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12 Magazine for The Friends of Sarah P. Duke Gardens  
Issue No. 96
dear friends

In the past year, we dedicated the Frances P. Rollins Overlook, the Roney Fountain, the Mary Duke Biddle Rose Garden, the Walker Dillard Kirby Perennial Allée and the Charlotte Brody Discovery Garden, and we re-dedicated the Page-Rollins White Garden after considerable renovations. Duke Gardens looks marvelous, and the entire horticultural staff (including scores of dedicated volunteers) is to be congratulated for maintaining our high standard of excellence in the midst of so much construction.

On the program side, we have greatly increased the number and rigor of our educational offerings, both in adult and children and family programs, and seen dramatic increases in program revenue as a result. With the opening of the Discovery Garden we will vastly increase our outreach to the local community. The investments we have made the past few years in personnel, planning and program development are paying off, and we’ve just begun.

Going forward, we are working to build our capacity to communicate with our visitors, educating them that Duke Gardens is a public garden, not a public park, and that over half of our annual operating budget comes from the support of those who value what Duke Gardens has to offer.

We continue to plan physical and programmatic improvements to edge us toward that goal and to build our base of support to achieve a more sustainable future.

We are making excellent progress. The staff, volunteers and Board of Advisors are to be congratulated for taking Duke Gardens to the next level. The results are everywhere to see. Sarah P. Duke Gardens ranks among the top university gardens and public gardens in America. I am thankful for the opportunity to lead such an outstanding organization and the talented, dedicated staff and volunteers who truly deserve the credit as we endeavor to make it even better.

Thank you for your support of Duke Gardens. If you know others who enjoy the Gardens regularly, we would appreciate your encouraging them to become members of the Friends of Duke Gardens as well.

Sincerely,

Bill LeFevre
Executive Director

Among the iconic visual features that mark Duke Gardens as an integral part of Duke University, Duke stone is one of the most widely recognizable. From its rich caramel, rust and blue hues to the precise manner in which it must be cut and laid, Duke stone commands attention.

Nobody knows that better than the stonemasons who have to work with it. Among them are Cleve Wagstaff, who most recently worked on the Frances P. Rollins Overlook and the Terrace Fish Pool renovation and pumphouse and also works on projects throughout Duke University, and Brooks Burleson, who most recently worked on the new Page-Rollins White Garden redesign and has done several other projects in the Doris Duke Center Gardens and Memorial Garden. Wagstaff and Burleson shared some thoughts about Duke stone’s history and characteristics.

On the look of Duke stone:

Wagstaff. “The classic Duke stone look is what you see on the Chapel, and that’s the standard we try to go by around the university and the hospital. Most of their work has a raised mortar joint on it. It’s very distinctive. It’s a predominantly blue-gray to brown stone that they quarry out of Hillsborough still, as they did in the late ’20s when they began the work at Duke. It’s what’s called a rough, course ashlar pattern, where the stones tend to run parallel to the ground in a linear fashion, not perfectly but generally.

“At the Gardens, we typically use a little different joint situation. Sometimes we’ll lay it with the mortar not showing out to the front of it. Sometimes it’s laid with a raked look, where you see a little bit of mortar but it’s recessed rather than built out like the conventional joint around the campus.”
Wagstaff: "I'm still learning every day, and I've been doing it for 35 years. Each year that I work it we try to tweak the way we handle it a little bit more to keep the current type of stone that we've got looking as close to what we see at the Chapel and some of the classic work as we can. It's a challenging material to work with. It's a real hard, dense stone. It takes carbide chisels and carbide-tipped tools to cut it and shape it and split it. It doesn't naturally break into 90-degree corners, they all have to be traced and cut. So it requires a lot of preliminary shaping before we actually lay it."

