

PRESERVING A
Coastal Treasure
with PERSEVERENCE and LOVE



DELAWARE BOTANIC GARDENS

Annual Report 2020

“I walked this 37-acre site when it was more a field of dreams than a Garden reality. Actually it was a field of weeds and a forest full of greenbrier!...What makes Delaware Botanic Gardens so special are three things: the preservation and promotion of native plants, that it was built with a very small staff and army of dedicated volunteers, and they had top professional garden designs by Piet Oudolf the well-known Dutch plantsman. Delaware Botanic Gardens is a major treasure for Delaware and Sussex County.”— William A. McAvoy, DBG Board Member



OUR MISSION is to create a world-class, inspirational, educational, and sustainable public botanic garden in southern Delaware for the benefit and enjoyment of all.

OUR VISION is for beautiful, engaging gardens that inspire and educate.

OUR VALUES encompass inspirational gardens, environmental stewardship, community focus, education and research, organizational transparency, financial responsibility, and civility and respect.



FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT & THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2020 was a stress test for the entire globe. COVID-19 became an internationally experienced challenge which has tested all of us. As a nonprofit public garden entering our first full year of operations, the DBG Team was prepared for almost anything except being closed to the public and restricted in how we could maintain our growing gardens.

We are happy to report that at DBG, COVID-19 was outmatched by the enthusiasm, resilience and determination from our Team and Volunteers. During a year unlike any other, the DBG Team and Volunteers came together in new ways, virtually and in person, to ensure

that our Community of Members and Guests could experience the beauty and benefits of being outside, at our featured gardens and in the serene woodlands.

With our public 2020 opening delayed by 19 weeks and most of our programs canceled, our revenue projections needed to be greatly reduced and our expenditures needed to be reordered and tightly monitored. Our First Priority was, and remains, the safety and security of our devoted Staff and Volunteers and our Guests. Through the timely support of several COVID-19 assistance programs, we maintained all of our staff's compensation without any layoffs or reductions in hours. Our COVID-19 protocols enabled our committed volunteers to safely work in small, socially distanced groups.

Our great partners helped us reimagine our annual fundraising dinner by creating a virtual event, with fantastic food & cocktails by SoDel and beautifully paired wines from Banks Wines & Spirits. Our resident musician, Vince Varrassi, helped connect all the guests with a selection of favorite tunes. Two of DBG's stalwart supporters, Ron Bass and George Robbins, again challenged the dinner guests to a \$25,000 match pledge and our Virtual guests responded with resounding support. By the end of the night, we had raised over \$100,000.

Our ongoing Capital Campaign with the guidance of Cam & Kathy Yorkston, raised \$785,000 for new facilities that will enable DBG to become more financially sustainable. The All-Weather Pennoni Pavilion will become the center stage for all our programs, events and activities and will empower us to extend our season by opening earlier and staying open longer. The permanent public restrooms will complete DBG's basic infrastructure and better enable us to welcome bus tours and school field trips. The restrooms will be completed in 2021 and the Pavilion will be started in Spring 2022. Scott Edmonston, AIA award winning architect, has played a key role in the design of both these new structures. His team at SEA Studio Architects has created beautiful and sustainable additions to the DBG landscape.

Despite the COVID-19 restrictions, our active partnerships with the Center for the Inland Bays and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control added two outstanding new features to DBG — the Living Shoreline and the Rhyne Garden. These environmentally creative

undertakings are significant demonstration projects that we hope will inspire our Guests to use these as models for shoreline remediation and stormwater management.

In 2020, DBG continued to be an active and respected member of the Delmarva community, by not only creating beautiful gardens but also by demonstrating best practices for land stewardship and preservation. Enhancements to the Folly, the Woodland, the Rhyne, and the Living Shoreline joined the magnificent Piet Oudolf Meadow, the Dogfish Head Learning Garden, the Inland Dunes, and the Knoll as beautiful, inspirational, educational and environmentally purposeful places to visit. Our 2020 Annual Report takes a journey through these accomplishments that continue to demonstrate the perseverance and strength of a community that seeks to make the Delaware Botanic Gardens a success.

Thank you for your continued interest and support as the Delaware Botanic Gardens persist, persevere and prosper.

Raymond J. Sander
President

Sheryl J. Swed
Executive Director



DBG Woodland Gardens and Living Shoreline Conceptual Plan

(by Karen Steenhoudt for Landscape Architecture Capstone Project, Temple University)

NURTURING THE *Folly*



Looking through the Iron Gate

After walking through the maze of spectacular native perennials and grasses of DBG's world-class Piet Oudolf Meadow Garden, you wander over to the forested area and become immersed in the FOLLY GARDEN.

