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ARBORETUM

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONNECTICUT COLLEGE ARBORETUM, 1994

MISSION STATEMENT

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, Zoology, 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 College and the citizens of southeastern Connecticut.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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

FROM THE DIRECTOR

TO BE HONEST, the exercise of assembling the Arboretum Annual Report each year is not something to which I particularly look forward, perhaps because it takes so much time away from my immediate tasks and the planning of future projects. Those of you who have seen my desk know of the project piles which wax and wane, change location and configuration, but never quite disappear. There never seems to be a good time to stop and assess, reflect and write about that which is already over and done.

As I come to the end of the report process, however, and as I proofread the graphic artist's draft and compose this letter, a sense of satisfaction and pride begins to germinate. On a daily basis the pace of progress and change seems slow, yet from the perspective of the yearly reports, so much has happened.

The Arboretum has a suite of new offices in the premier science building on campus. More than simply providing space for our growing staff and programs, the offices also afford a new prominence and identify the Arboretum as an integral part of the life of the College. Over the past few years, thanks to the work and contributions of alumni, members, supporters on campus, we have enhanced our tiny staff by increasing our secretarial position to full time and making the horticulturist a permanent position. Our steadily growing membership roles now stand at 580 individuals and organizations. Renovations are either underway or are being planned for the Wildflower Garden, the Laurel Walk and parts of the Caroline Black Garden. The Arboretum endowment has topped \$1 million. Arboretum participation in the upcoming College development campaign is the result not only of our excellent history of teaching, research and public education, but also of a concerted campaign to communicate this role to our internal, college community. This report is one of the primary ways with which we explain the activities of the Arboretum and its relevance to both the college and to the outside world.

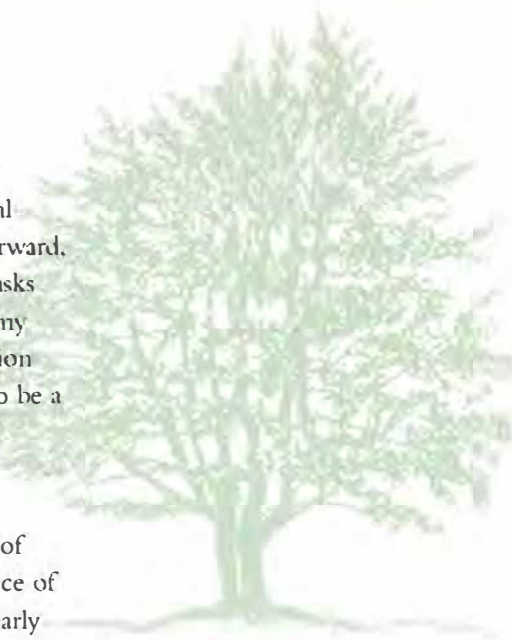
This publication is also a fine way to express the diversity of the learning process that occurs everyday at Connecticut College. Our ability to express the enthusiasm and excitement of the Arboretum is greatly enhanced by the good services of the College Relations Office, particularly Kati Roessner and Chuck Luce, who helped develop and produce this annual report.

Finally, this year very special thanks go to the Class of 1944 for choosing to support the Arboretum Endowment with their generous 50th reunion gift.

With best regards,



Glenn D. Dreyer
Director



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ON THE COVER:

The laurel walk at the Connecticut College Arboretum.

Photo by Glenn Dreyer

Seminars on Design, and Garden Visits

Throughout the year, the Arboretum serves the community with guided walks, trips to offsite locations and colorful presentations on a wide range of topics. This diversity of program ensures there will be something of interest for everyone.

The new year started on a cold and snowy January weekend when 110 people gathered on campus for the Arboretum's second annual landscape design professionals conference. "Designed Gardens as Plant Communities: Blending Horticulture, Design and Ecology" was co-sponsored by the New Directions in the American Landscape and the Morris

Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania. The tone of the event was set by University of Georgia Professor Darrel G. Morrison's two hour presentation "Where Art and Nature Meet: Using Native Plant communities as a Basis for Design." Other distinguished speakers included landscape architects Keith Simpson and Donald Walker, ecologist Dr. Mark J. McDonnell '75, horticulturists Fred McGourty and Ken Druse, as



Author and photographer Ken Druse addressing the "Designed Gardens as Plant Communities" Symposium, January 1995.

well as our own Professors William Niering and Sally Taylor. The event was a resounding success and inspired the organizers to plan on continuing the series. In addition to bolstering the ecological and horticultural expertise of designers, these conferences also reinforce Connecticut Colleges leadership role in the application of ecological understanding to the human environment.