Burleson: "I try to use a lot of older techniques. I go to the Chapel quite often to study their techniques. You can see the chisel strikes and what size chisels they would use, how they would attack the stone. I try to adapt what I've learned using the old techniques. "Some stone actually is more hard and more brittle and blacker in color, and that was actually easier to tool because of its more brittle nature. That stuff seems to be harder to come by if you ever look at the Terrace Café and the bathroom in the Terrace Gardens, a lot of that stone is used on that. "Some of the stones I work with now are softer. To use the old techniques, it's quite difficult sometimes—I would say more difficult than any other type of stone that I work with. It's hard to crosscut with a chisel. You can hit it from one side of the stone against its grain in one direction, and it may cleave all the way across. But if you come in 90 degrees, which looks similar, nothing will happen—you'll just end up with a pile of chips and dust and rubble."

On working with Duke stone:

Wagstaff: "On working with Duke stone:"

Wagstaff: "On working with Duke stone:"

Wagstaff: "Duke has some satellite buildings all around the area, from Wake to Orange and Durham counties, and occasionally the architects will spec a little panel of Duke stone on those satellite offices. There are some churches that have been built in the area out of Duke stone. But it's not commercially available. I would suppose it was donated to those churches over the years; I'm not sure what the story is behind that. "I've been told that there were some properties adjoining the Duke Forest property—that is just word of mouth from people in Orange County—there were some adjoining properties where a small amount of that same material was surface-mined, easily accessible stone over the years. So it's not as if Duke owned all the property along the Eno that had that type of stone. I'm sure there was other stone that was gotten off of farmland or something and was used in other buildings. The surface supply of that stone may have played out. To my knowledge, there aren't any other pits out there that have Duke stone."

On where else you’ll find Duke stone:

Wagstaff: "On where else you’ll find Duke stone:"

On letting the stone prevail:

Burleson: "On letting the stone prevail:"

Burleson: "If you impose your will on something, a lot of times the way you want to do it isn’t working, so you have to adjust your thoughts. You basically have to learn what the secrets are and what it it’ll tell you. And I would just try to use my old way of thinking on it, so it took awhile. It took a long while to level my pride out. I had this mindset that the stone wasn’t going to win, but ultimately it did."

On writing about Duke Gardens

I myself am a gardener of sorts, and I enjoyed my yard in which I gardened. I guess that led me to enjoy Duke Gardens. I used to park up in the parking lot there and walk through the Gardens on the way to the Allen Building, where my office was. So I kept my eyes on the Gardens through the years and got to know the people who worked there. I became aware of the fact that the Gardens were not endowed, which seemed to me a shame. They were on the university’s budget, and a sizable item on the budget. I can’t remember when it was, but I was talking with one of the officers of the administration and he said, “Well, why don’t you try to do something about this endowment?” And I did. I wrote a number of letters to people that I knew enjoyed the Gardens, too, and urged them to contribute to the support of the Gardens. I don’t know how many donated, but I’m sure it wasn’t a lot of money because I was writing to academics and they don’t have big fortunes, mostly.

I wrote “The Dukes of Durham,” which came out in 1975. As an outgrowth of that, I wanted to write the history of the Duke Endowment and of the university, and I did both. And in the history of the university, I included a chapter called “The Graduate School of Arts & Sciences and Other Essentials for Mind and Spirit.” And I included a long section on the history of the Gardens in that chapter. When my daughters were children, we used to go to the little covered pavilion in the Blomquist Garden, and they liked to play around there. I took my granddaughters there, too. I love that lookout view over the Terraces, the area behind the Fish Pool. I used to stand there and look at the chrysanthemums back in the days when the Terraces would be filled with chrysanthemums in the fall. It was a lovely view.

I’m 87 now and I don’t move around too easily these days. But my daughters take me over to the Gardens occasionally. We put my wife’s ashes in the Memorial Garden. She and I both decided we wanted to be cremated, and once we made that decision, the Memorial Garden was the logical place to put her ashes. It’s a lovely spot.

