

BY AMANDA RUSSELL, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

The high season of this busy summer is waning, but there are still many fall and early-winter programs coming up at the Gardens. That means many volunteering opportunities; and they are all fun and short term.

We'll have our Summer's End Tea at the Gardens from 4:00–5:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 11, and our first ever Family Halloween Party in the Children's Garden on Saturday, October 30.

The famous Frozen Turkey Hunt will be on Saturday, November 20, and the Christmas Market at the Gardens is on Saturday, December 11. And finally, on Sunday, December 19, the Home for the Holidays Brunch will find visitors enjoying Gardens cloaked in snow and decked out for the holidays.

We count on our slate of wonderful winter volunteers, along with those who stay a bit later in the season, to help out and enjoy the fun. It's a great way to keep the Gardens growing.

Calendar of Events

Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens is on Barbers 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 🌟 Reception ⓘ 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

GIFT SHOP & KITCHEN GARDEN CAFÉ

The Gardens Gift Shop is open daily through late December. The Kitchen Garden Café is open daily through Columbus Day, October 11.

SHUTTLES & TOURS

Through mid-October: free courtesy shuttles daily; free docent-led walking tours two days a week; and Accessibility Cart Tours, some days for a fee and others free. For details and a schedule, call (207) 633-4333 or check the website, www.MaineGardens.org.

FREE FIRST WEDNESDAYS OF THE MONTH

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

ART EXHIBITS

Art exhibits at the Gardens are on view during regular hours (9-5 daily) and at special events. All sales benefit the Gardens.

Through Monday, October 11:

"WOMEN: SCULPTURE IN THE GARDENS" — Lise Becu, Carole Hanson, and Squidge Liljeblad Davis

- 🕒 9-5 daily
- 📍 Central Gardens
- 💰 Free with Gardens admission



Monday, September 13 through Sunday, October 17: "JOAN W. HOOKER—A MAINE HARVEST"

- 🕒 9-5 daily
- 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
- 💰 Free with Gardens admission
- 🌟 **RECEPTION:** Friday, September 17, 5-7 p.m. with wine and hors d'oeuvres. Free admission.



Monday, October 18–Sunday, November 14:

ART EXHIBIT: JACOBUS BAAS

- 🕒 9-5 daily
- 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
- 💰 Free with Gardens admission
- 🌟 **RECEPTION:** Friday, October 22, 5-7 p.m. with wine and hors d'oeuvres. Free admission.



Monday, November 15–Sunday, December 19:

ART EXHIBIT: COLIN PAGE

- 🕒 9-5 daily
- 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
- 💰 Free with Gardens admission
- 🌟 **RECEPTION:** Thursday, November 18, 5-7 p.m. with wine and hors d'oeuvres. Free admission.



EVENTS, PROGRAMS, CONCERTS, AND DINNERS

Friday, September 3: PRUNING FUNDAMENTALS WORKSHOP

- 🕒 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- 📍 Education Tent
- 💰 \$33 members, \$39 non-members
- ▶ Back by popular demand, arborist Rolf Briggs of Tree Specialists, Inc. will demonstrate proper pruning techniques and explain how to improve the health and structure of woody plants. Bring hand pruners and your questions for this interactive workshop.

Friday, September 3: THE POWER OF NATURAL LIGHT: AN EVENING WITH PHOTOGRAPHER ALLEN ROKACH

- 🕒 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
- 💰 \$10 members, \$15 non-members
- ▶ Photographer Allen Rokach will show images in which he captured the lines, shapes, colors, and rhythms of gardens and flowers in ambient light. He founded the Center for Nature Photography and was director of photography at the New York Botanical Garden and senior photographer for Southern Living magazine. He is co-author (with wife Anne Millman) of eight books.

Saturday, September 4: CONCERT BY MATCHING ORANGE

- 🕒 7:00 p.m. (gates open at 5:30)
- 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
- 💰 \$15 members, \$20 non-members, \$5 ages 3-17, under 3 free
- ▶ The Boston-based trio Matching Orange will entertain with traditional acoustic music from around the world, including Ireland, Scotland, Quebec, Appalachia, New England, and Cape Breton. Bring a picnic, and BYOB.

Saturday & Sunday, September 4 & 5: MASTERING THE ART OF FLOWER AND GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHY, a Two-Day Workshop with Allen Rokach

- 🕒 6 a.m.-7 p.m. (2½-hour midday breaks)
- 📍 Visitor Center Library & gardens
- 💰 \$180 members, \$225 non-members (includes continental breakfasts and admission to Allen's September 3 presentation)
- ▶ In this intensive workshop, master photographer Allen Rokach will provide in-depth instruction on techniques professionals use to produce dramatic outdoor flower and garden photographs. The workshop includes a combination of lectures, field sessions and critiques.



Saturday, September 11: SUMMER'S END TEA

- 🕒 4:00 p.m.
- 📍 Kitchen Garden Café and Kerr Hall, Visitor Center
- 💰 \$20 members, \$27 non-members
- ▶ Celebrate the advent of fall with a traditional tea. Enjoy Mollie Moore's delectable scones, tea sandwiches, and individual pots of perfect tea.



