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2008

### Arboretum Annual Report, 2008

Connecticut College

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The views expressed in this paper are solely those of the author.





*connecticut  
college  
arboretum*

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2008**





# *arboretum*

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2008**

### *mission*

The Connecticut College Arboretum is owned by Connecticut College and operated for the benefit of the College and the community. The Arboretum functions in support of the College's mission by helping to prepare men and women for a lifetime of learning about and interacting with the natural world. The mission of the Connecticut College Arboretum is:

#### **TEACHING**

To provide an outdoor laboratory for use by faculty and students in botany, biology, environmental studies and other departments. In both teaching and research, the Arboretum is a unique and valuable academic resource and support facility.

#### **RESEARCH**

To support and conduct research in a broad range of subjects, including ecology, field biology, conservation and natural history. Arboretum research emphasizes long-term studies.

#### **CONSERVATION**

To provide stewardship of College lands by protecting, sustaining and enhancing biological diversity of large tracts of open space. The Arboretum also provides leadership statewide and beyond in conservation matters.

#### **COLLECTIONS**

To maintain, develop and interpret well-documented plant collections for teaching, research, public education and enjoyment.

#### **RECREATION**

To provide a place where people from the College and the community may enjoy passive recreation and where they may come to learn, reflect and renew themselves through contact with the natural world. The Arboretum enhances the quality of life both for the constituents of the College and the citizens of southeastern Connecticut.

#### **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

To provide programs and publications about conservation, horticulture, gardening, botany and natural history that enhance people's understanding of the natural world and foster an understanding of the Arboretum's mission.



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# *from the* **DIRECTOR**

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**I'LL THINK BACK ON 2008** as a year of memorable endings and beginnings.

With only seven employees, saying goodbye to both Horticulturist Jeff Smith and Department Assistant Anne Davis within a few months was difficult for all of our staff. It was especially hard to watch Jeff's illness progress, but we all pitched in to help him as much as possible and to keep the work flowing. Chip McIlwain and Bryan Goulet, with excellent assistance from student workers, truly functioned above and beyond the call of duty to keep things together. Anne Davis left under much happier circumstances, retiring after a career that also included the banking industry and early childhood education before joining the Arboretum staff. Later in this report you can read about some happy beginnings, with Leigh Knuttel and Elene Anthopolos joining our staff this year.

Another beginning is the initiation of multidisciplinary history studies on College property. I have always been fascinated with landscape history in general and the history of Connecticut College property in particular. Dr. Richard Goodwin provided us with an excellent reference in *Arboretum Bulletin 32*, which succinctly describes each tract of land that became part of the Arboretum. This year we began to build on his work with student and faculty projects loosely centered on the Samuel Bolles Farm on property north of Gallows Lane. Sam started his homestead in 1763 and lived until 1842, eventually building the farm to about 130 acres. Although his house is now gone, its foundation and associated structures and walls are the most interesting and obvious remnants of the early agricultural period on our property. This and other parts of College property are ripe for ongoing studies utilizing ecology, geology, archeology and history. We have begun to establish an archive of geographically based information that will be built on over the coming years. It has been a real pleasure for me to welcome to the Arboretum students and faculty who have not previously used our land, and encourage them to make new discoveries and add to our knowledge base.

Glenn Dreyer MA'83

*Charles & Sarah P. Becker '27 Director*



**This page clockwise from top:**

**Landscape Architect Ruth Parnall '65 MA'98 (center) chats with other Native Landscape Design participants.**

**The late Professor Charles Chu sketching at the Bonsai and Asian Arts festival.**

**Earth Day displays from the New London Regional Multicultural Magnet School.**

**Opposite page:**

**Children create holiday ornaments with Caroline Driscoll (left).**

**Anne Davis instructs Cub Scouts in the Arboretum Earth Day tent.**

# public EDUCATION



**IN SUMMER 2008** the Arboretum officially launched “Let’s Explore! Nature Activities for Kids ...”, an enhanced set of programs developed to offer high-quality, free nature education for children. The program was developed by Kathy Dame, and the activities are planned in conjunction with the volunteer Children’s Nature Education Committee of Roberta Brouwer, Dick Conway, Anne Davis, Caroline Driscoll, Ashley Hanson and Sarah Melissa Witiak. In December, the Arboretum received a grant from the Conservation Research Foundation to support this project. Total participation in both Children’s and Adult’s programs during 2008 was 935.

