

# VOLUNTEER NEWS

2012

## Volunteer Appreciation

*For the intro to this volunteer newsletter, I'm going to do something different: I'm going to print my talk at last summer's Volunteer Appreciation event. It says it all, and here it is....*

COASTAL MAINE  
BOTANICAL  
GARDENS

**T**his is my sixth year as volunteer coordinator at the Gardens. More than ever, I am so honored to work with every one of you. Your commitment is inspiring. Your passion to help the Gardens grow is mind boggling. And to describe your gifts of time and talents as invaluable minimizes the enormity of what you do.

### Simply said, volunteers make things happen.

Here's just a smattering of examples of how volunteers make things happen:

- Starting on January 1, volunteer **Elizabeth Glunt** appeared out of nowhere to work three days a week with me until mid-April. I quickly made her my assistant, and she practically single-handedly recruited and placed more than 80 volunteers, created schedule templates and distribution lists, and taught me about quirks in the POS (point of sale) system.
- **Pat Jeremiah, BJ Dobson, Dick Chase, and Nancy Whitehouse** live here. Did you know that? Between the four of them, they participate in 28 volunteer programs and special projects.
- **Lou Augustine** designed and built the Fairy House indoor display stands, which are now a beautiful and professional base for the annual exhibit.
- **Dick Chase** designed and built the awesome rack that volunteers now store their badges in.



- **BJ Dobson** wrote all the bird bio's for the "Julie Babb: Our Maine Birds" art show. Oh, and she works in six volunteer programs

Our volunteers recruit other volunteers; they train volunteers; they teach and direct and support volunteers. And they do all this for the Gardens and our guests. Imagine!

I would like to thank all volunteers for everything you do, and I have 25 volunteers whom I would like to acknowledge with a small token of our appreciation.

The first 3 volunteers are team leaders, which means they schedule, call, and confirm volunteers in a particular program. In short, they do 90 percent of the

work for me and for the Gardens. They pretty much run the program. These leaders are...**Mollie Moore** for the Volunteer Mailing Program, **Bobbie Medal** for the Volunteer Catering Program and **Alison Lowell** for the Courtesy Shuttle Program.

The next 3 volunteers are chairs of special events, which means they take charge of a special event in nearly all aspects of its planning and implementation. These events and their chairs are:

- *Spring & Fall Teas*: **Mollie Moore**, who bought dishes for the teas, coordinated the volunteer crews, baked the scones, made the jam, directed the day-of activities, and then called her friends to buy tickets.

# Fall Event Volunteers—2011 *and* 2012

**N**ow that the Volunteer Newsletter is published and mailed in January, this is the last time I will have to back-track into the previous year in order to acknowledge volunteers whose efforts didn't make press time in 2011. On October 2 (2011), Scarecrow Sunday was a very fun event where families and visitors built their own scarecrows out of materials that the Gardens' supplied. **Jean Richmond, Sandy Gillespie, Carole McCarthy, Carole LaFontaine, Sue Sefcik, Diann Ring and Lou Augustine** helped with setting up and tearing down the event, pressing apple cider, and helping families paint, fasten, and stuff scarecrows during the event.

For the same event this year (2012) held on September 30, **Carole McCarthy** was the hero-volunteer helping with this active and fun-filled afternoon.

For our Family Fright Night on Saturday, October 29 (2011), volunteers outdid themselves once again. **Bob Gilbert** and **Anne Butler** helped set up the venues with scary (but not too scary) Halloween props. **Pat Jeremiah** helped with registrations and then flew on her broom to help organize the hilarious fun of the costume parade on the Great Lawn. **Nancy Whitehouse, Fran Gay, and Sue Sefcik** served up those creepy, spooky Halloween treats, including the soup that witches **Gaye Wagner** and **Darlene Daniels** served up from their magic cauldron. **Carole McCarthy** was, once again, that crafty gypsy fortune teller handing out her predictions and palm readings. **Jan Brennan** was Alice (in Wonderland) sitting in a great big chair reading stories and giving out candies. **Bob Gilbert** was the Mad Scientist displaying his supply of creepy specimens in touch bowls: peeled grape eyeballs, spaghetti brains, hairy whatever-that-was! **John Brennan** tended the fires that cast spooky shadows over the whole scene.

For the same event this year (2012) held on October 27 and escaping Hurricane Sandy, **Doug and Cindy Lockwood** came early to set up and then had the privilege of judging the Costume Parade. **BJ Dobson** helped me check in families. **Ellen Knox and Cathy Miller** helped children decorate their bags to collect all



the goodies in. **Nancy Whitehouse and Penny Matthews** worked in the kitchen preparing HUNDREDS of yummy goodies. **Pat Jeremiah** reprised her role as the welcoming witch, and another witch—**Sue Sefcik**—played the candy corn game with children. Lastly, Master Fortune Teller, **Carole McCarthy**, predicted the futures off many small hands.

Then, at the November 19 (2011) Frozen Turkey Hunt, we had hundreds of children hunting for the special apples signifying that they'd won a free frozen turkey, all donated by Hannaford in Boothbay. Other apples, which **Carole McCarthy, Linda Blanton, and Pam Rawden** hid, came with prizes, too, so every child was able to take something home for the Thanksgiving table. **Anne Butler, Fran Gay, and Julie Hendrickson** served hot cider, while **Pat Jeremiah and Carole McCarthy** (Carole was everywhere on this event!) grilled hotdogs. **Linda Blanton** switched to tending the obstacle course, while **Pam Rawden** "floated," which means she was everywhere, too! **BJ Dobson** tended the gift shop for those special purchases on this special, fun-filled day for all.

For the same event this year (2012) held on November 17, 400-500 people attended! It was a beautiful day, and Carole McCarthy and I hid over 600 apples, including the Golden Apple that treated the lucky finder to 150 gallons of heating oil donated by Dead River and the Silver Apple that treated the lucky finder to a good cord of seasoned split wood

donated by the Gardens' Hort Department. **Jane Lunt and Anne Butler** served hot apple cider. **Tabor Young and Valerie Augustine** (in her new role of Volunteer for the Gardens—Did you know that, Valerie?) grilled over 400 hotdogs that **Pat Jeremiah and John Lunt** served.