Gardens supporters on the roots of their passions

ROBERT F. DURDEN

Duke University Professor Emeritus of History

Author of “Duke Gardens Through the Years” & other Duke histories

For more information about Duke Stone and the stonemasons who worked with it, please see Duke Libraries’ articles at the following links: library.duke.edu/uarchives/history/histnotes/dukestone.html and library.duke.edu/uarchives/history/histnotes/stonesetters.html
The renovation of a garden would fit both of these descriptions, with the addition of a third: to mimic the changes wrought by Mother Nature, seasonal or otherwise.

When the Blomquist Garden’s Steve Church Endangered Species collection was built in 2004, it was the first garden of its kind I had ever been involved with. For those of you who may not be familiar with the Church collection, it is a small, sunny stroll through a sampling of the Southeast’s most imperiled plant species. As such, it represents an opportunity to connect the visiting public with not only a number of rare plants but also a host of stories about vanishing habitats. In its original version, the garden perhaps fulfilled a part of that mission. It was a pretty place to wander through. As a middle-aged person beginning to suffer the pangs of occasional immobility, however, I began to see the way it had been originally designed as flawed.

As many of us know, admitting imperfection can be difficult but also liberating. As someone who often attempts to write coherently, I am compulsively editing. The inadequacy of my first, second and even third attempts at any given sentence can be so discouraging as to utterly paralyze my muse. As a gardener, this neurotic fixation on the perfect word to convey what I mean helps me tear things up, whether those things are on paper or in a three-dimensional landscape.

It was a series of injuries over the past few years that provided the inspiration for the complete renovation and rebirth of the Church Endangered Species collection. A hurt back and an injured ankle provided the impetus to tear down the first draft of this garden and create a space where folks who have a problem getting around will find many barriers removed, and they will also find enhanced educational opportunities.

First, a stepping stone path that would have proven difficult to navigate for anyone not completely able-bodied has been converted to a wider, packed stone path. Nearby, a collection of millstones through a bog created a unique “hopscotch” experience for children but a complete roadblock for anyone physically challenged. These stones, still in their original positions but raised two feet, have been incorporated into a unique boardwalk that helps create a seamless loop through the Church collection area.

On a technological note, a small but important addition to the collection is new signage throughout, most of which incorporates the use of smartphone technology in the form of “QR” or “quick response” codes. These small icons allow...
smartphone users to increase the amount of information they can gather about the plants in the Church collection, as well as store that information on their phones and forward it to others, thus vastly increasing the educational reach of the garden.

In addition, a “Piedmont prairie” replica garden has been added along this new loop. Many of the plants found in the Church collection are residents of this vanishing habitat, and having a habitat collection like this allows for many unique teaching opportunities, not the least of which is how valuable fire can be in our native landscapes when managed properly. A decorative interpretive sign helps the public make the connection between plants, habitat and human impact.

Finally, as all plants originally installed had to be removed to accommodate this renovation, we took the opportunity to completely reconstruct the soil in the planting beds for optimum organic material and nutrient content. At the same time, all plant specimens were divided and repotted, creating a bank of replacement plants in our nursery for future use. Also, an automated irrigation system was installed concurrently with the new path to provide a more regular watering schedule and to save time by eliminating hand watering. All of these changes complete, the garden is now growing into its second life.

For me, a visit to Duke Gardens is not complete without a pilgrimage to the Bird-Watching Shelter. This spot is my little piece of paradise that I enjoy sharing with friends and family. I love observing the constant stream of different bird species that congregate at the bird feeders. The shelter also serves as a place of solace for me. When my sister Marlo passed away last year at Duke Hospital, I went to this spot to gather my thoughts and to find the strength to tackle the challenges ahead. Since that day, I feel a spiritual connection to my sister when I am there.
English gardens inspire a gem at Duke Gardens

By Bobby Mottern, Director of Horticulture

Photos by Bobby Mottern, Jason Holmes and Tamara Kilbane

Every gardener seeks inspiration at one time or another. It satisfies our artistic desire to create and points us in a successful direction for the garden. This inspiration can come from a handful of sources: magazines, books, TV, etc., but the most enriching method is to experience it for yourself.