Two "Winter Sunday Lectures"

A participant in the bus trip to Green Animals Topiary Garden in Rhode Island seeks shelter from the summer sun.



by author Edwin Morris shared a botanico-medical theme, "Perfumary and Aromatherapy" and "The Chinese Healing Arts." Two spring gardening lectures by members of the college grounds staff, James Luce and Donald Bezanson, were well attended, as were various guided walks in the Arboretum at Moore Woods, Westerly, RI. As usual, the pace slowed in summer but trips to Blithewold Gardens and Mansion and Green Animals Topiary Garden, both in Rhode Island, and to Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme with Shiela Wertheimer '84, were both educational and enjoyable. For the third consecutive year the Meskwaka Urban and Community Forestry Volunteer training program of the U. Conn Cooperative Extension System was based at Connecticut College during a June weekend.

Sally Taylor and Maggie Philbrick, director of the Pequotsepos Nature Center in Mystic, led a September outdoor workshop on "Plantings for the Birds." Other Autumn highlights included bulb-forcing and ever-green pruning workshops by Arboretum Horticulturist Jeff Smith; a symposium on "Small Plants for Small Places" featuring Harvard's Gary Koller and Bonsai expert F. Chase Rosade; and an outstanding slide lecture by mountaineer and scholar Dr. Edwin Bernbaum on "Mustang: The Opening of a Forbidden Himalayan Kingdom." Education Coordinator Sally Taylor's leadership of a dedicated volunteer committee made it possible for over 600 individuals to participate in 1994's diverse offerings.

First Annual Fall Plant Sale

Billed as both a fund-raiser and public service event, Arboretum staff and volunteers organized and operated the first-ever landscape plant sale in late September. The sale featured eastern U.S. native, or particularly choice non-native, shrubs and trees. Under threatening skies, supporters showed up on the lawn between the Chapel and Horizon Admissions Building to haul home everything from Azaleas to Winterberrys. In addition to earning more than \$1,000 dollars for the Arboretum's plant collections and recruiting 20 new members, the sale brought together over 20 volunteers who provided everything from parking lot traffic control to landscape advice and change for a \$20 bill. A good time was had by all. In fact one long time member enjoyed herself so much she went home and sent in a \$1,000 contribution! The event has quickly become known as the "First Annual" Arbo Plant Sale.



Shakespeare in the Arbo

The Bard never saw it like this! Larger than life-size puppets prancing about the Arboretum's outdoor theater last July for a total of six performances of Shakespeare's "The Comedy of Errors." The two hour shows by the local Flock Theater group left crowds of people laughing and hoping for more. Conn. graduates Mike Lerner '89, and Derron Wood '88, directors of the troop, are planning to keep their fans happy — three different Shakespeare plays in the Arboretum are being scheduled for summer 1995. The productions will coincide with various college events including reunion weekend, the Elderhostel program, and freshman orientation.



The Flock Theater's creative approach to a traditional comedy was a hit with audiences in the Outdoor Theater.

Children's Programs

Talented Youth at Home in the Arbo

School children make field trips to the Arboretum during every season to explore nature's classroom.

Students in an environmental science course for young, gifted scholars made extensive use of the Arboretum last summer. During June and July Connecticut College was one of three residential sites in the nation for The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (CTY) Program. Two, three-week sessions, each attended by about 100 fifth and sixth graders, provided the young scholars with a variety of humanities and science courses. The environmental science class was run by New Hampshire teacher Frank Kelley. Once it was revealed that Arboretum Director Dreyer's office was across from their New London Hall classroom, the students made frequent visits to ask questions and offer advice on subjects like controlling hungry deer who dine on the Arboretum plant collections. Working in the Arboretum will always be a special memory for these young scientists. The sophisticated level of awareness which such programs foster at an early age is one good reason to be optimistic about the future of our environment.



Students in the Center for Talented Youth environmental studies class test a water sample from the Arboretum Pond.

Thanks to a collaboration between the Office of Volunteers for Community Service (OVCS) and the Arboretum, our college students continued to offer environmental education tours of the Arboretum for young people. The 1994-95 year's program coordinator, Bruce Herforth '95, recruited, trained and organized 16 volunteer guides who each tour groups of

about 10 school-age children during the hour-and-a-half adventures. Topics along the way include lessons about trees, forests and introductions to the concepts of ecosystem, habitat, ecology, botany and wildlife. In October and November alone the program provided 11 tours for about 200 individuals from groups such as the Cub Scouts and youngsters from New London's Edgerton, Jennings, St. Mary's and Winthrop Schools. The Arboretum Tour Guides Program was established in 1992 by Kirsten Bilodeau '93. The 1994 offerings were made possible by a grant from the Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut secured by OVCS Director Tracee Reiser, who helps supervise the project. The program is expected to continue its focus on bringing children from New London out of their urban environment for nature experiences remarkably near their homes.



Photo by Roger Riley

This student from New London was one of many who learned about trees, forests and fall color thanks to a joint Arboretum and Office of Volunteers for Community Service program which teams Connecticut College student guides with community children.



Above: Two students from Waterford's Great Neck School view their tadpole catch.