## spring

### ADULT

- Native Landscape Design for the Real World, a two-day professional ecological design conference featuring Glenn Dreyer, Joseph Hovis, Dr. Marcha Johnson, Dr. Stephen Kress, Dr. Roger Latham, Michael Nadeau, Brian O’Neill, Dr. Rutherford Plant, Larry Weaner and William Young
- *The Omnivore’s Dilemma*, book discussion with Kathy Dame
- Finding Your Way with Map and Compass, family workshop with Beverly Chomiak
- Spring Pruning, workshop with Jim Luce
- Earth Day/Community Day, an educational celebration
- It’s All About Flowers, plant sale with Arboretum staff and volunteers
- Annual Wildflower Walk, with Glenn Dreyer

### CHILDREN

- Meet the Dinosaurs, with Kathy Dame and Roberta Brouwer
- The Rocks Tell a Story, workshop with Dick Conway and Caroline Driscoll
- Woodland Wildflowers, after-school special with Caroline Driscoll and Roberta Brouwer

## summer

### ADULT

- Traditional Bow-Making, workshop with Professor Manuel Lizarralde
- Photographic Glimpses of the Connecticut River from a Kayak, lecture with Jeff Feldmann
- Plant-Buying Trip to Prides Corner Farm
- Bonsai and Asian Arts Festival, with China Trade Bonsai Society
- Finding Your Way with Map and Compass, with Beverly Chomiak
- Under the Pines: Japanese Gods and Demons, lecture with Noelle O’Connor

### CHILDREN

- Environmental Hootenanny: Storytelling with Ann Shapiro
- Tree ID and Scavenger Hunt, with Caroline Driscoll
- Pond Life in the Arboretum, with Caroline Driscoll
- Look What’s Under the Rock, with Roberta Brouwer and Kathy Dame



## fall

### ADULT

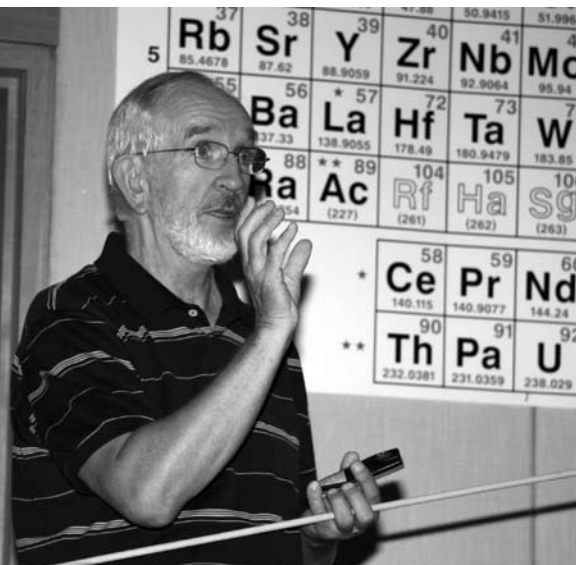
- Ethnobotany Walk, with Professor Manuel Lizarralde
- Tree Fall ID, workshop with Jim Luce
- Cast in Stone, workshop for teachers with Brendan Hanrahan
- Finding Your Way with Map and Compass, with Beverly Chomiak
- Annual Fall Foliage Walk, with Glenn Dreyer
- Naturally Beautiful: Annual SALT Symposium, with Christine Cook, Carl Salsedo, Stephen Kress and Nancy DuBrulle
- Mamacoke Mysteries Revealed, geology walk with Beverly Chomiak
- Views of Nature from a Kayak, with Jeff Feldmann
- Creating Holiday Wreaths, workshop with Leigh Knuttel
- Trimming a Holiday Tree, workshop with Arboretum staff and volunteers

### CHILDREN

- Beach Sands: The Ocean's Welcome, with Dick Conway and Roberta Brouwer
- Understanding Ocean Currents, workshop with Dick Conway and Caroline Driscoll
- It's for the Birds, ID workshop with Caroline Driscoll and Ashley Hanson
- Gifts from Nature, workshop with Ashley Hanson, Caroline Driscoll, Roberta Brouwer and Kathy Dame
- Creating Holiday Ornaments from Nature, workshop Kathy Dame and Caroline Driscoll

Left: Jeff Feldman speaks about kayaking on the Connecticut River at Members and Friends Night.

Right: Professor Lizarralde (2nd from left) and participants in his bow-making workshop.



# OUTREACH



## *photo contest*

The Ninth Annual Capturing the Beauty of Nature Photo Contest garnered 77 entries from 47 individuals. The judges were biology Professor Stephen Loomis, Wendy Mahon of the President's Office, and Diana Whitelaw of the Goodwin-Niering Center.