During the planning process for the recently renovated and redesigned Page-Rollins White Garden, inspiration was essential, and not just any magazine would suffice—complete immersion in our craft was critical. Therefore, it became essential, and not just any magazine would suffice—complete immersion in our craft was critical. Therefore, it became

In June last year, I made a pilgrimage with Jason Holmes, curator of the Doris Duke Center Gardens, and horticulturist Tamara Kilbane to what most gardeners consider the horticultural mecca of the planet, England. Our goal was simple: to view some of the most dynamic displays of flowers and horticultural prowess ever assembled and bring these ideas back to create our own bit of English paradise right here at Duke Gardens.

We visited 10 gardens over five days, capturing a plethora of our own bit of English paradise right here at Duke Gardens.

WAKEHURST PLACE WAS NOT FAR FROM GRAVETTEY. This is a Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) garden that houses the national geranium and rhododendron collections. The south garden here displays many plants needing more exposure to heat, like our southern magnolia espaliered on the wall, which they find difficult to flower.

The walled garden was exceptional. The displays of lavender, catmint, alliums and roses blended with splashes of silver were breathtaking. One of our favorite combinations was the lavender catmint (Nepeta faassenii) echoing purple from the reverse sides of the African daisy (Osteospernum).

DENMAN’S GARDEN IS THE HOME OF FAMOUS ENGLISH GARDEN DESIGNER AND AUTHOR JOHN BROOKES. This garden was a true designer’s garden. Unorthodox uses of plant materials, path borders with blurred bed edges, and captivating geometry defined this garden. The garden was not only planted with myriad perennials, but an amazing display of shrubs and trees, many with foliage interest, provided additional visual support. A purple weeping mulberry and golden catalpa are seen in image 5. A variety of verticality in the form of mullen (Verbasum bombyciferum), Spirinichium stratum) and red hot poker (Kniphofia urvaria), all contrast with spherical shapes in the background.

THE MORNING OF THE FINAL DAY, WE VISITED GREAT DIXTER, the former home of the well known plantsman Christopher Lloyd. Over the years he lived here, the garden became legendary for exquisite plant combinations mixed with a fun flair for whimsy.

In photo number 1 on the next page, you’ll see a pastel scene of alliums, our native burgundy smokebush (Cotinus coggyria), and yellow clematines, punctuated by a hot touch of magenta rose campion (Lychnis coronaria).

THE FINAL GARDEN, SISSENDURST CASTLE, DIDN’T DISAPPOINT. Sissinghurst is of course the home of the world-renowned white garden designed by former garden owner Vita Sackville-West. The white garden made Sissinghurst famous, but the blue border, the rose garden, the yellow garden and the herb garden are equally dynamic. The white garden, although not at its peak during our visit, did deliver a nice array of white-blooming plants such as lychnis, fireweed, Epilobium parviflorum, goatsbeard (Aruncus dioicus), astilbe, dicentra, lupines and many others. Our native Hydrangea arborescent and culver’s root were nearly in bloom. Silver- and blue-foliaged plants bolster the white theme: Artemisia ‘Valerie Finnis’, Pyrus salicifolia ‘Silver Sails’, cotton thistle (Onopordum acanthium) and hosta, among others. Roses covered the central arbor and graced the walls, and boxwood hedges maintained order among the beds. The yellow garden and rose gardens were equally dazzling.

Back at Duke Gardens, the design for the Page-Rollins White Garden, now in its second season, is beginning to reflect many of the concepts, flower combinations and plant choices we experienced in England. And we still have plenty of inspiration for years to come.
1. Alliums, burgundy smokebush, yellow columbines and magenta rose campion at Great Dixter.
2. Catmint and complementary African daisy at Wakehurst Place.
4. Jason Holmes among the container plants at Great Dixter, the former home of plantsman Christopher Lloyd.
5. Denman’s Garden, the home of garden designer and author John Brookes.
6. Lavender, catmint, alliums and roses in the walled garden at Wakehurst Place.
Nature Adventures Camp is an opportunity for children to develop a close relationship with the natural world through exploration, experimentation, creativity and adventure. This year, we have expanded the size and duration of camp. During the new spring break camp in April, campers learned to pitch a tent, use a compass and listen closely to a tree. They observed a nesting duck and saw ducklings moments after they hatched. They watched a dragonfly emerge from its chrysalis. They learned about the water cycle as they helped plant a rain garden in the new Charlotte Brody Discovery Garden.