Right: Aquatic biologist from Juliet W. Long Elementary School, Gales Ferry, sample pond life. Area elementary school groups make field trips every season to explore nature's classroom at Connecticut College.



A Living Laboratory for 75 Years

Extensive use of the Caroline Black Garden, campus plantings and the Native Plant Collections was made by "Woody Ornamental Plants" in the landscape class, Botany 317. Taught every other year by Arboretum Director Dreyer, the students make use of over 70 years of ornamental plantings at Connecticut College. Botany 317 is a direct descendent of the horticulture course taught by the department's first chairperson, Caroline Black, a tradition dating prior to 1920. This year student projects included ideas for redesigning the landscape around Fanning Hall, and a draft of a new informational brochure on the Caroline Black Garden.

This image of an herbarium specimen (*Trillium erectum*) was scanned directly into a PowerMac computer with a video camera, then saved as a digital image file and electronically incorporated into this page layout.



Individual research projects are always integral parts of Bob Askins' courses. Ornithology (Zoology 204) was no exception last spring, when students chose study plots in the Arboretum and visited them weekly to monitor changes in bird populations.

Introductory biology courses all use the Arboretum to highlight ecological processes. Simple vegetation sampling on the Niering Tract in Bio 101 leads to a more extensive study on Mamacoke Island Natural Area for students who continue with Botany 112. Students who choose General Zoology utilize the Arboretum Pond for aquatic studies.

Research

Michael Harvey '94 completed his senior honors thesis project dealing with the Arboretum's native tree and shrub collections. After working during 1993 in the field completing labeling and maps, Mike spent spring 1994 writing his thesis, which included a new plant collection checklist, a draft plant collections policy and a detailed protocol to guide those performing the next major collection inventory. After graduation Mike left for a one-year internship with the Scott Arboretum, Swarthmore College.

Botany major Carl Lewis '95 has spent much of his spare time while at Connecticut College developing a database for Macintosh computers which will help organize herbaria — the collections of dried, pressed and

labeled plants found in many universities and botanical gardens. During the summer of 1994, Carl was supported as an Arboretum Student Research Fellow while he perfected version 2 of his "Herbarium Curator Toolkit" software and started cataloging part of the botany department's Charles B. Graves Herbarium. In September, he began working on his thesis, in which he plans to computerize information on all the herbarium's Monocots (grasses, lilies, orchids, etc.) and write a paper on the use of herbaria and their databases in higher education. Carl's database, which includes digital images of some of the specimens, will be part of the college's offerings on the World Wide Web.

Senior Joseph Markow's honors thesis, supported by the college's Keck undergraduate research program, is a study of competition among three species of woodland salamanders. Joe's field sites included both the Arboretum and the Burnham Brook Preserve, a Nature Conservancy property in East Haddam which is affiliated with Connecticut College for research and management purposes.

A. Hunter Brawley, a 1982 Connecticut College graduate and current M.A. candidate, did field research last summer dealing with the ecology of tidal marsh bird communities. One of Hunter's marsh sites is the Arboretum's Mamacoke Island.

Arboretum Funds supported a number of other student summer research projects in 1994:

The northern spring peeper (*Hyla crucifera*) is one of the most often heard and least often seen amphibians in the Arboretum. Summer research included a survey of reptiles and amphibians by Jill DeVito '95

Jill DeVito '95 spent the summer in the Arboretum surveying habitats and compiling an inventory of reptiles and amphibians. She and Joe Markow shared transects in the Bolleswood Ravine and elsewhere to generate quantitative information regarding the animal's distribution and abundance. Jill also collected larvae from the Arboretum Pond, the Bolles Road Ponds and various streams. Using an aquarium, she grew the larvae up to the stage where identification was possible. Jill and Joe and zoologist/illustrator Amy Dunham '95 are jointly working on a manuscript for an Arboretum bulletin on reptiles and amphibians.

Megan Moore '94 and Louise Brooks '96 worked with Professor Niering on a number of on-going arboretum research projects including a resurvey of plots established in the Bolleswood Natural area in 1990 to assess the changes to hemlock stands caused by Hemlock Woolly Adelgid infestations. They also helped Professor Niering gather vegetation data on the Electric Power Transmission right-of-way study area and in forest prescribed burn study plots on the Matthies and Avery tracts. Both Louise and Lauren Matthew's '96 worked during the school year on forest burn sampling and data analysis with particular emphasis on black oak reproduction.