### CHILDREN

- 1st Place – Yan Carlos Santos for “Sunlight Through the Trees”
- 2nd Place – Samantha Geshel for “Cabbage Rock”
- 3rd Place – Samantha Geshel for “This Moss Rock is Taken”

### TEEN

- 1st Place – Amy R. Ogden for “Reversing Reflections”
- Honorable Mention – Kimberly Lee for “New Beginnings”

### ADULT

- 1st Place – Julia Simons for “Tulip in Sunlight”
- 2nd Place – Jan Sauer for “Dappled Sunlight”
- 3rd Place – Mark Zelinka for “Sheltering Red”

### Clockwise from top:

Kathy Dame (left) presents Julia Simons with first prize in the photo contest.

Curator Mary Villa arranges a display at the spring plant sale. Kimberly Lee receives honorable mention for her photograph.





An Arbo Project tour in the Edgerton and Stengel Wildflower Garden.

## *tours*

This is the 13th year of our free, weekly, public tours of the three major plant collections, which ran from May through October. More than 100 visitors were guided by these docents: David Arnold, Tracy Burrell, Joan Flynn, Allen Gauthier, Kenneth Graham, Susan Munger, Becky Nortz, Lydia Pan, Robert Sherman, Kathryn Williams, Pamela Wright and Michael Wuenscher.

Private tours were conducted for about 200 people by volunteers and staff for: Darien Garden Club, Mystic Garden Club, Portland Garden Club, West Avon Garden Club, Stone Ridge Retirement Village, Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Connecticut Tree Wardens and various children's groups.

## *arbo project*

The Arbo Project is an environmental education program that fosters environmental stewardship

values while enhancing and complementing the science education of young people in and around New London. Through the guidance of the Office of Volunteers for Community Service (OVCS) and in collaboration with the Arboretum, Connecticut College student volunteers develop teaching and mentoring skills while providing free tours of the Arboretum to local school classes and after-school programs during October, November, March, April and May. A total of 865 children participated in the program in 2008.

### **Arbo Project Tour Leaders**

Peter Baum '07 (OVCS)  
 Jon McManus '07 (OVCS)  
 H. Duncas Rollason '07 (OVCS)  
 Shelly Alminas '10  
 Rebecca Beachell '09  
 Melanie Bender '10  
 Stephanie Blennerhassett '11  
 Alyson Brokaw '11

Adam Campos '08  
 Ariella Cohen '10  
 Alfred DeGemmis '10  
 Zoe Diaz-Martin '12  
 Jason Goodman '11  
 Hana Kolibiarova '08  
 Jess LeClair '08  
 Nicole LaConte '11  
 Brigida Lapadula '11  
 Fiona MacLean '08  
 Elizabeth Noonan '12  
 Rohan Ott '12  
 Katie Sacca '09  
 Jennifer Superson '08  
 Alicia Toldi '12  
 Erich Yando '10  
 Dana Zichlin '09  
 Elizabeth Wall '11



## *flock theatre*

The Flock Theatre was back this summer in the Arboretum's newly renovated Outdoor Theater, where they performed *The Merchant of Venice* by Shakespeare and *Lysistrata* by Aristophanes. More than 1,750 people attended the performances, which were produced without an admission charge for the first time.

## *wild ones*

The Connecticut Mountain Laurel Chapter of Wild Ones, a national organization of native plant gardening enthusiasts, is sponsored by the Arboretum. Wild Ones volunteers help each year with Connecticut College Earth Day events and the SALT symposium held in November.

**Top: Members of Wild Ones offer native gardening tips on Earth Day.**  
**Bottom: Flock Theatre's production of Merchant of Venice.**





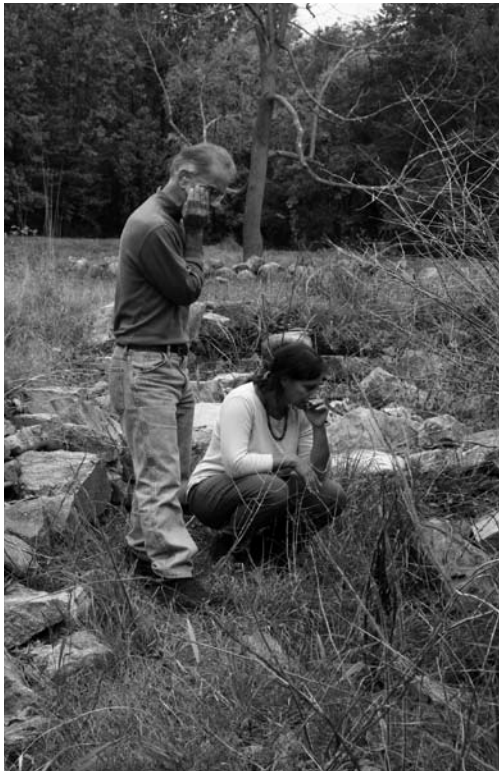
Clockwise from top:

Art student in Drawing Fundamentals class near Native Plant Collection Entrance

Introduction to Evolution students take photos in the Gries Conifer Collection.

Culture, Politics and the Environment class discussion in the Gries Conifer Collection

State Archeologist Nick Bellantoni and Visiting Anthropology Instructor Rae Gould contemplate the Bolles farmhouse foundation.



# TEACHING *and* RESEARCH

**MANY COLLEGE COURSES**, particularly in the natural sciences, use the Arboretum on a regular basis. This year a number of new classes added regular visits to the Arboretum. Professor Pam Marks uses the Native Plant Collection for Art 211, which includes an outdoor painting component. She also brings her Art 205 Drawing Fundamentals class for a landscape unit that explores texture and spatial indicators in drawing.

Also for the first time Professor MaryAnne Borrelli's Government 493A, Culture, Politics and the Environment, participated in a tour of the Native Plant Collection and discussion on managing natural areas led by Glenn Dreyer.

Professor Doug Thompson's Environmental Studies 410 class, Environmental River Restoration, used the intermittent stream that runs through the meadow restoration project area north of Benham Avenue to understand how to successfully restore a stream and its surrounding habitat. The students surveyed and analyzed the deeply cutting stream and proposed restoration methods that would reduce erosion of the channel by slowing and spreading the water. They performed tracer particle analysis, learned to survey land and utilized various mathematical models to develop a plan for improving the stream course. The resulting study will be very useful for developing grants to fund the recommended restoration process.

In Biology 103, Introduction to Evolution, Professor Phil Barnes' students each completed a project on adaptation in which they began by taking photographs of an organism in the Arboretum or greenhouse and then described an evolutionary adaptation demonstrated by that species. For each animal or plant, they considered how the adaptation benefits the species and what tradeoffs in other aspects of its form or function were necessary for the adaptation to evolve.

Other courses that regularly use the Arboretum continued to do so, including:

Bio 105 – Organisms  
Bio 207 – Ecology  
Bio 215 – Invertebrate Biology

Bio 224 – Animal Behavior  
Bot 115 – Classical and Current Topics in Botany  
Bot 117 – Introduction to Ethnobotany  
Bot 205 – Plants, Protists and Fungi  
Bot 225 – Systematic Botany and the Local Flora  
Bot 308 – Methods and Theories of Ethnobotany  
Bot 494k – Ecological Restoration  
ES 111 – Environmental Studies as a Social Science  
ES 115 – Introduction to Physical Geology  
ES 210 – Hydrology  
ES 312 – Introduction to Vector-Based GIS  
ES 313 – Introduction to Raster-Based GIS

In a new research project begun this year, Glenn Dreyer and environmental studies Senior Lecturer Beverly Chomiak worked with Lindsay Michel '08 on an environmental studies individual study project in which she collected all existing deeds for Arboretum property north of Gallows Lane, then translated the written deeds into parcel maps. The long-term goal is to assemble the parcels into maps that depict land ownership at different periods in history from the time they first came into private ownership starting in 1733 to the present. A second aspect of Lindsay's project was to create maps of stone walls and building foundations in a 26-acre portion that was the center of a farm established by Samuel Bolles in 1763. The farm functioned until the house burned in 1943, shortly before the College acquired the property. The walls, their intersections and openings were characterized in great detail based on the work of University of Connecticut geologist Dr. Robert M. Thorson, after which Lindsay created database and GIS files for analysis.