This garden is built around the remaining foundation of the 1920's farmhouse that once occupied our site. Plantings sit at eye level as you follow the child-friendly and ADA-compliant paths in and around the foundation. You can imagine that the resident family may have taken a path from here through the woodland to a rope-swing on the shore, laid crab pots in Pepper Creek after a swim, roasted marshmallows over a fire, and brought home several bushels of crab for dinner.

The Folly Garden sits in the shade at the edge of the woodland. And while the Meadow exhibits plants designed in a structured matrix format, the Folly, as its name suggests, is designed to represent all that is unplanned, playful, whimsical and impulsive. This is not to say that the Folly is planted without purpose. On the contrary. Carol McCloud, DBG Board Vice President and sponsor of the Folly Garden, and Jan-Marie Poli, our resident ornamental gardening expert, have donated hours and days in 2020 planning, designing, and nurturing this extraordinary space. The Folly reflects the sense of pride and ownership that Jan, Carol and all of our DBG volunteer garden stewards hold toward DBG. They are dedicated to creating an inspiring place of beauty, serenity, and pleasure.

This year, they added more ornamental spring-flowering bulbs, succulents, and shade-loving native plants to the thousands that exist in the Folly. Where the sunshine filters through the trees, free-flowing daffodils, crocus, narcissus and hyacinth run helter-skelter; others are planted in "ribbons" across the adjacent inland dunes. A large white urn overflowing with seasonal florals attracts your attention to the center of the Folly near an iron gate artifact that might have defined a family's living space. Hellebores perk their strange faces up along the pathways. Odd-shaped driftwood pieces from the coast are interspersed across berms surrounding the foundation. Garden artifacts such as fractured flower pots and stone wedges reflect expertise in ornamental gardening. Jan will tell you, that as she works through the garden each day, the new plantings communicate to her where they want to be placed to grow. And grow they do! The



Carol and Jan



Folly Garden grounds DBG with a sense of time and place in Coastal Delaware. As guests have noted on their journey through the Gardens, the Folly, as it was personally designed and nurtured, provides a place of serenity, peace, and whimsy for all.

EXPANDING THE *Woodland Gardens*

From the Folly Garden, you enter DBG's **WOODLAND GARDENS**. This ecosystem is an example of a Delaware "Coastal, Mid-successional Woodland" mainly composed of *Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweet gum), *Sassafras albidum* (sassafras), *Ilex opaca* (American holly) and *Pinus taeda* (loblolly pine). *Nyssa sylvatica* (black gum), *Prunus serotina* (black cherry), *Quercus falcata* (Southern red oak), and *Quercus nigra* (water oak) are present to a lesser degree. Garden closure in early 2020 gave DBG staff the opportunity to build new ADA-compliant trails through the western side of the woodlands, opening the woodlands' entire twelve acres. Coastal Plant Care performed a "safety risk assessment (pro bono)" and trimmed trees along pathways that posed a safety hazard. Visitors commented that the trails are so lush, they feel "cushioned" as they walk.