FACULTY AND STUDENT PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS:

- Askins, R.A. 1994. Open corridors in a heavily forested landscape: Impact on shrubland and forest-interior birds. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 22:339-347.
- Dreyer, G.D. A Nudge for Natives. *American Nurseryman*. 179(8): 38-43.
- Dreyer, G. D. and A.H. Brawley. Master Plan for the Future Use and Management of Moore Woods, Westerly, RI. Report to the H. C. Moore Foundation. 56 + pages.
- Harvey, M.P. 1994. Inventory of the Native Woody Plant Collection and Stewardship of the Connecticut College Arboretum's Plant Collections and Plant Records. 115 pgs. Honors Thesis, Connecticut College.
- Taylor, S.L. and G. D. Dreyer. The Lillian Dauby Gries Conifer Collection. *The American Conifer Society Bulletin* 11(4): 119-124.

PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

- Warren, R.S., et. al. Tidal Marshes of Long Island Sound. *Arboretum Bulletin*

Harvey, M.P. and G. D. Dreyer. Checklist of the Native Woody Plant Collection, Connecticut College.

Markow, J. and J. DeVito. Reptiles and Amphibians of the Connecticut College Arboretum.

Canavan, R. and P. Siver. Connecticut Lakes: a Comparative Assessment.

Helping Others Preserve Open Space

Arboretum staff members wrote a master plan including a five-year program to rescue some habitats from aggressive invasive exotic plants and generally making the preserve ready for public visitation.

Hunter Brawley, Glenn Dreyer and William Niering completed a two-year project at the 30-acre Westerly R.I. Preserve known as Moore Woods. Owned by the H.C. Moore Foundation which funded the Arboretum study, Moore Woods is a patchwork of pasture, field, thickets and forest not far from the Westerly airport. One of the more important conservation aspects of the property is Mastuxet Brook, a stream which connects the huge Newton Marsh with the Pawcatuck River.

From July 1994 to 1995 the three Arboretum staff members wrote a master plan including a five-year program to rescue some habitats from aggressive invasive exotic plants and generally making the preserve ready for public visitation. Recommendations included construction of a small parking area, labeling of the plant collection, and the building of a wildlife viewing platform and a swamp boardwalk. During fall 1994 Dreyer and Brawley continued their involvement by overseeing

the initiation of a vegetation management program. It is hoped that, in addition to its future as an outdoor education facility open to the public, Moore Woods can also be a catalyst for preservation of the Mastuxet green-belt and other regional conservation priorities.

Dr. Niering and his summer research helpers Megan Moore and Louise Brooks provided a detailed biological survey of the Ostrom Enders property, an interesting coastal site in Waterford.

Sponsored by the Goshen Coastal Conservancy, the work included detailed floristic inventories, collection of herbarium specimens, and vegetation mapping. Coastal dune, salt marsh and a large field dominated by little bluestem were among the habitats sampled.

The same team also worked on a project evaluating the current vegetation and restoration potential of a Phragmites dominated estuarine wetland. This research at the Como Pond site in the Borough of Stonington was funded by the Stonington Garden Club.



Aerial photograph of Moore Woods, with north to the bottom and East Avenue on the right side. During 1994, the Arboretum completed a master plan for the future of this Westerly, Rhode Island, nature preserve.

Expansion and Relocation

According to Connecticut College student Michael Harvey's thesis, at the start of 1994 the Arboretum Native Woody Plant Collection contain 288 different taxa composed of 224 species in 106 genera and 48 plant families.

The winter of 1993-94 was one of the coldest and snowiest on record for Connecticut. Luckily, there was little serious damage to collection plants. Generally weak spring leaf-out, probably due to cold-damaged buds, was observed in Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), and many Red and Silver Maples (*Acer rubrum* and *A. saccharinum*). A number of Azaleas native to regions well south of Connecticut (*Rhododendron canadense* and *R. austrinum* in particular) exhibited sparse leaf-out and poor flowering. A group of Plumleaved Azaleas (*R. prunifolium*), transplanted the previous spring, either died or were badly damaged.

It was anticipated when the Lillian Dauby Gries Memorial Native Conifer Collection was first planted in 1988, that some of the dwarf cultivated varieties near the circular patio would eventually grow too large for that area. Undesigned and unplanted space



Professor William Niering inspects lightning damage to White Pine trees in the north-eastern section of the Native Woody Plant Collection.

was intentionally left to the south of the patio to accept such plants. In fall 1994, Horticulturist Jeff Smith supervised the transplanting of six of the quickest growing dwarfs to new nearby locations, thus beginning the first expansion of the design since the garden was established. Plants moved were *Picea mariana* 'Doumetii,' *Picea mariana* 'Nana,'

Pinus strobus 'U.Conn', and the *Thuja occidentalis* cultivars 'Piccolo,' 'Recurva Nana', and 'Rheingold'

Other transplanting in the Gries Collection included relocating two kinds of dwarf hemlocks, moving *Amelanchier nantucketensis* to a sunnier spot and the removal of *Cornus sericea* 'Flaviramea' and *Aesculus parviflora* to find more suitable habitats. New plantings of *Juniperus horizontalis* 'Bar Harbor' and *J. communis* 'Repanda' and *Rosa nitida* and *Thuja occidentalis* 'Sherwood Moss' were also made.