The summer camps are divided into different age groups, from ages 5 to 13. And each week has a theme. Campers can become scientists who study trees, insects, weather and birds. They can transform into time travelers to learn about ancient tools that tell time, measure latitude and predict the weather. They can identify plants in the garden that dinosaurs ate and play games to learn about the power of the sun. In Drawing on Nature, they can sharpen observation skills to experience nature through art.

Here are some images from spring break camp. If you’d like more information about our summer camp sessions, please call (919) 668-1707 or click the “education & events” tab at gardens.duke.edu.
HARRY JENKINS RECEIVES ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AWARD

Harry Jenkins, Duke Gardens' superintendent, was among several Duke students, staff members and projects honored at an annual awards ceremony sponsored by the Duke's Environmental Management Action Committee (EMAC).

Jenkins won the committee's Environmental Impact Award for his efforts to continually implement sustainable practices at the Gardens, including removing invasive plants and conserving water. He has worked at Duke Gardens for 40 years.

ASIAN CONSULTATION

Landscape architect Sadafumi Uchiyama, garden curator at the Portland Japanese Garden, visited Duke Gardens in May to work with Paul Jones, curator of the W.L.ullerson Asiatic Arboretum, on further developing the Japanese-style gardens within the Arboretum.

Uchiyama’s input expanded upon the ideas offered by Japanese landscape designer Katsuhiko Nakasone, who consulted with Jones during a 2009 visit to Durham and during Jones’ visit to Japan in 2010. Distance and the language barrier have made it difficult for Japanese gardens in Japan and those outside of Japan, he served as a secretary of the International Association of Japanese Gardens (IAJG) from 1996 to 2000. He is also working with Steve Bloom, CEO of the Portland Japanese Garden, to establish the North American Japanese Garden Association.

Duke Gardens has been fortunate over the past few years to have had the support of long-time Board of Advisors member Tami Anderson, who completed her recent term on the board, with service dating back to 1995.

In appreciation of her service, the board dedicated a tree in her honor.

“Tami has been an incredible advocate for Duke Gardens for the past 15 years and her support of the Gardens through her work on the Board of Advisors has been invaluable,” said Board Chair Terence Jones. “She has been a great asset to the Gardens and we are grateful for her guidance during this particularly difficult time.”

TAMI ANDERSON HONORED

Duke Gardens is pleased to announce that Tami Anderson, a long-time supporter of the Gardens, has been named a 2012 Honorary Life Member of the American Cork and Oak Society. Anderson is the founder of Artful Corks, a North Carolina-based company that imports handcrafted, Italian cork products and provides a public space for art, culture and community. The honor was announced by the ACOS Board of Directors at their 2012 annual meeting.

“Tami Anderson is a true partner in the spirit of Duke Gardens,” said Chair Terence Jones. “Her dedication to the Gardens and her commitment to making a difference in our community is inspiring.”

NEW STAFF

KAVANAH ANDERSON (education program coordinator) grew up on the move. After experiencing many styles of education in many settings, she found her calling as an outdoor educator. She got her bachelor’s degree in history from Beloit College in Wisconsin, then worked for several family farms and environmental education organizations. Before joining Duke Gardens, she worked for 5 years at SEEDS Educational Garden as the co-coordinator of the Durham Inner-city Gardeners.

CAROLINE FLUIN (administrative assistant to the director) has worked at Duke for five years, previously in University Development in the area of Special Initiatives. She moved to North Carolina 13 years ago from Las Vegas. She has a bachelor’s degree from the University of Tulsa, and she has worked with a wide range of corporations and educational institutions.