Later, on December 11 (2011), volunteers made Christmas Market at the Gardens happen. Volunteers tending complimentary beverage and dessert table were **Sarah Strouss, Gina Jackovich-Perry, Maren Fischer, and Maria Long**. Volunteer Floaters helped in any way they could, keeping busy all the while: **Carol Howe, BJ Dobson, Ellen Knox and Kath Holland**. Tending the busy Gardens Gift Shop were **Carole McCarthy, Janet Goff, Jane Lunt and Anne Butler**. And playing the freshly tuned piano was **Mary Chase**.

For the same event this year (2012) held on December 8, **Pat Jeremiah, Leigh Sherrill, BJ Dobson, Anne Butler, Carole McCarthy, and Sarah Strouss** tended the refreshments tables (no easy job when an event has doubled in size as the Christmas Market did in 2012!). **Angela Melville, Marianne Reynolds, Sandy Gillespie, and Jean Rosenberg** greeted the throngs. **Jane Lunt and Janet Goff** braved the prospect of the event's wonderful mad-house buying spree in the Gift Shop.

To all those volunteers pitching in throughout the fall of 2011 and 2012 in these fall and winter events (when volunteers are hard to come by), a huge, huge thank you! 🍂

## Volunteer Coordinator Assistant Interns in 2012!

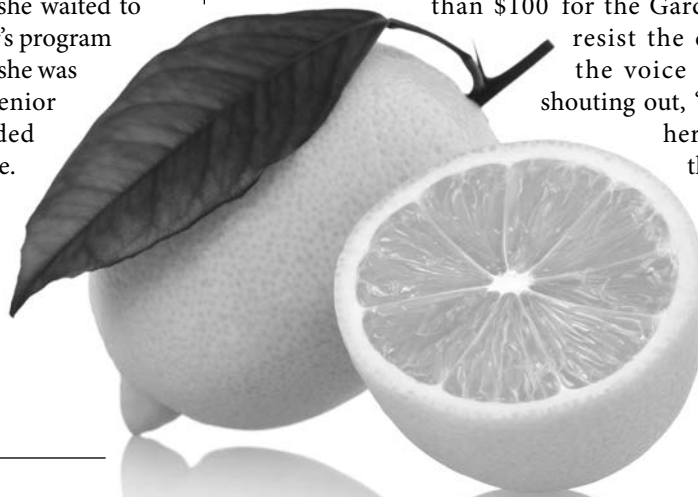
As most of you know, for the first time, my position was assisted this year by both a winter and a summer intern. **Elizabeth Glunt** was with me all winter for 2½ days a week, right through to mid-April, and **Amanda Lavigueur** was here from June 1 to August 30. Elizabeth “needed something to do” while she waited to hear if she was accepted into the master’s program at University of Maine at Orono, which she was and is now attending. Entering her senior year at Colby College, Amanda needed work experience to beef up her resume. I can’t thank them enough, and I know all the volunteers appreciated their hard work to make the Volunteer Program at the Gardens a wonderful place to be this season. And I promise, I will never hire another intern whose name is Amanda! 🌱

## Lemonade Stand

During the winter, staff member Valerie Augustine received a very special letter with a suggestion for a special event—an annual “Lemonade Stand” at the Gardens. What a perfect idea! This suggestion came from the daughter of one of our staff members, so she thought it might be fun to involve the children of our staff members to put together this fundraiser. We chose a day and had four children come in to man the booth. With homemade sugar cookies, a fabulous lemonade-themed tablescape, and of course thirst-quenching lemonade, the kids raised more than \$100 for the Gardens. Who couldn’t

resist the cute little faces or the voice of **Ronan Cullina** shouting out, “Get your lemonade here!”? A very special thank you to **Tallulah**

**Im**, daughter of our Office Superwoman **Courtney Locke**, who inspired the wonderful afternoon! 🌱



## 2012 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

◀ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- **Plant Sale: BJ Dobson**, who spent hundreds of hours ordering for the plant sale, got her own volunteer crew together to help organize all of the plants, helped set up the event, manned the entire event, and then helped clean it up!
  - **Summer Gala & Fundraiser: Sarah Strauss**, who met once a month with staff and committee members from December 2011 to July 2012. She oversaw all aspects of the event, including her sub-committee chairs—**Marissa Carmolli** (food), **Lee LaPointe** (decorations) **Pat Schubert** (program), **Susan Schreiber** (auction packages), **Becky Welsh** (bid sheets), **Jean Hamilton** (auction setup), **Mollie Moore** (auction items), and **Dorothy Ferrell** (auction items). Sarah’s hard work paid off: the fundraiser was fun and it was a success for the Gardens.
- The next ten volunteers have earned recognition for their Distinguished Service to the Gardens. They volunteer
- in four or more programs, complete special projects, train other volunteers, recruit other volunteers, substitute at a moment’s notice, respond to my “YIKES emails,” and are just plain invaluable. I adore them all:
    - **Elizabeth Glunt** (I made an exception here: 20 hrs./week for 4½ months is extraordinary!)
    - **BJ Dobson** (docent, gift shop, event chair, volunteer training, art exhibits, special events)
    - **Dick Chase** (ACT, docent, hort therapy, courtesy shuttle sub, special projects, resource room)
    - **Wells Moore** (courtesy shuttle, docent, hort therapy, volunteer trainings, ACT sub)
    - **Pat Jeremiah** (resource room, ambassador, Children’s Garden guide, Children’s Garden steward, volunteer caterer, special events, trains volunteers, Kitchen Garden Series Dinners hostess)
    - **Pam Rawden** (grounds work, pink lady’s slipper project, ambassador, Saturday vegetable garden caretaker, CSA)
  - **Jean Rosenberg** (docent, Children’s Garden steward, special events, resource room)
  - **John Lunt** (ACT, courtesy shuttle, docent, special events)
  - **Marty Landorf** (docent, grounds work, resource room, special events)
  - **Nancy Whitehouse** (docent, ACT, ambassador, resource room, caterers, courtesy shuttle sub)
  - **Ozzie Cheek** (gift shop sub, free guided walks, group tour docent, shuttle, ACT sub)
- The last group of volunteers are Save-the-Day Volunteers. These volunteers continually bail out the Gardens when a program schedule has a sudden hole in it and must be filled pronto or when there’s a special project to be accomplished. They literally keep programs running smoothly. **Koko Harris, Bob Gilbert, Jane Lunt, Pat Ridlon, Leigh Sherrill, Mary Chase, Cathy Miller, Sue Sefcik, Jann Minzy, and Steve Jenks.**
- Let’s give them a big hand to thank them for all they do and thank you for all you do, every one of you.” 🌱