In addition to changes in the Gries Conifer Collection, the following plants were added to the Native Tree and Shrub Collection during 1994: Cinnamon Clethra (*Clethra acuminata*), Virginia Sweetspire (*Itea virginica* 'Henry's Garnet'), Fragrant Sumac (*Rhus*

aromatica 'Canadensis'), Pasture Roses (*Rosa carolina*, *Rosa virginiana*), and Red-berried Elder (*Sambucus racemosa* ssp. *pubens*.)

New trees on campus include: Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), Carpathian Walnut (*Juglans regia* 'Carpathian'), Pecan (*Carya illinoensis*), European Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), Purpleleaf Sand Cherry (*Prunus x cistena*), London Plane Tree (*Platanus x acerifolia*), Centurian Crabapple (*Malus* 'Centurian'), Weeping Katsura (*Cercidiphyllum magnificum* 'Pendula'), and a Yoshino Cherry (*Prunus yedoensis*) courtesy of the Meskwaka Urban and Community Forestry Volunteer Training Program.

The landscaping for the new F.W. Olin Science Center was designed by Shavaun Towers, L.A., of New Haven, with input from Glenn Dreyer and college Grounds Supervisor James Luce. The plan utilizes masses of trees, most of them native, to help create the feeling that the three campus science buildings are part of one outdoor space. During fall 1994 Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*), Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) and Kousa Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*) were installed around the massive building. Much effort was also expended in an attempt to preserve the very large Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*) situated in front of the Olin Center from construction damage. Time will tell ...

A total of 64 Hemlock trees (*Tsuga canadensis*) in the Arboretum Native Woody Plant Collection were removed due to damage by the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. Most of the trees were from the northeastern section of the collection, near Gallows lane and the area west of the north nursery. This Adelgid, a small insect which sucks the sap from the Hemlock's youngest twigs, has been a problem in the Arboretum for at least the past six year. Trees in the outdoor theater and the Gries Conifer Collection have been sprayed twice yearly with horticultural oil, a highly refined petroleum product which smothers the sessile insects. Unfortunately the spraying appears only to have slowed the seemingly inevitable demise of this, the only-shade tolerant evergreen native tree in our region.

During June, John W. Deering worked on a trail improvement program which saw the soggiest sections of our dirt roadway system replaced with crushed stone and processed gravel. It is anticipated that each year another problem section of trail will be improved. John Deering is a construction methods consultant specializing in environmentally sound techniques, and was the designer and contractor for our recent Arboretum Pond renovation project.

The Caroline Black Garden, the oldest and loveliest landscaped area on campus, now has a new entrance and parking lot. The changes came as a result of the college's Career Services office moving into Vinal Cottage, the 1920s vintage building up-slope from the garden. As part of renovations to the building and site,

the old driveway to Vinal directly across Route 32 from the college main entrance was closed, and a new driveway constructed behind Vinal from Winchester Avenue. Visitors to the Caroline Black Garden will find plenty of parking, especially after business hours, on weekends and during the summer. The old driveway is now a gravel walking path and the Arboretum staff has developed a planting plan which will be installed in spring 1995.

Memorial plantings

- For Roman Weller: *Acer saccharum* 'Green Mountain,' *Rhododendron yakusimanum*, between Branford and Smith-Burdick Dormitories.
- For Elena Benedict: *Rhododendron mucronulatum*, College Center, east side.
- For the Class of 1949: *Malus lupahensis*, and *Cotoneaster horizontalis*, Knowlton Dormitory, east entrance.

Wildflower garden renovation



Foam Flower (*Tiarella cordifolia*) and Mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*) in the Edgerton Wildflower Garden.

Thanks to very generous gifts from Bertram S. and Janet Leech Ryder '44 and from Marylouise Oak Cowen '44, the Arboretum's Wildflower Garden will be renovated. First established in 1956 on a west-facing slope to the south of the Laurel Walk, different sections of the wildflower area are dedicated the memories of Edna Edgerton and John Stengel, respectively. Mrs. Edgerton was a faithful and enthusiastic member of the Arboretum's advisory committee, while Mr. Stengel served as Arboretum horticulturist from 1956 to 1974.

The garden plans, which were still evolving by year's end, will retain the theme of Spring Woodland Wildflowers of Eastern North America, and will include many of the existing trails. Water lines will be run to nearby locations, the entrance will be enhanced and access for small maintenance vehicles will be improved. Another important planning assumption is that the design should not require high levels of maintenance, and should incorporate opportunities for volunteers to participate in both maintenance and interpretation of the garden. Site work should be finished by winter 1995 with initial plantings in Spring of 1996.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

During 1994 Arboretum Director Dreyer served as the Vice-chairman of the Connecticut Urban Forestry Council. He ended a two-year term as chairman of the College and University Gardens

AABGA national meeting in Pasadena, California. He continued to serve on the New England Plant Conservation Program, Connecticut Committee. Glenn retired from the Town of Waterford Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission after serving for seven years. In September he joined the board of trustees of the Science Center of Eastern Connecticut, located in the Arboretum on Gallows Lane. At the college, he served on the Community and Diversity Strategic Planning Team and the Human Endowment Committee.