Saturday, September 11: DISCOVERING NATIVE PLANTS AT THE GARDENS

- 🕒 10-11:30 a.m.
- 📍 Meet in Visitor Center
- 💰 \$5 members, \$12 non-members (includes Gardens admission)
- ▶ Join biologist Jerry Therrien to learn about some of Maine's lovely native plants represented at the Gardens. Beginners are welcome!

Sunday, September 19: ANNUAL MEETING

🕒 2:00 p.m. 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center

🆓 Free

▶ Join us to celebrate progress and learn about plans for the Gardens. Scott Simons of Scott Simons Architects in Portland will give a presentation about the exceptional Bosarge Family Education Center we'll soon be building. Refreshments will be served.

Saturdays, September 19-October 9:

YOGA IN THE GARDEN

🕒 9:00-10:00 a.m. 📍 Meet in Visitor Center

💰 \$10 members, \$12 non-members (per class)

▶ Yoga continues with instructor Ingrid Tosteson. All ages are welcome, and the gentle approach is especially geared for beginners and older students. Sessions are on a drop-in basis, but you may pre-register for one or all sessions.



Tuesday, September 21: 1ST ANNUAL GARDENS OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT

🕒 8:30 a.m. 📍 Boothbay Country Club

💰 \$95.00 per person (\$380 per team of 4)

▶ Enjoy a great day of golf that also benefits the Gardens. The event includes lunch with beer or wine, golf carts. Register by calling the Boothbay Country Club at 207-633-6085.

Saturday, September 25: BIG EYES & EARS

🕒 10:00 a.m.-noon 📍 Meet in Visitor Center

💰 \$5 members, \$8 non-members, includes Gardens admission

▶ Learn fun ways to enhance your abilities as we search for natural mysteries, both microscopic and macroscopic. Using binoculars, magnifying glasses, Plexiglas, and even an umbrella, we'll discover who lives in the treetops, underground, and across the water.

Tuesday, September 28: ASTERS AND GOLDENRODS IDENTIFICATION

🕒 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 📍 Education Tent

💰 \$48 members, \$55 non-members

▶ These wonderful plants are diverse, beautiful, and sometimes confusing to distinguish from each other. Plus some of their names have changed! Botanist Lauren Stockwell will help you get a handle on the new taxonomy. She'll discuss important characteristics, show samples, and lead a walk to identify plants.



Saturday & Sunday, October 2-3:

MAINE FIBERARTS WEEKEND

🕒 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center

🆓 Free with Gardens admission

▶ Maine Fiberarts is an arts nonprofit formed to support Maine fiber and to foster its special work in various areas, including basketry, weaving and sewing. During this weekend of exhibits and demonstrations, help us make the connections between fiber and plants. Special emphasis will be placed on natural dyes made from plant materials and works in linen, cotton and other plant-based fabrics.

Thursday, October 7: AUTUMN'S ARTFUL LECTURE SERIES WITH SHARON LOVEJOY—"The Artist in the Garden and the Garden in the Artist"

🕒 6:00 p.m. 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center

💰 \$10 members, \$15 non-members

▶ Just as Monet's garden influenced his art, his art influenced his garden. Join best-selling, award-winning author and illustrator Sharon Lovejoy as she takes us on a personal walk through the gardens of artists and writers from around the world. A book signing will follow her talk. Refreshments will be served.

Sunday, October 10: "LEAF PEEPER" CONCERT

🕒 5:30 pm 📍 Visitor Center 💰 \$25

▶ During this final concert of the season at the Gardens the DaPonte String Quartet will treat us to Dvořák's Quartet Op. 96 "American" and Beethoven's Quartet Opus 131.

Thursday, October 14: DESIGNING MEADOW PANELS

🕒 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 📍 Visitor Center

💰 \$55 members, \$60 non-members (optional 12:30 p.m. lunch may be pre-ordered for \$12)

▶ This seminar for professionals and avid gardeners will explain the nuts and bolts of designing meadow "panels" that combine ornamental sedges, grasses, and hardy bulbs. Our instructors are John Greenlee, principal of Greenlee Associates and author of The American Meadow Garden; and Brent Heath, co-owner of Brent and Becky's Bulbs and co-author of Daffodils for North American Gardens and Tulips for North American Gardens.

Thursday, October 14: AUTUMN'S ARTFUL LECTURE SERIES WITH BRENT HEATH—"Living Flower Arrangements with Layers of Bulbs"

🕒 5:30 p.m. lecture; 7:00-8:00 p.m. optional workshop 📍 Visitor Center

💰 \$10 members, \$15 non-members for lecture; \$40/\$45 for optional workshop (includes materials for a 12-inch pot with 30-40 bulbs)

▶ A beautiful arrangement of flowers from live bulbs will last 2-3 times longer than cut flowers, and can be recycled into the garden. Bulb expert Brent Heath of Brent and Becky's Bulbs will show you how to create living flower arrangements, focusing on bulb cultivars that are best suited to pot culture. The workshop has limited space, so please register early.