# 6th Annual Fairy House Festival

**O**ur sixth annual Maine Fairy House Festival drew more than 4,500 people to the Gardens throughout the three-day event. It also drew more than 20 volunteers to help make the event run smoothly! **Carole McCarthy, Jan Brennan, Ruth Story, Anne Butler, Jane Lunt, and BJ Dobson** served fairy tea and gnome punch with cookies to the little girls and boys. **Lynne Nordhoff and Sandy Gillespie** lent a hand in our Gardens Gift Shop tent on the Great Lawn. **Pat Jeremiah** organized the free make & take crafts in the Seagull Pavilion, with the much-needed help of **Diann Ring and Amanda Lavigueur**. **Cathy Miller, Ellen Knox, Barbie Eldred, and Susan Sefcik with her niece Brianne Sefcik** led the games and handed out prizes for all. **Judy McAllister, Jean Rosenberg, and Lori LaRochelle** were very welcome helpers for the workshop leaders who led craft classes in the mornings. **Barbara Saxon**



and Children's Garden Stewards **Colleen Hendricks, Sosha Stecher, Andrea Tineo, Katie Claytor and Claudia Stedt** helped keep the outdoor Fairy Village well stocked and orderly. A very special thank you to **Louis Augustine, Celeste**

**Crowley, Kerri Day, and Boothbay Region Greenhouses** for creating a magical indoor display of fairy houses—our best ever! As usual, many hands made light work out of our busy fairy event. Thank you “fairy” much! 🧚



# Education Department Gardens Guides

This year the Education Department offered a ninety-minute tour especially for Maine school children. You probably saw a big yellow bus or two parked out front of the Education Center this spring. With the amazing help of **Bonnie Ginger, Pat Jeremiah, and Marianne Reynolds** (with **Pat Renfro** as a stellar sub), students from pre-school through high school, including special populations, were exposed to the wonders of the Lerner Garden of the Five Senses and the Bibby & Harold Alford Children's Garden. What made these tours so compelling was the in-depth knowledge and Gardens lore that our volunteers brought to life. We asked teachers to rate their experience and to describe their visit in one word. "Fun" and "Beautiful" were at the top of the list. We heartily thank these dedicated volunteers who allowed Maine students to experience the Gardens in such a special way. 🌱

## Children's Garden Stewards

For those of you who have visited the Children's Garden during the busy summer season, you know how well loved this garden is by its visitors, especially children. If you did stop by for a visit, you might have noticed one of our Children's Garden Stewards dressed in blue. Thanks to the work of these volunteers who gave more than 375 hours of volunteer service, the Story Barn and the Coloring Cottage were kept looking great for visitors; there were clean sheets for kids to color in the Coloring Cottage; the chickens never went hungry, and their coop was kept nice and clean; the visitors were welcomed and had their questions answered, the vegetable garden and greenhouse were kept watered; and the daily activities such as Storytime, Story Tour, and the Discovery Station were a success! What a wonderful, dedicated, caring group of volunteers we had in the Children's Garden this year!

Many thanks to all of our Children's Garden Stewards: **Carol Calvanese; Mariellen Whelan; Pat Jeremiah; Nikki Sullivan; Carol and Alan Fisher; Ellen Knox; Leigh, Vlade, and Will Sherrill; Susan Smith; Donna Muzzy; Beth Morris; Jean Rosenberg; Samantha Coon; Jane Gness; Fran Gay; Sarah Freeman; Ellen Coyne; Susie McGuinness; Ana Lombard; and Susan Formanski.** I hope to see you all back next year! A special thanks goes out to **Pat Jeremiah** who helped to categorize all of the Story Barn books this past Spring and who has dedicated her Monday mornings to Storytime since last winter and will continue offering this activity through the coming winter in the Education Center. I would also like to give a special thanks to **Carol Calvanese** for assisting with Cider Sundays in the Children's Garden this fall and for helping with Scarecrow Sunday. Finally, thank you to **Mariellen Whelan** and **Bobby Ives** for replacing the seats in the Tidely-Idley. They look great! 🌱