Arboretum Education Coordinator and Botany Professor Emerita Sally L. Taylor chaired a visiting committee for the Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook, NY, which evaluated

their programs in public education and horticulture. Sally continues to serve on the Connecticut Forest and Park Association's board of directors.

Professor William A. Niering, arboretum research director, served on a panel of experts which reviewed the City of New York Park Department's efforts to restore a tidal marsh following an oil spill. Niering spoke about wetland mitigation at the January "New England Grows" conference, a huge green-industry gathering in Boston. In mid-summer he returned to the Eagle Hill Wildlife Research Station in Maine where he gave a one-week course on wetlands. During the fall he joined five lecturers for touring symposium "Waterscaping for the Home Garden," which was presented in Virginia, New York, Massachusetts and Georgia. He continued as editor in chief of the scientific journal "Restoration Ecology."



Professor William Niering led an Arboretum tour for Parents Weekend.

Committee of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, and organized a day-long work shop for the

FUND RAISING

Class of '44 Makes Largest Arboretum Gift

The Class of 1944's 50th reunion gift to the college included approximately \$310,000 for an Arboretum Endowment Fund. The presentation of the class gift was made at the Class of '44 Reunion '94 Banquet. Glenn Dreyer thanked the class and pointed out that, not only was this the largest single gift

ever received by the Arboretum, but it put the total of Arboretum endowment funds over the \$1 million dollar mark. As a small token of appreciation to the many individuals who contributed to the class gift, a bronze plaque was mounted on a low stone wall at the bottom of the Laurel Walk, overlooking the Arboretum Pond.

Many members of the Class of '44 joined Director Dreyer for a guided tour of the Arboretum's Caroline Black Garden during reunion weekend. Special thanks are due to Lois Ricklin '44, who helped convince her classmates that the Arboretum was an appropriate recipient of their generosity.

The steady, reliable flow of



This bronze plaque honoring the Class of 1944 is mounted at the bottom of the Laurel Walk, overlooking the pond.

funding from the Class of 1944 Endowment will have long-lasting benefits for the Arboretum and its programs. For example, a portion of the annual income has been designated for upgrading the Arboretum secretary position from half to full-time. In addition to providing much needed administrative support for the Arboretum, the Arboretum office functions as the only information and reception area in the new F.W. Olin Science Center.

Endowments are specially

invested funds in which the principle is protected, and a portion of the interest, usually 5 percent of the fund total, is available annually for expenditure. Any income beyond the 5 percent is reinvested as a protection against inflation. Endowment funds are a basic means of ensuring the Arboretum has the financial resources to meet the challenges of the future. They provide a solid, reliable funding base not subject to the same pressures that influence other budget allocation processes.

Some Examples of Arboretum Endowment Funds

- THE ROY TAYLOR ARBORETUM FUND was begun in 1994. In establishing this endowment in her husband's memory, Professor Emerita Sally Taylor hopes to foster community links with the Arboretum, especially by enhancing community education programs. With continued growth, this fund might one day support a staff education coordinator.
- THE ANN CROCKER WHEELER '34 ARBORETUM FUND was established in 1989 by her employer, Sylvan Nursery of Westport, Massachusetts. After retiring from her first career, "Andy" Wheeler worked for 10 year's at Sylvan, a large, mainly wholesale plant sales operation. Owner's Neil and Sylvia Van Sloun wanted to thank Andy for her dedicated service, and she suggested an Arboretum endowment. The Van Sloun's see their continued support of Andy's fund as a great way to ensure that interest in the field of botany, and its effects on the environment, will continue through future generations.
- THE RICHARD H. GOODWIN ARBORETUM FUND was begun in 1987 by Esther and Richard Goodwin to support Arboretum development and programs. As a former Arboretum director himself, Dr. Goodwin stipulated that the fund be set up so that expenditures were at the discretion of the Arboretum director, and that others could add to the fund at any time.
- THE LILLIAN DAUBY GRIES '27 FUND was established solely for the purpose of maintaining the Arboretum's Lillian Dauby Gries '27 Memorial Native Conifer Collection. The annual income goes to supplementing the Arboretum maintenance staff with contract help in the collection. It is Arboretum policy that any gifts for named memorial gardens or collections must include a maintenance endowment component.

The Arboretum Endowment Fund now totals about \$1.2 million; the goal for the turn of the century is \$4 million. Friends of the Arboretum may contribute to existing endowment funds, or contact the Director about establishing their own.