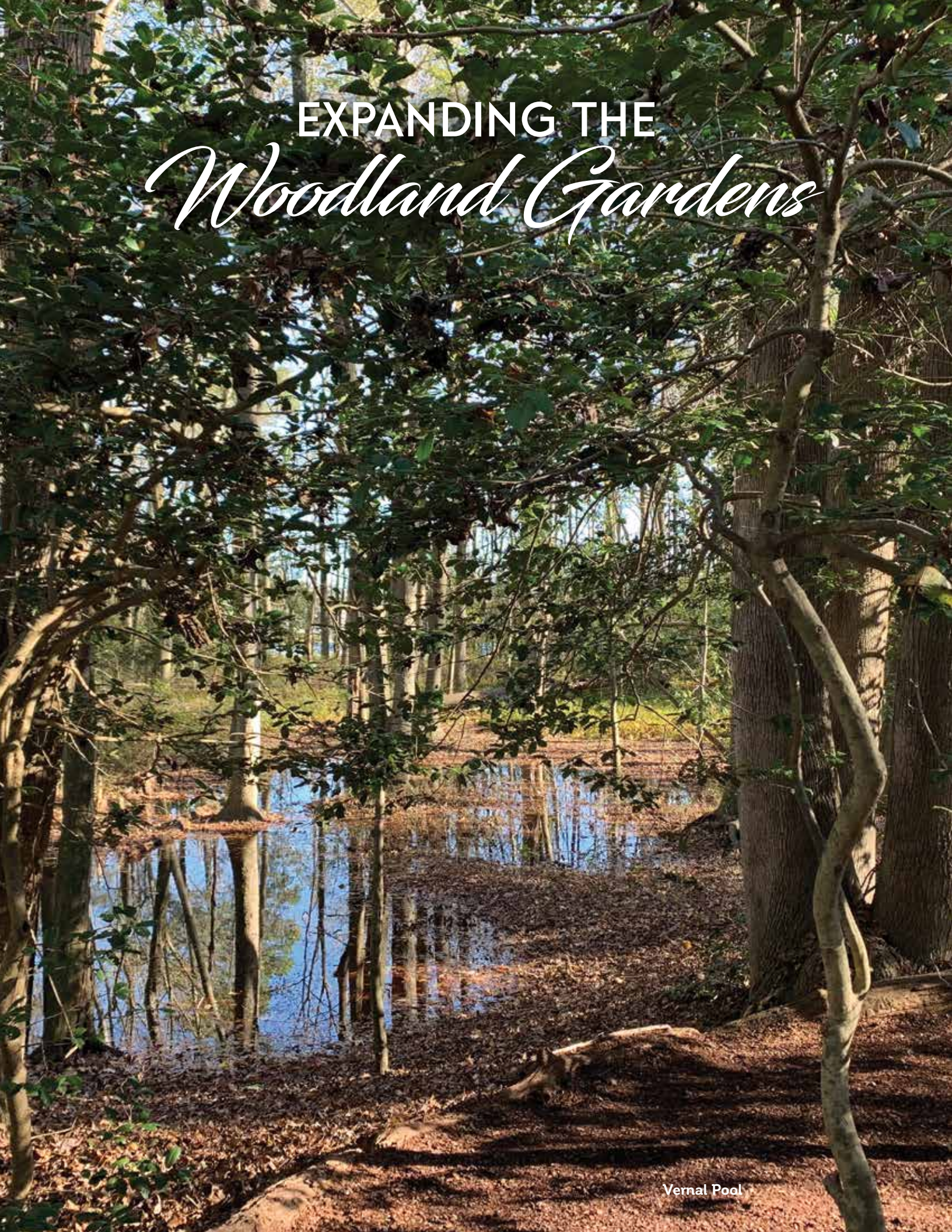
During this process, Sam Cashdollar and Jeremy Cole performed the recycling event of 2020. They collected the resulting woody debris for new trail edging, several of our unique fabricated "bird's nests," and the new living shoreline log structure.

Along the new trails you'll find microhabitats of the forest ecosystem that were previously unavailable to the public. "The Pinery," a large stand of loblolly pines, has a resident bald eagle family that often shows off its aerial fishing skills to guests. You will also view several freshwater vernal pools.

Vernal pools, intermittent in nature, are defined by their vegetation that can survive varying levels of seasonal inundation. Trees around the pools literally 'reflect' unique and fascinating adaptations such as twisted and spreading trunks that have evolved to support their existence in this ephemeral wetland environment.

The new and renewed mile of trails also leads to one of our favorite viewing sites, "The Knoll," sponsored by Ron Bass and George Robbins. Here you are at the highest elevation in the Gardens, where you can enjoy an ADA-accessible gathering place situated among dense fern glades, hollies, and native shrubs, revitalized this year by our sponsors funding and our volunteer troupe. Notably, the Knoll's elevated platform affords you an exceptional view of Pepper Creek through the forest understory.

Two of our woodland edge gardens continued to be beautifully enhanced. The "East Woodland Edge Garden," sponsored by Helen and Steve Raleigh, and the "West Woodland Edge Garden" provide pollinator groves along with protective habitat for wildlife as they transition between the meadow and woodland plant communities. With the help of all of our sponsors, expansions became a reality in 2020. DBG was able to continue its mission towards providing an educational resource to the Delmarva community, as well as enabling a sustainable forest ecosystem typically lost to suburban development.



Vernal Pool



Sam and Jeremy expand the DBG Woodland Gardens Trail System



A View of Pepper Creek through the Knoll's lush understory

Educating BY EXAMPLE

2020 saw the implementation of two major projects that DBG took on in support of its conservation and EDUCATION missions: the Living Shoreline Restoration and the Rhyne Garden Enhancement.