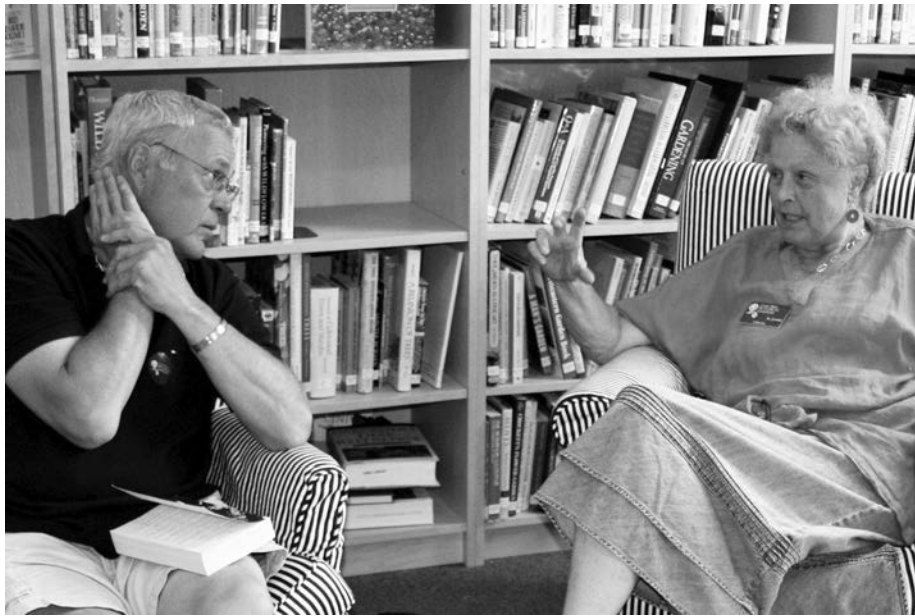


## Youth Education Stewards

I would also like to give a special thanks to our Youth Education Stewards who volunteered in the Children's Garden this past summer. These young volunteers (ages 11-16) gave more than 450 hours of volunteer service and assisted the Children's Garden Stewards in all aspects of the Children's Garden. I was very impressed by the initiative they took in completing the daily activities and their willingness to lend a hand, even if it meant picking bugs off vegetable plants or cleaning the chicken coop! Thank you to **Colleen Hendricks, Nele Thestorf, Lexie Miller, Andrea Tineo, Ashley Hallenbeck, Katie Claytor, Emma Pearce, Riley Sullivan, Claudia Stedt, Rhiannon Ramsey-Brimberg, Olivia Paolillo, Sosha Stecher, Samantha Ober, Helen Hamblett, Lincoln Hamblett** and **Maggie Folsom** for being a part of the YES! Program this year. I hope many of you are able to return next year! 🌱

## Nature Adventure Camp

I would also like to thank **Jean Rosenberg, Ana Lombard, Sosha Stecher** and **Riley Sullivan** who assisted Camp Coordinator Cindy Farnham with Nature Adventure Camps this past summer. These camps are a lot of fun but do require a lot of energy from the leaders and assistants. Thanks so much for lending a hand and making our camps a favorite part of a child's summer! A special thanks to **Jean Rosenberg**, who helped to coordinate and run the first week of Nature Adventure Camp with Cindy. Thank you for sharing all of your wonderful knowledge and fun activities with the campers and all of your great educational resources with the Education Department! 🌱



## Horticultural Therapy Program

THANK YOU to **Barbara Babb, Dick Chase, Sue Woolson and Ellen Blois** for your support and commitment to another successful and fulfill-



ing Horticultural Therapy Program. We had three participating groups in the program plus a tour day with representatives from the Maine Special Olympics and Midcoast Children Development Service. Mobius Inc. from Damariscotta with participants who have developmental challenges came on Wednesdays for 12 weeks to be out in the Lerner Garden of the Five Senses. The Lincoln Home, a group of elders with dementia from Newcastle and the VIP's, those who have visual impairments from mid-coast Maine, attended on Fridays. We did everything you can imagine related to the garden; sow seeds, plant young seedlings, deadhead, weed, fertilize, harvest, water the plants, make a scarecrow, arrange flowers in vases weekly, dry herbs and more.

Throughout the progress of the program, the volunteers gain a deeper understanding towards the benefits of horticultural therapy for everyone, plus they develop respected relationships with the participants of the groups. Among the physical and psychological benefits lies the social benefit of sharing a common goal with a group or partner of nurturing or harvesting a plant. Social barriers are broken and a new respect for each other emerges. Many thanks to the volunteers for their commitment, patience, and enthusiasm while helping make this program a success again in 2012. We look forward to Growing Season 2013! 🌱

## Resource Room Stewards

**W**e would like to thank the following volunteers for answering visitor questions about our gardens and plants in the new Resource Room in the Visitor Center: **Sandy Gillespie, Nancy Whitehouse, Grace Morgan, Marty Landorf, Mary Gene Myer, Pamela Rawden, Virginia Jones, Richard Chase, Patricia Jeremiah**, and **Susan Coppola**. As a new volunteer position with lots of bugs to iron out, this was a challenging post, and we very much appreciated the continuing efforts of this dedicated bunch of volunteers in assisting and hosting the Gardens' members and guests. Thank you for the great feedback you provided about this new volunteer position and we will strive to continually improve our coordination the program in 2013.

The Education Department would also like to thank **Virginia Jones** for volunteering to help in the Education Office once a week. Ginny helped us make sure we were communicating effectively with the front desk staff each week. Thank you, Ginny! 🌱

## Horticulture Dept. Volunteers

**T**his was the first year since we officially opened in 2007 that we did not have a major capitol project to complete. This gave the Horticultural Department and its volunteers time to get caught up on some much-needed house-keeping projects. The volunteers were a huge help with renovating areas in the existing gardens, weeding, planting annuals, weeding some more, cleaning trails, weeding still more, assisting with the CSA (community-supported agriculture) program, weeding, dead-heading, pond maintenance, weeding, and keeping the grounds in top shape. (Did I mention weeding?)



A very hearty thank you for all that effort to **Doug and Cindy Lockwood, Marty Landorf, Sara Schwartz, Marcia Annenberg, Jean Hamilton, Carolyn Jenks, Susan Woolson, Bonnie Ginger, Greg Muzzy, Fred Kraeuter, Bill Prince, Betsy Evans, Pam Rawden, Ethan Roos, and Kate Snow**. 🌱

# GIFT SHOP VOLUNTEERS



**T**he volunteers in the Gardens Gift Shop had a tremendous job this year in getting ready, getting used to, and running the newly expanded shop. First, before even thinking about the expansion, inventory had to be reduced. **BJ Dobson, Dorothy Ferrell** and **Pat Jeremiah** helped with the spring sale at the Gift Shop on February 18. Then the chaos (or they would say the “fun”) began. **Susan Whitehouse, Betsy Kelly,** and **Judy Hamlin** worked tirelessly researching inventory, buying, organizing, even good ol’ fashioned cleaning

with a lot of elbow grease.