NEWS UPDATE

Home at last

The New F.W. Olin Science Center was completed on schedule, and the Arboretum office moved from New London Hall during the 1994-95 winter break. Members and friends may visit the office from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday in Olin 103. The Arboretum office telephone number has been changed to (203) 439-5020.

A new science center

After long, difficult and expensive negotiations, an agreement was reached between the Thames Science Center and a group of former members who were concerned about the move of the Center's headquarters to Newport, RI. A new non-profit organization, The Science Center of Eastern Connecticut (SCEC), was incorporated in 1994 and now has use of the buildings and land on Gallows Lane. In negotiating a lease for the two-acre site from Connecticut College, the new SCEC board agreed to have three center board of trustees members appointed by the college in order to formalize communication between the two institutions. Many Arboretum friends, including Dr. Richard Goodwin, Mrs. Nancy Olmstead, Mrs. Ann Gaylord and Mrs. Barbara Kashanski were instrumental in initiating and supporting the negotiations. The center, which plans to open its doors in Summer 1995, will provide science education for children and families in the greater New London area.



Four views of the F.W. Olin Building during its construction, 1994 and opening (lower right) in early 1995.

George Sherman Avery, 1902-1994

Dr. George Sherman Avery, Jr. Arboretum Director from 1931 to 1944, died at the age of 92 on August 6, 1994. After receiving his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin and teaching for a few years at Duke University, Dr. Avery joined the faculty of Connecticut College as chairman of the botany department and founding director of what was called the Connecticut Arboretum at Connecticut College. Avery established the Native Woody Plant Collection, and worked with New York City Landscape Architect A. F. Brinckerhoff to create the Laurel Walk, outdoor theater and trail system still in use today. He also began the Arboretum membership association and the

Arboretum bulletin series.

Dr. Avery also began the long legacy of scientific research in what later became the Bolleswood Natural Area. In the aftermath of the devastating 1938 Hurricane, he published a paper with department colleagues that examined growth rings in the trunks of blown-down ancient hemlocks, calculating their age and growth rates in different habitats. A plant physiologist who worked with plant hormones, he secured a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to build the Botany Department Greenhouses in 1935.

In 1944 Dr. Avery accepted the post of Director of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, where he served until 1969. He was responsible for that institution

*Blessings on the people who plant trees in city streets,
 Who remember and practice Arbor Day, especially with their children,
 Who protect mountain laurel, club moss and earthworms from extinction.
 Bless those who love the untouched landscape and places far away
 Or near, where quiet masks the unceasing conflict of living things
 That utter not a sound as they struggle for life and space,
 Unseen, unsung, unknown.*

*Bless, too, those who see in the bark of a tree the wrinkles of time
 That in us humans love can erase.
 Bless those whose nature-affection preserves the swamps and shallow ponds
 As dwelling places for birds and beetles, muskrats and mosquitoes.
 Joy to those who dig and toil that the dark earth may conjure up
 The wanted and the unwanted — the orchid, the dandelion.
 Boundless energy to those whose common sense recognizes uncommon values.
 Heavenly rewards to the eaters of fruit for their sensitive perception
 Of Nature's intent.
 Immortality to those who truly understand that great oaks from
 little acorns grow.
 And life-long happiness to all who sense beauty, even in a fading flower.*

~ George S. Avery

gaining a national reputation for research and horticultural displays. His tenure at Brooklyn is frequently referred to as the "Golden Years of the Garden" by long time associates. George and Virginia retained their house in nearby Quaker Hill, commuted up from Brooklyn on weekends. Upon retirement, the Avery's moved permanently back to Quaker Hill, and were regularly seen in the Arboretum and Botany Department. Dr. Avery's last visit to the Arboretum was during its sixtieth anniversary celebration in 1992.

A memorial ceremony held on August 20, 1994 in the Arboretum Outdoor Theater was attended by some 60 family members and friends. In addition to some of Dr. Avery's grandchildren, speakers included Dr. William Niering, Dr. Richard Goodwin and Betty Scholtz of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and College Chaplain Stephen Schmidt.

Staff News

One of the benefits of the Class of 1944's generous Arboretum Endowment Project is an increase in Administrative support for the Arboretum. Beginning in January, 1995, the Arboretum secretary position, currently held by Katherine Dame of North Stonington, will change from half to full-time. This boost in office help was a part of the College Strategic Plan, and will significantly increase the Arboretum's ability to



The 1994 Arboretum Summer crew: (l to r) Craig Vine, Jeff Smith, Sarah Butler '94, Paul Kaiser '96. Not pictured: Brendan Hinchey '96.

serve both the academic community and our members.

Summer 1994 landscape main-

tenance assistance was supplied by three fine student workers - Brendan Hinchey '96, Paul Kaiser '96, Sarah Butler '94. In addition to helping with vegetation management in the plant collections and natural areas, the students assisted in modernizing the west room of the Botany Department Greenhouse. Original issue, 1935, built-in stone and brick benches were removed and a cement floor was poured.