Conversations with Visiting Instructor Jason Mancini and Professor Manuel Lizarralde led to the idea of using the Samuel Bolles Farm as a focus for interdisciplinary research in archeology, history, anthropology and environmental studies. Dreyer met on site with Mancini, Lizarralde, Chomiak, history Professor Lisa Wilson, architectural studies Professor Abby Van Slyck, visiting archeologist Rae Gould and Waterford



Town Historian Robert Nye to explore using the site for various teaching and research projects. In fall, Wilson focused part of her freshman seminar, “The Whaling City: Early America, the View From New London,” on the history of people who owned land that became part of the Arboretum. The class participated on an interpretive field walk to the Bolles Homestead site with Dreyer. While involving students in research on the history of the people who once lived here and their land, the group is also collecting an archive of relevant documents including deeds, wills, probate records and maps. State Archeologist Nick Bellantoni examined the Bolles Farm house and outbuilding foundations in October and recommended an inspection by an architectural historian.

Students from other institutions also utilize the Arboretum. This year two Coast Guard cadets collected multiple water samples from a small raft they paddled in the Arboretum Pond. UConn Professor Julia Kuzovkina’s Urban Forestry class has visited the campus and Arboretum for the past three years for a two-hour walking discussion about woody plants with Glenn Dreyer.

Two of Professor Chad Jones’ research projects on invasive species used the Arboretum. One centers on the plant *Geranium robertianum*, which he began growing in the greenhouse from seed collected from many different geographic locations. The second project looks at the distribution of woody invasive plants in the Arboretum utilizing the long-term vegetation survey data set as well as

current fieldwork with students.

Chad Jones, Glenn Dreyer and Dr. Nels Barrett ’78 of the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service initiated a long-term floristic study of the Arboretum’s meadow restoration project that was seeded in 2006. Sampling to identify and quantify all plants growing in plots in both a planted area and a nearby unplanted meadow area was conducted primarily in August 2008. Many specimens were collected and identified, and they will be added to the botany department’s Graves Herbarium.

Students in the Introduction to Geographic Information Systems course taught by Beverly Chomiak often use the Arboretum for their projects and thus add important information to an expanding geographic data set. Projects this year included:

- Distribution of Japanese Barberry Sites in the Connecticut College Arboretum in New London, Connecticut, Farrell W. Thayer ’09
- Red Cedar Distribution in the S. Bolles Farm Site, Tori Hallowell
- Rubber-sheeting of 1934 Orthophotos to Existing Structures in the Connecticut College Arboretum, Adam Campos ’08
- Distribution of Skunk Cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) in Connecticut College Arboretum, New London, CT, Xuefeng Peng ’10
- Using GIS Solar Radiation Tools to Map the Potential for Solar Panels on the Connecticut College Campus, Leia Crosby ’09





## *reports and papers*

Michel, Lindsay. 2008. Stonewalls: A Stacked History of Land Use and Ownership in the Connecticut College Arboretum. Individual Study Report.

ES 410. 2008. A Study and Proposal for the Restoration of Mamacoke Brook. A group report by the course participants.

### **Opposite page:**

**Professors Anne Bernhard, Chad Jones and Sarah Melissa Witiak prepare for a pond lab in Bio 205, Ecology.**

### **This page clockwise from top left:**

**Students in the Environmental River Restoration course survey the streambed in the meadow restoration project area.**

**Lindsey Michel '08 and Professor Chomiak assess a stone wall near the Bolles Farm site.**

**Dr. Nels Barrett '78 surveys a plot for Meadow Restoration project. Early American history freshman seminar visits the Bolles farm site.**



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## *native plant collection and natural areas*

The aging porch at Buck Lodge was replaced thanks to the generosity of Caroline Robinson, mother of Winslow S. Robinson '08. During a visit in fall 2007, Mrs. Robinson noticed that the wooden structure that overlooks the pond was rather rotten and in need of replacement. She was also aware that her late husband, Nelson Buck Robinson, was the nephew of Francis Buck Taylor '32. Francis' parents funded construction of both Buck Lodge and the Outdoor Theater in the Arboretum during the 1930s. The porch had been rebuilt in the mid-1970s with large red cedar posts and beams. It was reconstructed in spring 2008 using dimensional lumber for the frame and boards formed from recycled plastic for the deck and railing. Work was completed in time for the family to celebrate Winslow's graduation in the lodge.

A bench and plaque were installed at the edge of the Gries Conifer collection in memory of Professor Emeritus of Mathematics Ernest Schlesinger (1925-2008). Ernie was a beloved member of the Connecticut College faculty for many years. The stone bench, which overlooks the pond, was donated by his daughter, Eva.

Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Linda L. Fosseen '69, a design was developed for a new "community" entrance to the Arboretum Native Plant Collection on Gallows Lane. Created by Arboretum Curator Mary Villa, whose background is in landscape architecture, the plan calls for an at-grade entrance that is easily accessible and has handicapped parking spaces along the road. Featuring stonework and metal gates that recall the more formal entrance on Williams Street, it will also have a pergola-covered stone patio just inside the fence. When fundraising is complete, it will be built across from the science center on Gallows Lane (now called the DNA EpiCenter).