It worked! The Gardens Gift Shop was tremendously successful this year, and that was due in no small part to our volunteers, who went along on the wild ride and were glad they did.

Thanks go to **Joy Collins, Connie Towne, Jane Lunt, Janet Goff, Ginny Burke, Jean Hamilton, Susan Schreiber, Ellen Knox, Jane Norton, Polly Gibson, Kay Scott, Carole McCarthy, Pam Riml, Maggie Newton, Cheryl Fore** and subs **Becky Welsh, Ozzie Cheek** and **Jo Haney.** ☘

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## Volunteer Flower Arrangers (OR, MORE ACCURATELY, FLOWER ARRANGER)

**I**n 2012, the Gardens expanded our volunteer needs. Our volunteers are so talented and passionate about this place that we well know that they are the best qualified to fill the needs of our growing organization. The Education Department needed more volunteers. The Visitor Center needed more volunteers. “Hort” and special events and Gift Shop—we all needed more volunteers. That is why, in May, I was suddenly without any Volunteer Flower Arrangers—all my would-be arrangers had accepted volunteer jobs elsewhere in the Gardens. Well, I had one signed up—**Mary Chase**—who is a wonderful arranger and who loves every type of flower, whether rare or from a Maine field.

So, I sheepishly called up Mary and said, “You are my only volunteer this year. Would you want to be THE Volunteer Flower Arranger for the year, for EVERY week, Mary?” And she said, “I was hoping you’d ask.”

Every Wednesday, I set up a table in the Visitor Center. Gardens Administrative Assistant and MASTER flower grower **Courtney Locke** and I would pick flowers in the mornings at our houses and lug them all in buckets to the table. Mary would bring her own flowers, too, and would set to work creating the most wonderful arrangements for every nook and cranny in the Visitor Center. I loved it. Mary did, too. And most of all, our guests loved the flowers.

We also had two volunteers help with special small events: **Gale Jourdet** and **Jean Hamilton.** Thanks to all. ☘



# Volunteer Courtesy Shuttle Program

BY AMANDA LAVIGUER

This year was quite the year for shuttle driving! In spite of one cart failing us early in the season, we made it through as we waited...and waited...and waited for a new motor. Even once it got here and was installed, it was not smooth sailing, or should I say, riding. Within a couple of days the new motor had a temper tantrum, putting it out of use for a few more days. Needless to say, this temperamental cart was fittingly named “Mugwort.” We have our shuttle drivers to thank for learning to work with three carts for both shifts, which was no easy task. Nevertheless, the season ended with four fully functional carts. They, along with Mugwort, are Weigela, Lupin, and Rhubarb—named at my insistence to add more character to the shuttle system.

The heroes of the shuttle driving system have continually been **Wells Moore** and **Bob Gilbert**. We cannot thank Wells enough for coming in to train our new volunteers. And Bob took so many shifts in May before the regulars arrived for the season that he must have felt he worked here as staff! Bob also washed the carts to keep them sparkling clean. This year’s newest additions to the shuttle team include **Bill Simpson, Bob Vawter, Phillip Hogan, David Tudor, Bob DePhillips, Nick Beram, John Yrchik, Gunther DeGroot, and Paul Napolitan**. Welcome!

However, every single driver is vital to the working of our Courtesy Shuttle Program, and we can’t thank enough our impressive list of veteran volunteers, whether sub or regular: **Moose McDonough, Steve Jenks, Mike Connelly, Aaron Scharff, Sandy Gillespie, Dick Chase, Andy Abello, Sue Sefcik, Harold Van Sclen, Chet Killam, Peggy Drake, Ed Cataldo, Andrew Matthews, John Lunt, Bruce Beaudette, Bob Blakelock, Bob Gilbert, Joanne O’Connor, Dave and Diana Shook, John Calvanese, Norm Blycher, Anna Ranta, Wells Moore, Tom Hilton, Pat Ridlon, Bob Cressey, Dick Snyder, Ozzie Cheek, Frank Brower, Allison Lowell** (who, might I add, has also continued to do an amazing job as a “program leader” by reminding drivers of their shifts every week), **Peter Doelp, Nancy Whitehouse, JE Edwards, Dave Nordhoff, Peter and Joan Daniels, Judith Robertson, Don Rose, Liz Stebbins, Lee Gevauden, and Courtney West**. Whew!

If I could think of one word to describe shuttle drivers at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens it would be committed.

Our drivers are so dedicated to what they do that they come to the Gardens rain or shine (sometimes even when we give them the option to stay home because of the weather!) They fill in for drivers who can’t make it and are patient with the obstacles we come across, especially this season with Shuttle 2 being out of commission so much of the time. Our visitors greatly appreciate the shuttles and their drivers, as can be seen by the income the Gardens have received from full donation boxes inside the carts at the end of the day. The Courtesy Shuttle Program makes the Gardens stand out for our visitor service, and for this we have our shuttle drivers to thank. 🌱



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## ACCESSIBLE CART TOUR PROGRAM

The Accessible Cart Tour (ACT) Program continues to be both very successful and totally fun for the Docents who drive the carts and offer the tours and also for the guests who pre-register for the opportunity to be guided by a trained Docent in an electric cart throughout the Gardens. This program adds to the Gardens’ commitment to make the full campus accessible to all people of all abilities.

An aside: We’ve added individual motorized Mobility Scooters that guests can also rent at the Front Desk. Both guests

and Docents have taken advantage of these wonderful little scooters that truly make the Gardens accessible.