Light-wieght modular benches were in place by the time classes resumed in September.

VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS

VOLUNTEERS

Recognition is due to the following volunteers who donated their time to further the goals and programs of the Connecticut College Arboretum. Thanks to all!

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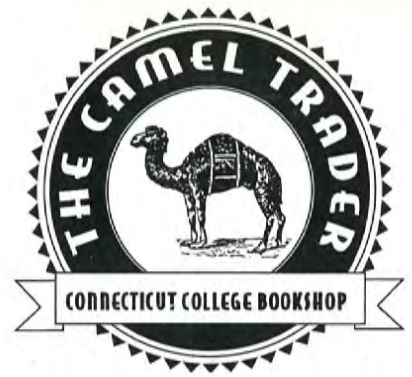
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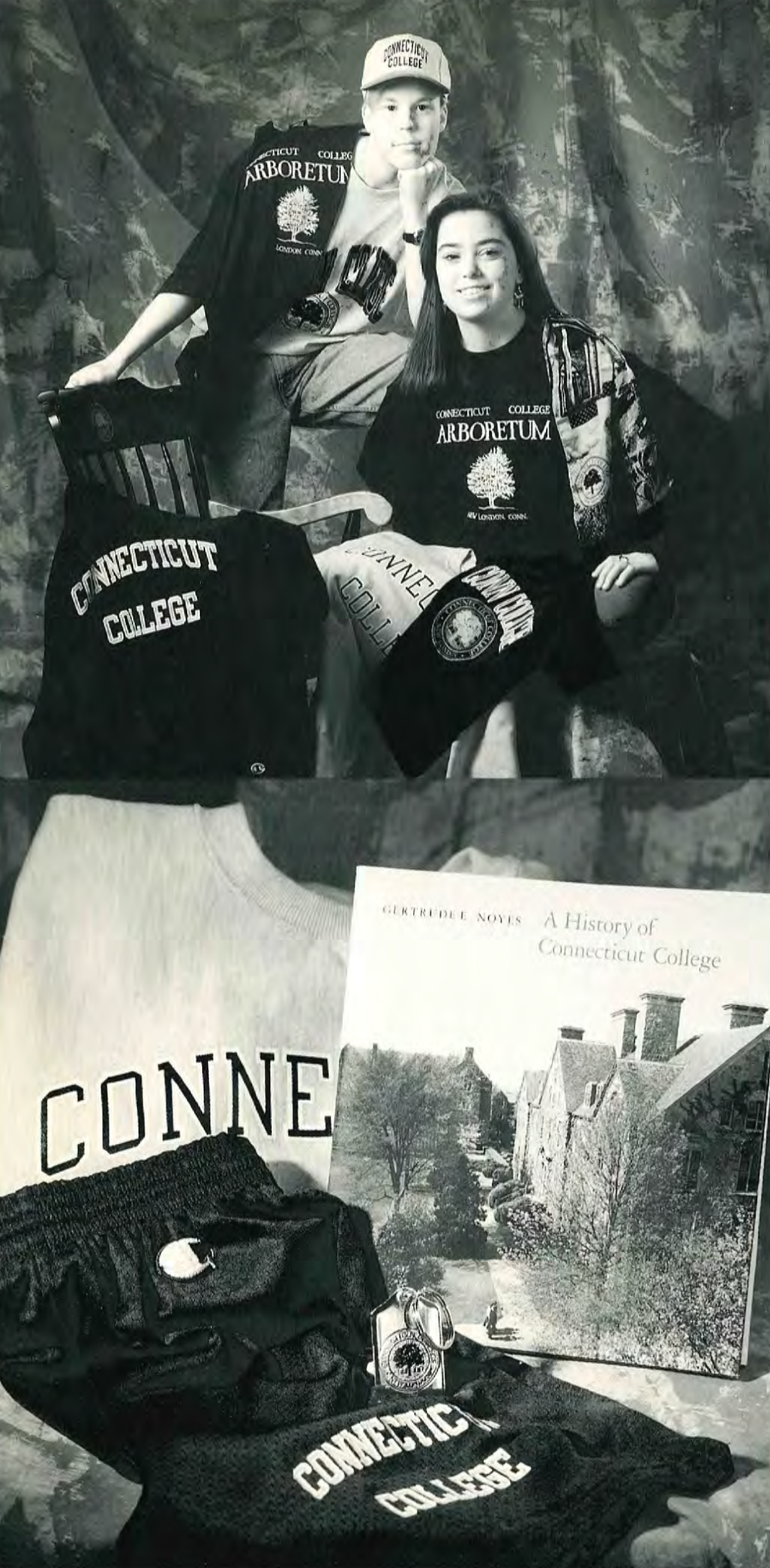
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13) BRASS KEYCHAIN with college seal in navy. \$4.99.

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