MILICENT SNOW (development assistant) grew up in Roxboro. She received her bachelor’s degree from Elon University. In 1986, she began working at the Fuqua School of Business. Later, she owned and operated Milicent’s Dance Studio in Roxboro for 15 years.

LINDSEY FLEETWOOD (horticulturist) grew up in the country outside of Edenton. She earned her bachelor’s degree in horticultural science with a concentration in landscape design from N.C. State University. She has been an intern at Duke Gardens for three years. Lindsey has a passion for growing food and is excited to come aboard during the development of the Charlotte Brody Discovery Garden.

HEATHER SEIFERT (assistant horticulturist) spent nearly 25 years as a director of a nonprofit organization focusing on historic preservation. She then chose to redirect her career path. Following two years as a volunteer in the Historic Treasures, Heather was an intern at Duke Gardens in 2011. Lindsey has a passion for growing food and is excited to come aboard during the development of the Charlotte Brody Discovery Garden.

SUMMER INTERNS

Michelle Rawlins, Horticulturist & Intern Program Coordinator

Summer 2011 brought us a diligent group of interns.

The best example of this was Lindsey Fleetwood, a N.C. State University intern who was so impressive that she joined our staff soon after as a horticulturist in the Doris Duke Center Gardens. Lindsey researched how public gardens can best communicate with visitors.

Also from NSCU was Nicholas Schwab. He researched and helped choose roses to be planted in the newly redesigned Mary Duke Biddle Rose Garden. Matthew Lucks, a Sandhills Community College student, helped landscape the new Machii structure in the Japanese Pavilion, from large boulders down to small plants. And AJ Perez came from San Marcos, Texas, a student of former Duke Gardens education director Alice Le Duc. AJ investigated ways for Duke Gardens to improve its composting.

CIOMPI QUARTET PRESENTS

Duke Gardens is partnering with Ciompi Quartet, Duke Arts and Duke’s Department of Music for an exciting new chamber music series.

“The Ciompi Quartet Presents” will take place on three Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the Doris Duke Center. Each will feature one or more members of the Ciompi Quartet with guest artists.

Tickets are $20; $5 for students. They're available at tickets.duke.edu or by calling 919-684-4444. Parking is free after 5 p.m. For more information, please go to events.duke.edu/ciompipresents.

The concerts are as follows:


JULY 11: David Finckel of the Kreutzer Quartet presents “Dancing in the Wind,“ a program featuring soprano Ilana Davidson, flutist Laura Gilbert and harpist Stacey Shames.

AUG. 14: Ciompi cellist Fred Raimi presents Shostakovich’s Piano Trio No. 2 and works by Beethoven and Brahms. Raimi will be joined by violinist Richard Hub and pianist Clara Yang, UNC-Chapel Hill faculty members.
Mrs. Semans often spoke of how much her mother loved flowers and gardening and how important Duke Medical School’s Dr. Frederic Hanes was in influencing Mary Duke Biddle to establish the Terrace Gardens in memory of Mary’s grandmother, Sarah P. Duke.

Mary Semans and her late husband, James H. Semans, served as honorary members of the Duke Gardens Board of Advisors since its inception in 1991. And she participated in several major functions during the capital campaign to build the Doris Duke Center, which opened in 2001. She was also the honorary chair of the Gardens’ 75th anniversary celebration in 2009.

The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation has continued the family’s legacy of support in the Gardens. The foundation has provided operational support since 1972. It enabled the Gardens to start a children’s program in 1995. And it contributed to last year’s ambitious refurbishment and relocation of the century-old Roney Fountain from East Campus to Duke Gardens, as well as the expansion of the newly named Mary Duke Biddle Rose Garden surrounding the fountain. The fountain project, dedicated in Mrs. Semans’ honor, earned an award last year from Preservation North Carolina.

In addition, the sundial in the Butterfly Garden was given to Duke Gardens by the Trent and Semans children in honor of Mary & James Semans’ 75th wedding anniversary in 1988. And the gallery in the Doris Duke Center is named for Mary and James Semans.