Although pandemic regulations closed DBG to public visitors until August 2020, willing volunteer garden stewards and staff worked diligently in the months of July and August under tight capacity, spacing, and masking restrictions to build these entities. The Living Shoreline and the Rhyne Garden conveyance projects gave us a “raison d’être,” a purpose and a place during this year of uncertainty and isolation. Over 8,800 hours in 2020 were contributed by the 92 passionate volunteers who worked toward these very important projects that serve to protect our coastal resources. These models joined the Dogfish Head Learning Garden and the Inland Dunes Restoration as programs that educate the public “by example.” These model gardens demonstrate best practices, as well as being aesthetically beautiful, sustainable and environmentally protective.



Volunteers restore the shoreline



An awesome view from the DBG Observation Deck

RESTORING THE SHORELINE

In 2020, the Center for the Inland Bays, in partnership with DBG, received funding from DNREC’s Nonpoint Source Program to build Delaware’s tenth living shoreline along part of DBG’s Pepper Creek edge. This restoration provides shoreline resilience to current erosion and future sea level rise effects, and serves as a model for homebuilders on how to stabilize and rebuild their shoreline edges using protective natural coastal materials. The innovative shoreline structure visualized by Karen Steenhoudt for her 2019 Capstone Project at Temple University, was refined by Sovereign Consulting Inc. into what is called an “anchored branch toe” (ABT), built with living woody debris and vines recycled from the DBG Woodland Gardens. As new woodland trails were cut and trees shed broken branches, DBG staff stockpiled these as materials for the living shoreline structure.

On very hot and muggy days last summer, a troupe of extremely dedicated and determined volunteers and staff from both organizations worked to make this restoration happen. Led by CIB’s Bob Collins, they braved the creek’s knee-deep muck to imbed and build the ABT, backfill it with sand, and supplement the edge habitat with tide-tolerant plant communities. Sam Cashdollar emphasized that this effort by volunteers in this time of adversity, was truly a “labor of love of the Gardens.” As the Living Shoreline has become one of DBG’s star projects, words cannot express our gratitude to these participants.

Also designed and built through this project was DBG’s Observation Deck with a 90-degree view of the shoreline. It fits like a puzzle piece along Pepper Creek’s marshy edge, awaiting visitors to see its awe-inspiring water view or bird enthusiasts to capture wildlife action with their cameras.

The use of woody materials as the reinforcing structure is new to Delaware’s living shorelines. Its sustainability and effectiveness will be monitored over several years as a part of DBG’s and CIB’s conservation research programs. It is hoped that the deck will be a viewing point as the current “Ghost” marsh rebuilds itself into a sustainable Delaware coastal wetland, with a little help from its friends—our volunteers!

ENHANCING THE RHYNE

From its creative vision in the Master Plan, through its engineering and construction in 2019, to its horticultural enhancements in 2020, the Rhyne Garden shines as a beautiful garden that models best practices in stormwater management. In 2020, our staff and volunteers planted over 12,000 beautiful native perennials, 34 ‘Brandywine’ red maple trees, and over 300 native shrubs at different levels of the conveyance to provide enhanced bio-filtration capabilities not possible with traditional grassy swale structures. A swath of water-tolerant rose mallow and soft rush line the conveyance channel, while coneflowers, wild indigo, bee balm and phlox stabilize the slopes. The Rhyne compliments the amazing Piet Oudolf Meadow Garden in its floral beauty and texture, along with its functionality as a pollinator garden. It will also function in an educational capacity to test whether the benefits of using green technology best practices in stormwater management can be transferred to the public by DBG’s “educating by example” programs.

The Rhyne Garden provides a wonderful greeting with a sea of vibrant plantings to visitors as they exit their cars. We thank DBG’s Rhyne visionary designers, engineers, and construction partners: Robinson Anderson Summers Inc., Lake|Flato, Pennoni Associates Inc., Bancroft Construction Company, and George & Lynch. We thank our unfaltering staff and our persevering garden stewards who came out of their homes in 2020 to make this vision come true. And we extend sincere appreciation to our sponsors, the Ellice and Rosa McDonald Foundation and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control for their generous contributions to the Rhyne Garden’s success.