The Arboretum received a three-year, \$76,000 grant for upland wildlife habitat management from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program to return land around the historic Samuel Bolles Farm to meadow and to control invasive plants in the surrounding 25 acres. This project is part of the ongoing effort to document the history of Arboretum lands as mentioned in the Teaching and Research section of this report. In 2008 the funding helped to clear trees, brush and invasive vines from the Bolles home site and nearby fields and to control invasive

plants in the surrounding forests.

Curator Mary Villa worked with student employees to evaluate, organize and scan thousands of photographic slides received from A. Clayton and Lynnette Scribner when they donated their collection of botanical field guides and manuals in 2002. This collection of images includes plants from all over the world as well as travel slides of U.S. National Parks taken from the 1930s to the 1960s. The slides were scanned and saved in digital format for cataloging and storage purposes.

## *campus collections*

Curator Mary Villa spent the year inventorying and accessioning the Campus Landscape Collection, locating, measuring and evaluating nearly 2,000 trees and shrubs with Fiona MacLean '08, Haley Curtis '09, Jenna Fitch '09 and Zoe Philip '09. When the collection was first accessioned in the early 1990s, only trees were included. Since then all new trees and shrubs have been added to the database. A project for the coming years is to identify and accession the many shrubs on campus that are not yet part of our records.

Last winter President Higdon envisioned a walking path linking the College Center with Tempel Green that passes in front of Shain Library. The goals were to replace the former, narrow sidewalk and separate pedestrians from automobiles while creating an attractive outdoor social space in the heart of the campus. Landscape architects Richter & Cegan's graceful design for the Shain Library Walkway Project include a wide, sweeping ribbon of textured concrete with circular nodes where the new path intersects existing ones. Only one tree was removed and one relocated to accommodate the plan. In late August the planting and seeding took place, just in time for the new school year. The walkway was lined with six different forms of Japanese flowering cherry trees and features native shrubs around a curved sitting wall at its southern terminus.

A lovely memorial garden designed by Grounds Supervisor Jim Luce and Arboretum Curator Mary Villa was installed at the rear of Bolles House. The planting honors the memory of Eliana Iberico Garofalo, wife of Professor Leo Garofalo and a student in the education department at the time of her death in 2007. The garden contains a variety of low shrubs, perennial flowers, grasses and a bench. It can be reached from a new sidewalk behind Harkness Chapel.

Jim Luce also designed and installed a new

■  
*plant* COLLECTION



Clockwise from top:  
Memorial bench for Professor Ernie Schlesinger  
On with the new Buck Lodge porch  
Off with the old Buck Lodge porch



planting on the south side of Katharine Blunt House that combines woody and perennial plants. This project replaced overgrown foundation plants that had been moved from the Caroline Black Garden for the original landscaping of the dormitory in the mid-1940s.

Botany alumna Sheila Wertheimer '84 designed and installed a new landscape feature on the north side of the North Dormitory Complex (the Plex) informally known as "the fishbowl." Now officially named the Lott Family Courtyard, it honors the leadership of the late Jane Caswell Lott '36 and her husband, Thomas, who made possible the renovations of the last two dormitories in the complex. The planting includes tupelo trees, a memorial bench and a perennial garden outside Harris Refectory.

The Opatrny Family Plaza honors the leadership of College Trustee Judith Opatrny '72. Also designed by Sheila Wertheimer '84, it comprises the entrance area to Harris Refectory and includes a curved sitting wall, plaque and plantings.