But to get back to those fantastic volunteers—the ACT Docents. They are a special group of people, committed to helping guests have a wonderful experience here. I can’t thank them enough. Yes, I can! Thank you goes to **Jan Brennan, Sandy Gillespie, Nancy Whitehouse, Steve Jenks, Tom Hilton, Mariellen Whelan, Dick Chase, Eldie Johnston, John Lunt, Carole LaFontaine** and subs **Ozzie Cheek** and **Wells Moore**. 🌱

# Plant Sale

The 2012 Plant Sale was one of the most successful plant sales ever, thanks to returning Chair **BJ Dobson**. BJ worked all winter to put together a top-notch order, and boy, did she deliver some great products! Buyers were delighted with the selection, as was evidenced by the very few plants remaining at the end of the event. **Elin Haugen, Maren Fischer, Virginia Carr, Susanne Hamblen, Enid Johnson, Betty Repa, and Roxanne Smith** all provided much-needed assistance to BJ in the days leading up to the sale and throughout the entire weekend, from setting up to marking prices to making sales. Thank you to this great team! **Anne Hughes and Betty Repa** welcomed members to the exclusive member sale on Saturday morning. Many people worked to check out the more than \$15,000 worth of sales: **Jane Lunt, Lynne Nordhoff, Pauline Gibson, Anne Butler, Marty Landorf, Rebecca Hutcheson, Cheryl Reif, Cheryl Fore, Staff Member Courtney Locke, Alison Lowell, and Sandy Gillespie**. Their smiling faces and adept fingers brought in those bucks! **Jane Danielson, Fran Gay, Mary Harris, Carole McCarthy, Mar Jo Carlsen, Patricia Horine, and Carole Johnson** helped out as needed, including manning the new mulch sale area and helping customers with their plants. A big thank you to those who shared their gardening expertise on the sales floor, giving advice to customers: **Bonnie & Linton Studdiford, Stephanie Bacon, Elizabeth Pavelle, and Jean Rosenberg**. What a wonderful and talented group—thank you! 🌱



# Portland Flower Show

From Thursday through Sunday each year in March, the Gardens' informational booth at the Portland Flower Show spreads the word about Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. The booth is manned entirely by volunteers whose passion and enthusiasm inspire visitors to ask, "Where is this place?" and "Did you say a botanical garden, here in Maine?" They get people excited about the upcoming season, whether it's educational programs, special events, or opportunities to volunteer.

Held at the Portland Company Complex down on Fore Street, the Portland Flower Show is an important marketing tool for the Gardens and a fun time for all volunteers. This past year, **Susan Gallant, Dick and Mary Chase, Mary Jo Carlson, Patricia Horing, Carole Johnson, Susan Knapp, Stephanie Bacon, Ellen Knox, Melanie Ness, Pat Shaw, Steve and Cathy Berger, Nancy and Tom Atwell, Carole McCarthy, and Anne Krebsbach** all tended the booth. Judging by our 2012 attendance at the Gardens—especially in those early months before the summer crowds—they did a swell job. Thank you! 🌱



# Teas

Both our spring and fall teas continue to be a fantastic success, thanks to Volunteer Team Leader **Mollie Moore**. She not only put together a well-oiled team for both of the teas; Mollie was also responsible for making the delicious scones, herbed cheese, and homemade strawberry jam. In the kitchen, she kept track of the sandwich-making ladies: **Jane Lunt, Doris Russell, Anne Butler, Pam Rawden, Dottie Brewer, Eileen Sypher, and Carolyn Dolbear**. They worked tirelessly to make the sandwiches and arrange the plates for all to enjoy. **Pat Jeremiah, BJ Dobson, Jane Lunt, and Diane Napolitan** got the tea and the plates to the hungry guests, and **BJ Dobson, Judy McAllister, and Kate Snow** made sure the tea was freshly brewed and piping hot! This team is what makes our teas sell-out events twice a year, every year! Thank you! 🌱

# Plein Air

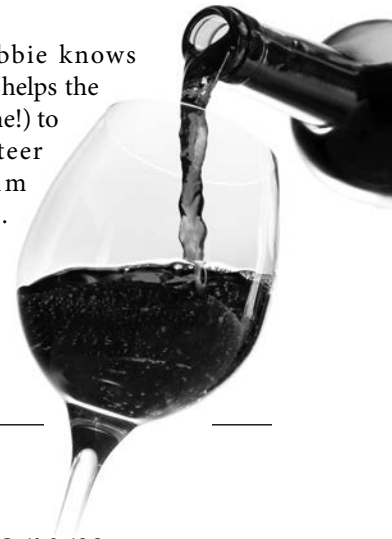
A special thank you to the cart drivers who came in for an extra-early shift to help shuttle the Plein Air Painting Days artists around the Gardens. We welcomed more than 150 artists throughout the end of May and early June. Thank you to **John Lunt, Andrew Matthews, Harold Van Siclen, Leon Gevaudan, Anna Ranta, and Nancy Whitehouse** for being such wonderful ambassadors—the artists were delighted with the service! 🌱

# VOLUNTEER CATERING PROGRAM

**P**at Jeremiah, Pat Kiley, Carole LaFountain, Polly Gibson, BJ Dobson, Anne Marie Kurzius, Jane Lunt, Nikki Sullivan, Nancy Whitehouse, Greg Muzzy, Pat Ridlon, Joy Collins, Anne Butler, Steve and Cathy Burger, and Lee Gevaudan were all the best of caterers this summer. I purposely didn't mention **Bobbie Medal**

to start out with, because Bobbie was Top Dog this year in the Volunteer Catering Program. Yes, she cooked and bartended and set up and cleaned up, but she also volunteered to be Team Leader, calling and organizing the volunteers prior to an event, coming in early and staying late to make sure the reception event went smoothly. This is what a Team Leader

does, and Bobbie knows full well how it helps the Gardens (and me!) to know a volunteer is at the helm taking charge. Thank you Bobbie and thank you everyone! Bon appetit! 🍷



## A Bloomin' Good Time: Summer Gala & Fundraiser

**O**ur summer fundraiser, "A Bloomin' Good Time," was truly a wonderful success thanks to the hundreds of volunteer hours put in to make it happen! This event raised more than \$50,000 for the Gardens, and it couldn't have been done without each and every one of you!