“I’ve often said that people who really don’t know Duke very well just love the Gardens,” Mrs. Semans said at the 75th anniversary celebration. “I’m so thrilled that so many people from out of town come here. So many people from other countries. It’s great. The more people who come, the better off it is.”

At the Rose Garden’s dedication ceremony, Duke President Richard H. Brodhead pointed out the Duke family’s matrilineal support of Duke Gardens. Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans, the granddaughter of the Gardens’ namesake and daughter of Mary Duke Biddle, asked that the Rose Garden be dedicated in her mother’s name. Semans, a 1939 Duke graduate, died in January. Her six daughters, grandchildren and cousin Tony Duke—gather at a ceremony dedicating the newly named Mary Duke Biddle Rose Garden.

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The final dedication was for the new Charlotte Brody Discovery Garden, a teaching garden featuring an orchard, fruiting shrubs and vines, vegetable beds, a reconstructed tobacco barn, a rain garden and other components that will help visitors better understand ecology and where their food comes from. The new garden will officially open in fall, and you’ll hear much more about it in the next issue of Flora.

In honor of the new Brody Garden, peppers and other ornamental vegetables have been planted in the Terrace Gardens and the beds at the main entrance of Duke Gardens.
My two hours each week at the Gardens’ entrance is a time of meeting visitors with a cheerful greeting, offering a map and directions, and informing them of the history or contemporary happenings at the Gardens, the university or Durham. The visitors in turn like to tell me about where they are from and why they are visiting the Gardens. This is my third year, and I have not met an unpleasant visitor yet—even when the parking meter is out of order.

Being a Gardens Ambassador is one way that I can help and do something I enjoy. Especially this time of year, when you go to the Gardens and you see all the flowering shrubs and trees and flowers, you can’t help but feel like it’s a Duke church outdoors. Being a Gardens Ambassador is one way that I can help and do something I enjoy. Especially this time of year, when you go to the Gardens and you see all the flowering shrubs and trees and flowers, you can’t help but feel like it’s a Duke church outdoors.
Please consider becoming a member of Duke Gardens. More than half of our annual operating budget comes from people like you, who value all that Duke Gardens has to offer.

All Friends memberships are part of the Duke Annual Fund and are used entirely for the benefit and purposes of Duke Gardens. Duke alumni also receive reunion class gift credit. Membership information is available in the Doris Duke Center, at gardens.duke.edu or by calling 919-684-5579. Thank you.

**Groundbreakers Society: $50-$249**
(Student Groundbreakers – current students with valid ID: $20)

**Benefits include:**
- Flora magazine and Annual Report
- Duke Gardens notecards
- Invitations to special Friends events
- Education program discounts at Duke Gardens & other participating gardens
- Reciprocal admissions benefits to gardens throughout the United States
- 10% discount on Terrace Gift Shop purchases
- Invitation to preview sales preceding our Plant Sales

**Terraces Society: $250-$999**

**Groundbreakers benefits plus:**
- Discounts on Gothic Bookshop purchases (must show valid member card)
- One complimentary Groundbreakers gift membership
(Please provide name & address of recipient)

**Pergola Society: $1,000-$2,499**

- Terraces benefits plus:
  - Complimentary Gardens parking
  - Two complimentary Groundbreakers gift memberships

**Directors Society: $2,500-$4,999**

- Pergola benefits plus:
  - Special tour of the Gardens and reception with members of the Directors Society
  - Three complimentary Groundbreakers gift memberships

**Mary Duke Biddle Society: $5,000+**

- Directors benefits plus:
  - A plant propagated from Duke Gardens stock (available at the Gardens’ annual Spring Plant Sale or upon request; plants cannot be mailed)
  - Four complimentary Groundbreakers gift memberships

**Corporate Friends: $5,000+ (Excludes matching program gifts)**

- Flora magazine
- Annual Report
- Invitations to special events
- One free space rental at the Sarah P. Duke Gardens or Doris Duke Center (Monday-Thursday) per availability within membership year

**Please join the friends of duke gardens!**