#### PLANTINGS, CAMPUS

*Acer palmatum* 'Tropenburg,' Japanese Maple, memorial for Joan E. Hemenway '69

*Acer x freemanii*, Freeman Maple

*Betula utilis* var. *jacquemontiana*, Whitebarked Himalayan Birch

*Buddleia davidii* 'Pink Delight,' Butterfly Bush

*Buddleia davidii* 'Petite Plum,' Butterfly Bush

*Cryptomeria japonica* 'Yoshino,' Japanese Cryptomeria

*Hydrangea arborescens* 'Annabelle,' American Hydrangea

*Hydrangea petiolaris*, Climbing Hydrangea

*Ilex glabra* 'Shamrock,' Inkberry

*Ilex x meserveae* 'Blue Girl,' Holly

*Ilex x meserveae* 'Blue Princess,' Holly

*Juniperus chinensis* 'Gold Star,' Gold Star Juniper

*Juniperus chinensis* 'Sea Green,' Sea Green Juniper

*Leucothoe walteri* 'Rainbow,' Drooping Leucothoe

*Maackia amurensis*, Amur Maackia

*Microbiota decussata*, Siberian Cypress

*Nyssa sylvatica*, Tupelo or Black Gum

*Picea abies* 'Nidiformis,' Bird's Nest Spruce

*Pinus mugo* f. *compacta*, Dwarf Mountain Pine

*Syringa meyeri*, Meyer Lilac

*Prunus incisa* 'Okame,' Okame Cherry

*Prunus sargentii* 'Accolade,' Accolade Cherry

*Prunus sargentii* 'Princeton Snowcloud,' Japanese Cherry

*Prunus serrulata* 'Kwanzan,' Kwanzan Cherry

*Prunus subhirtella* 'Autumnalis,' Autumn Higan

Cherry

*Prunus yedoensis*, Yoshino Cherry

*Pseudotsuga menziesii*, Douglas Fir

*Rhododendron* 'Gumpo Pink,' Azalea

*Rhododendron* 'Landmark,' Rhododendron

*Rhododendron yakushimanum* 'Yak Princess,'

Rhododendron

*Stephanandra incisa* 'Crispa,' Crispa Stephanandra

*Taxus baccata* 'Repandens,' Spreading English Yew

#### PLANTINGS, NATIVE PLANT COLLECTION

*Acer saccharum*, Sugar Maple

*Amelanchier canadensis*, Shadblow Serviceberry

*Amelanchier* 'Coles Select,' Serviceberry

*Arctostaphylos uva-ursa*, Bearberry





**Opposite page from left:**  
Student workers mulch a young American Beech near the Laurel Walk.

**Professors Sandy Grande and Leo Garofalo dedicate the Eliana Garofalo Memorial Garden behind Bolles House.**

**This page from top:**  
Shain Library Walkway Project complete  
Building new campus walk





The late Jeff Smith in June 2007

## *staff*

It is with deep regret that we note the passing of Arboretum Horticulturist Jeffrey D. Smith. Jeff was born in Guilford, Conn., in 1951, served in the U.S. Army Special Forces during the Vietnam War, and received his horticulture training at the State University of New York, Farmingdale. He came to the College in 1993 after operating his own landscape businesses and serving as the gardener and caretaker at the Salt Acres estate in Stonington. He was an unusually well-rounded plantsman who was equally adept at caring for greenhouse plants, managing perennial gardens, cultivating woody plant collections, creating flower arrangements and designing gardens. In short, he was perfectly suited to the wide array of responsibilities involved in caring for the collections and landscapes of this Arboretum. The Holloway Garden at the Harris Refectory Entrance, the Harrison Entry Planting at the

Caroline Black Garden and the September 11 Memorial Garden north of Bill Hall are among his campus designs. A very well attended memorial service for Jeff was held at Harkness Chapel on April 4, 2008. He is sorely missed by his family and his colleagues and friends at Connecticut College.

Arboretum Department Assistant Anne Davis retired this year after serving in the part-time position for eight years. Anne's duties included office reception, bookkeeping and program assistance. Anne was always ready to assist our staff with any kind of project, and particularly enjoyed helping with children's programs. The Arboretum staff thanked Anne for her service at a luncheon held at Buck Lodge in June. She is now officially an Arboretum volunteer.

Leigh Knuttel of Guilford joined the College as Arboretum horticulturist in July. Leigh had been with Mystic Seaport for 12 years, leaving that institution as manager of Grounds and

# PEOPLE



**Above: Anne Davis retirement party: Arboretum staff (front l-r) Kathy Dame, Mary Villa, Anne Davis, Caroline Driscoll; (rear l-r) Chip McIlwain, Bryan Goulet, Glenn Dreyer.**

**Left: Elene Anthopolos, new department assistant**

**Right: Leigh Knuttel, new Arboretum horticulturist**



General Maintenance. She majored in botany at Connecticut College and spent her early career in the nursery industry working in plant propagation, greenhouse management and garden center supervision.

Also in July, Elene Anthopolos joined the staff as Arboretum department assistant. A resident of East Lyme, Elene served as music department assistant and more recently as a temporary clerk in the Physical Plant department. Already experienced with College procedures for scheduling,

bookkeeping, payroll and other tasks, Elene needed very little training to quickly become a contributing member of the Arboretum staff.