A huge thank you to our Chairwoman, **Sarah Strouss**, and the volunteer committee she led: **Pat Schubert, Lee LaPointe, Jean Hamilton, Marissa Carmolli, Becky Welsh, Susan Schreiber, Mollie Moore, and Dorothy Ferrell**. These ladies met with staff members monthly from December into July to plan every last detail to make a successful party and auction. **Mollie and Wells Moore, Carolyn Dolbear, Stan Sawyer, Susan Schreiber, Board Members**, and many others helped pitch in to ask for auction donations.

**Douglas and Cindy Lockwood** and **Amanda Lavigueur** helped set up the tables and chairs. **Allan Strouss, Louis Augustine, and Douglas & Cindy Lockwood** welcomed the Featured Caterers under the direction of **Marissa Carmolli**. **Lee LaPointe** put together the colorful decorations with the help of **Mary Gevaudan, Ginger Carr, and Martha Heald**. **Jean Hamilton** displayed all of the auction items, and **Becky Welsh** wrote up the silent auction descriptions.

**Jane Gness** and **Jann Minzy** tended to the food providers throughout the night. **Ruth Story, Sandy Gillespie, BJ Dobson, Patricia Shaw, and Lynn Vogt** welcomed the crowds and checked them in.

**Pat Jeremiah, Carole McCarthy, Bobbie Medal, and Carol and Alan Fisher** kept everything looking neat and tidy. A special thanks to **Bobbie Medal** who stayed cleaning up until the very end of the night!

**Andy Abello, Carlie and Tom Friedlander, Patricia Renfro, and Pam Fox** helped display the live auction items, and **Pat Ridlon** and **Bob Gilbert** shuttled guests around the grounds. What a fun night—thank you so much to all! 🍷

## Volunteer Ambassadors Program

**T**he Volunteer Ambassador Program completed its third year in 2012, and what a year. With the rise in visitorship, the Front Desk was able to process our guests in a friendly and timely way because of the Volunteer Ambassadors posted in Kerr Hall or out on the West Terrace steps. Ambassadors not only explain the map to our guests, they often create an itinerary for them according to the guests' timeline and needs. They help them to explore the Gardens fully so their day is the best day of the summer.

To illustrate what Ambassadors do best, I will share with you an email that I wrote Nancy Whitehouse on July 20th:

*Hi Nancy,*

*I never got a chance to thank you for today. I am really grateful to have you as a volunteer, that's for sure. And I was totally impressed in the few minutes I was out there when all those people kept coming up to you and saying things like, "Thanks to you, we went places we never have before," and "You were right about that path!" and "Thank you for helping us out so perfectly."*

*As always (even when I forget), thank you, Nancy,*

*Amanda*

Simply said, Ambassadors help to make the day extra special for our guests. Thank you to **Jan Brennan, Pat Jeremiah, Lynne Nordhoff, Estelle Greenberg, Sharon Rahn, Nancy Whitehouse, Connie Towne, Steve Shaw, Pam Rawden, Ginger Carr, Penny Matthews, Rebecca Hutcheson, Liz Dodson, Ron Ross, Penny Pollard, Anne Marie Kurzius, Maren Fischer, Ruth Story, Mark Scott, Sarah Freeman, Shirley Tawney, Dan Mocarski, Lori LaRochelle, Ozzie Cheek, Cathy Messmer, Andy Abello, Lynn Vogt, Dick Chase, Gunther DeGroot, Cathy Miller, and Joyce Richter**.

And special thanks to our weekend Ambassadors, who are the heroes for our guests: **Estelle Greenberg, Dan Mocarski, Liz Dodson, Cathy Messmer, and Sharon Rahn**, including weekend subs, **Shirley Tawney, Pat Jeremiah, Penny Matthews, Ron Ross, Lynn Vogt, Rebecca Hutcheson, and Cathy Miller**. 🍷

# DOCENTS

**Ozzie Cheek, Mary Gevaudan, Steve Shaw, Patricia Renfro, Mary Chase, Susan Formanski, Louise McIlhenny, Andy Abello, Paula Swetland, and Maggie Atwood** trained as new Docents this year, completing the three-day course and then throwing themselves into volunteering with gusto.

They joined the Veteran Docents in offering hundreds of hours of tours for our guests, but I must mention here that trained Docents can also participate in several volunteer opportunities on a regular basis in order to fulfill their volunteer hours commitment. Our Docents regularly volunteer in the Resource Room and as Ambassadors, as ACT driver/docents, as Children's Garden Stewards and Guides. Many of them do programmatic duties and give Docent Tours! As a trained Docent, volunteers are well suited to be the "Face of the Gardens" and are the "Face of the Gardens" in every way.

Thank you to our Veteran Docents: **Maya Liteplo, Susan Whitehouse, Jann Minzy, Koko Harris, Leigh Sherrill, Pat Neely, Jan Brennan, Sandy Gillespie, Cathy Miller, Nancy Whitehouse, Steve Jenks, John Lunt, Mariellen Whelan, Carole LaFontaine, Tom Hilton, Wells Moore, Anne Marie Kurzius, Linda Anderson, Mary Neal, Sarah Giles, Dick Chase, Hoyt Walbridge, Stephanie Bacon, Penny Matthews, Grace Morgan, Eldie Johnston, BJ Dobson, Marty Landorf, Cathy Messmer, Marianne Reynolds, Jean Rosenberg, Rebecca and Thad Hutcheson, Judy Linker, Joanne O'Connor, Lynne Nordhoff, Maggie Newton, Pam Nolan, Sharon Rahn, Lois-Jean Berry, Laura Ronan, and Sarah Strouss.**