Sunday, October 17: HOT POT HARVEST STEW

🕒 Noon-2:00 p.m.

📍 Seagull Pavilion, Children's Garden

💰 \$4 (includes stew and homemade bread; drinks and dessert are extra)

▶ Help our staff dig, pick, and process garden vegetables, then add them to our stew pot for a delicious autumn meal accompanied by whole-grain bread and information about growing vegetables organically. It's all you can eat of this nutritious hot-pot meal! Pre-registration is encouraged.



Saturday, October 30: HALLOWEEN AT THE GARDENS

▶ Save the date for our first ever family Halloween party in the Children's Garden!

Thursday, November 6: AUTUMN'S ARTFUL LECTURE SERIES WITH JUDY PAOLINI—"The Inspired Garden"

🕒 6:00 p.m. 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center

💰 \$10 members, \$15 non-members

▶ Author Judy Paolini will provide glimpses into the private landscapes of accomplished artists throughout New England, particularly in Maine. These gardeners, profiled in her book The Inspired Garden: 24 Artists Share Their Vision, draw from a deep knowledge of form, texture, color and composition to create spaces of great beauty. Join us for a book signing after the talk. Refreshments will be served.

Saturday, November 20: FROZEN TURKEY HUNT

🕒 11:00 a.m. 📍 Central Gardens

🆓 Free, no Gardens admission

▶ Children of all ages search for apples, many of which qualify for prizes, including lots of turkeys, to enhance the Thanksgiving feast. Entertaining activities and complimentary refreshments add to the fun of this free event. Presented by Dead River Company.



Friday, December 3: WETLAND SPECIES IDENTIFICATION IN WINTER

🕒 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 📍 Kitchen Garden Café

💰 \$44 members, \$50 non-members

▶ Build your skills for recognizing wetland trees and shrubs in this program taught by and botanist Lauren Stockwell. Dress warmly and bring a hand lens and a bag lunch. Co-sponsored with New England Wild Flower Society.



Saturday, December 11: CHRISTMAS MARKET AT THE GARDENS

🕒 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 📍 Kerr Hall, Visitor Center

🆓 Free, no Gardens admission fee

Monday, December 13: KITCHEN GARDEN DINNER WITH CHEF PIERRE GIGNAC OF 98 PROVENCE IN OGUNQUIT

🕒 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. 📍 Kitchen Garden Cafe

💰 \$70 members, \$85 non-members

Sunday, December 19: HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS BRUNCH

🕒 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 📍 Visitor Center

💰 \$20 for members; \$27 for non-members; \$10 for kids under 12; free for kids under 3

For additional listings, details, and updates, visit www.MaineGardens.org and while you're there, please sign up for our e-newsletter to receive the latest news.



P.O. Box 234
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4,000th Membership!

It was a time for celebration and gifts when John White and Mary Patricia Daley of Kennebunk, Maine purchased the 4,000th membership, bringing the number of Gardens members to nearly 7,000. Also enjoying the moment are, from left to right, Laura Livingston, Maureen Heffernan, Suzi Whittemore, and Jen McKane of the Gardens staff.

Pendants and Zip Pulls of Bears...

OH MY!

The life-size bronze bear cub sculpted for the Children's Garden by Nancy Schön evokes memories of the Robert McCloskey classic, *Blueberries for Sal*. Now you can bring back memories of "Sal's Bear" at any time, no matter where you are. The Gardens Gift Shop and our shop online at www.MaineGardens.org have miniature versions, which were created and signed by Nancy just for Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens.

Take your pick. For \$15 you can have a pewter zipper pull;

and for \$38, a sterling-silver version of the bear, along with an 18-inch sterling chain, can be yours to wear proudly.



These finely detailed pieces really capture the look and feel of the original and will delight everyone who sees them.

They're appropriate for all ages and make great gifts—just right for the holidays or when birthdays roll around. Your purchases benefit the Gardens, too, so we thank you in advance.



Reserve Now for a Free Members-Only Event!

BY **JEN MCKANE**, MEMBERSHIP & ANNUAL FUND ASSISTANT MANAGER

On Wednesday September 22, from 3:30–5:30 p.m., we will close the Bibby and Harold Alford Children's Garden to the general public and open it for members only!

Enjoy an exclusive book talk and signing in the Seagull Pavilion with Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens Executive Director Maureen Heffernan. She will speak about the inspiration for her popular new book, *Fairy Houses of the Maine Coast*, as well as fairy lore and the best strategies for fairy-house design. The book will be available for purchase and signing.

Reserve your space today! Attendance is limited to the first 150 members and children who sign up, and this exclusive opportunity is sure to fill up fast.

Seating will also be limited, so bring along a lawn chair if you wish. Lemonade and cookies will be served.

We look forward to seeing you on September 22!