Arboretum Assistant Director Kathy Dame was elected to the Connecticut Outdoor Environmental Education Association board of directors, serving as the representative for New London County. Kathy was also elected to the national board of directors for Wild Ones, representing Connecticut.

Director Glenn Dreyer was elected vice





**Clockwise from top:**  
**OVCS/Arbo Project Coordinator Peter Baum**  
**Summer student workers (l-r) Joaquin Espinoza,**  
**Zoe Philip, Shelley Alminas**  
**Boaryana "Bebee" Zhelyazkova '10, office**  
**assistant**

president of the Connecticut Botanical Society after heading the society's Notable Trees Committee for many years. Glenn also serves on the state's Urban Forest Council and the Tree Protection Examining Board.

### *student workers*

With a small staff, the Arboretum depends on our student workers to accomplish many tasks, both in the field and in the office. They were especially important for helping maintain our plant collections and natural areas in 2007 and 2008, during Horticulturist Jeff Smith's illness. With the gratitude of the Arboretum staff, we acknowledge their hard work by listing their names here.

#### **SPRING 2008**

- Dennis Barrett '10
- Charles Cochran '10
- Ariella Cohen '10
- Leia Crosby '09
- Robert Culver '10
- Alex Ellison '10
- Joaquin Espinoza '08
- Alana Harris '08
- Richard Hederstrom '09
- Brendan Kempf '10
- John Lansing '09
- Brian McVeety '08
- Michael Meade '10
- Xuefeng (Nick) Peng '10



Jennifer Superson '08  
Kenneth Torsey '10  
Rachel Zwick '08

**SUMMER 2008**

Shelly Alminas '10  
Joaquin Espinoza '08  
Michael Johnson '08  
Zoe Philip '10

**FALL 2008**

Charles Barstow '12  
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Steven Burnham '12  
Charles Cochran '10  
Ariella Cohen '10  
Hayley Curtis '09  
Stacey Detwiler '09  
Alex Ellison '10  
Richard Hederstrom '09  
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Alec Lager '09  
John Lansing '09  
Jeffrey Lee '11  
Edward Loeser '12  
Kenneth Torsey '10  
Samuel Watters '09  
Richard Worsman '12  
Boryana Zhelyazkova '10

*volunteers*

In 2008, 40 volunteers donated time to the Arboretum to help carry out our mission in the College and the surrounding communities. Twelve docents led the Sunday afternoon tours of the



**Left: Arboretum volunteer Louise Fabrykiewicz received the 2008 Environmental Educator of the Year Award from the Connecticut Outdoor Environmental Education Association.**  
**Right: Volunteer Ginnie Butler and Assistant Director Kathy Dame.**

various collections, and also helped in conducting private tours for groups and organizations. Volunteers help at our annual January symposium and SALT Seminar, teach classes, act as photo contest judges, and contribute in many other ways. As with our student helpers, volunteers greatly expand what the Arboretum staff can accomplish and the number of people we are able to reach. Many thanks to the following people:

- David Arnold
- Platt Arnold '64
- Robert Askins
- Roberta Brouwer
- Tracy Burrell
- Virginia Butler
- Claire Calabretta
- Beverly Chomiak
- Diane Christensen
- Richard Conway
- Anne Davis
- Caroline Driscoll '84
- Louise Fabrykiewicz
- Joan Flynn
- Allen Gauthier
- Kenneth Graham
- Kathy Green
- Ashley Hanson '82
- Anne-Marie Lizarralde '91 MA'97
- James Luce
- Wendy Mahon
- Sandra Morse
- Susan Munger
- Becky Nortz



Marlene Oko  
Lydia Pan  
Nancy Patenaude  
Mike Rottas  
Robert Sherman  
Elizabeth Smith  
Sally Taylor  
Sheila Wertheimer '84  
Diana Whitelaw  
Lucas Whitelaw  
Kathryn Williams  
Sarah Melissa Witiak  
Pamela Wright  
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Wild Ones

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The Connecticut College Arboretum gratefully acknowledges the financial contributions made by the following individuals and organizations during 2008. We strive to accurately maintain our records and appreciate receiving corrections.

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**Jack Deering and his bulldozer helped grade pond dredgings.**



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Record, Stephen and Mary Sue  
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**Sophie Winslow '08 and Caroline Robinson funded the new Buck Lodge Porch in honor of their father and husband Nelson Buck Robinson.**

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