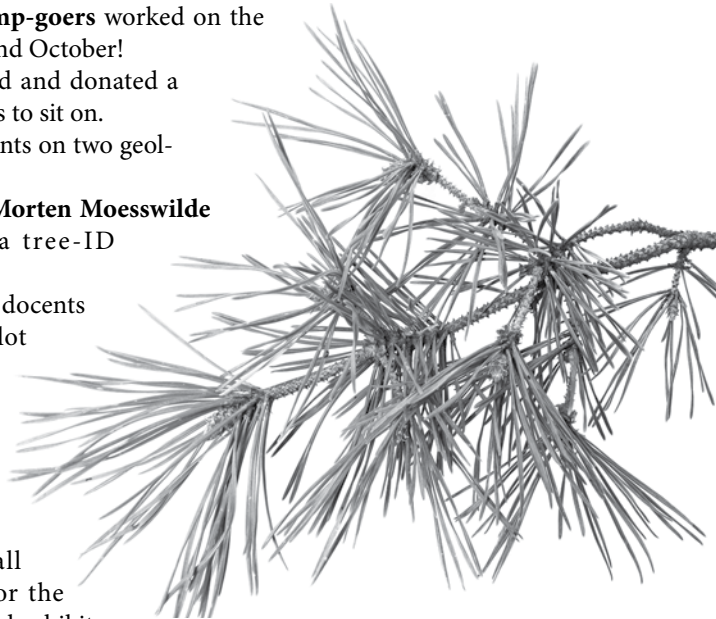
There were several veteran Docents who had to take a year's leave of absence from giving guided tours and volunteering this year but will be back next year. Not to pressure them in any way, I must say that I look forward to again working with **Gale Jourdet, Bette Pavelle, Claire Tomlin, Anne Hughes, Muffie Fer-nald, and Frannie Lord.** ♪

# Odds and Ends

**I**t's always fun to list all the extra jobs and tasks volunteers accomplish, sometimes without being asked and many times through their own suggestions. Read the list below; the items on the 2012 list are bulleted because there were so many accomplishments—and you will see what I mean when I say that volunteers get it done!



- **Wells Moore and Susan Whitehouse** conducted the Orientation Guided Tours.
- **BJ Dobson** conducted the model tours for the New Docents in training.
- **Beth Morris** worked with Director of Marketing Kris Folsom on special winter projects—love those winter volunteers!
- **Elizabeth Glunt** worked all winter, 2½ days every week from January 1 to mid-April, with me as a Volunteer Coordinator Assistant!
- **Boothbay Region High School** spent Community Service Day in April getting the Gardens ready for the season.
- **BJ Dobson, Dorothy Ferrell and Pat Jeremiah** helped with the spring sale at the gift shop on February 18.
- **BJ Dobson** wrote the Bird Bio's—all 27 of them—for the Julie Babb art show .
- **Susan Whitehouse, Betsy Kelly, and Judy Hamlin** worked tirelessly to ready the new Gardens Gift Shop.
- **Herbert Moody** built two bluebird houses as a gift for artist Julie Babb and her show, "Our Maine Birds."
- **Yale Day of Service participants** built bookcase for the Resource Room.
- **Bob Gilbert** collected driftwood and shells for the Fairy House Festival, including my workshop. He also purchased the fairies for the tea tables' centerpieces.
- **Dick and Mary Chase** collected sticks for the Fairy House Festival.
- **Camp Kieve-Wavus camp-goers** worked on the grounds in July, August and October!
- **Dan Mocarski** purchased and donated a stool for the Ambassadors to sit on.
- **Bob Doyle** took the docents on two geology walk-and-talks.
- State of Maine Forester **Morten Moesswilde** took the docents on a tree-ID walk-and-talk.
- **Andy Abello** hosted the docents at our Edgcomb woodlot for continuing education about tree-ID, forestry practices, and aspects of the wood-products industry.
- **Lou Augustine** made all the exhibition stands for the inside Fairy House Festival exhibit.
- **Bobby Ives and Mariellen Whelan** replaced the seats of the *Tidely Idely*.



Like I said, volunteers make things happen. Thank you! ♪

*“To describe your gifts  
of time and talents as  
invaluable minimizes  
the enormity of what  
you do.”*



## *A Rhyming Dedication to the Membership Mailing Volunteers...*

BY **JEN MCKANE**, WITH FACT CHECKING BY **LAURA LIVINGSTON**  
AND CREATIVE SUGGESTION BY **ASHLEY FERRUCCI**

On Tuesdays when the Gardens are bursting in bloom,  
A group of cheery volunteers arrive in the Resource Room.  
Their conversation, laughter and energy abound,  
but don't be fooled by their carefree sounds.

Whether your membership level is Family or Dual,  
these volunteers ensure you don't miss your renewal.  
Each of these fantastic volunteers must be toasted,  
Because of their generosity thousands of letters are posted.

**Mollie Moore** is the proverbial Queen Bee of all mailings,  
with her keen memory and direction it is always clear sailing.  
**Polly Steadman** and **Mollie Moore** demonstrate the sealing know-how,  
While the postcard authorities are **Jane Cheema** and **Carol Howe**.

Of course, the folding and stuffing requires meticulous attention,  
**Barbara Leonard**, **Dottie Brewer**, **Polly Gibson**, **Doris Russell**, **Karen Brower**,  
**Jackie Elderkin** and **Ginny Burke**, you all get the highest of mention.  
Some devoted volunteers hail from a peninsula up,  
**Carolyn Dobeare**, **Kathy Moses** and **Martha Masters** are all in our  
Round Pond lineup.

The two chaps in the group are clever and easygoing,  
**David Collier** and **Stan Sawyer**, your dedication keeps these gardens growing.  
And our postal machine guru—**Jane Lunt**—is fast and efficient,  
Thank you for your expertise, you're so extremely proficient.

Dear volunteers, we hope you know that we appreciate you profusely,  
and through the winter we always monitor your return closely.  
And next year when the plants emerge and begin to get hardy,  
We'll be waiting patiently and looking forward to the next mailing party.