Living Shoreline Volunteers

Jeanette Akhter
Ray Bojarski
Tony Broomfield
Jeanette Cowan
Jerry Daugherty
Mary Hall
George Hammond
Jamie Healey
Bill Hitz
Judith Marshall
Maureen Morano
Julie Moses
John Oberkofler
Linda Oberkofler
Ann Osterdale
Jane Peters
Jan-Marie Poli
Tricia Precht
Thomas Rondeau
Karen Steenhoudt
Alison Willocks
Bob Wisniewski

Rhyne Garden Stewards

Jeanette Akhter
Tony Broomfield
Donna Buono
Violette Cousineau
Jeanette Cowan
Bridget Dean-Pratt
Peggy Dennis
Karen Dudley
Les Ferguson
Craig Haggerty
Mary Hall
George Hammond
Jamie Healey
Margaret Kimmel
Donald Klima
Pat Long
Jim Marshall
Judith Marshall
Carol McCloud
Bonnie McNamnee
Maureen Morano
Julie Moses
Suzanne Moussa
John Oberkofler
Ann Osterdale
Ed Palmerino
Jane Peters
Jan-Marie Poli
Tricia Precht
Cheryl Quirk
Margaret Ravida
Elizabeth Rives
Thomas Rondeau
Gary Stokes
Jane Stokes
Alison Willocks
Bob Wisniewski
Jim Yori

Reinventing OPERATIONS



How does a nonprofit's Board of Directors keep its organization afloat in a changing world?

After March 12, our Board improvised to stay visible in this year of confinement. They engaged the community by taking advantage of new technology that bridged our separation and allowed communications without direct person-to-person contact. Whether it was communicating to staff, volunteers, business partners, donors, foundations, sponsors, or the public, DBG's entire Board became immersed in the new 2020 world of doing business virtually over the Internet, keeping safety as its highest priority.

1 FIRST, "VIRTUAL MEETINGS"— communicating with each other. Board meetings, Executive Committee meetings, partner meetings and many staff meetings were conducted using Internet-based video conferencing. These virtual meetings allowed DBG leadership to interactively manage and direct the operations of the Gardens. For example, to fill new and open positions for 2021, the Board's Human Resources Committee (Carol McCloud, Tom Bason and Jeremy Hager) interviewed all candidates using video conferencing. All the DBG video conference connections were made possible by Tom Bason, Director of Technology.

2 SECOND, "ONLINE RESERVATIONS"— an essential tool for DBG and our visitors. We needed a way for our members and guests to visit the gardens when we were allowed to reopen in August. Tom created a timed reservation and payment system on DBG's website that enabled our docents to welcome visitors for spaced visitation. Using the reservation system and Department of Health guidelines, Carol McCloud led the Garden Stewards (working no more than 10 at a time, socially distanced and masked) while they nurtured existing gardens and accomplished spectacular projects such as the Living Shoreline restoration and the Rhyne Garden enhancement.

3 THIRD, "VIRTUAL GARDENS"— communicating to our audience. One of DBG's MVV, Most Valuable Volunteers, is Ray Bojarski, our talented and creative photographer. Ray's body of work has included a pictorial history of DBG from soybean field to a bona fide public garden. His stunning photos have celebrated DBG's flora and fauna. During this challenging year, Ray created Virtual Tours that enabled us to share the Gardens' beauty while we were closed to the public. These beautiful and informative videos about the Meadow Garden, the Woodland Gardens, the Folly Garden, the Knoll and the Rhyne Garden remain available on our website. Led by



Board member Peter Carter displays one of the 300 classification markers he donated to DBG



Ray Bojarski photographing DBG aerially through the lens of a drone

Communications Director Brent Baker, over 84 stories, 23 press releases, and 3 newsletters were published. Local TV media, such as Delmarva Life, were also in virtual mode, enabling DBG leaders to communicate our message via "Zoom" and "Go to Meeting" broadcasts.

4 FOURTH, "VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS"— communicating to members, sponsors, and business partners. Fundraising went virtual in 2020, and will continue in 2021, as long as pandemic restrictions persist. Using the means available to them in the wake of COVID restrictions, local business partners in our Delaware "culinary coast" enabled DBG's main fundraising event by changing their business model. SoDel Concepts and Banks Wine & Spirits created a "virtual" dinner where guests received a carry-out gourmet meal and wine selections. SoDel had 3 of their 13 restaurants participate to accommodate 177 DBG virtual guests. The chefs and wine vintner held an entertaining hour-long product presentation followed by a virtual fundraising campaign by the DBG Board and Advisory Council members. All in all, over \$100,000 was raised by this event. It was absolutely amazing to see all that we could accomplish through little windows on the Internet!

5 FIFTH, "SPECIAL FUNDING EFFORTS"— Kathy Johnson, DBG Board Treasurer, took the initiative to apply for and receive COVID-related Federal and State government small business loans and grants. These funds enabled DBG to pay our hardworking staff without reducing their hours or their compensation. Grants from philanthropic organizations included contributions from the Crestlea Foundation, the Crystal Trust, the Longwood Foundation, the McDonald Foundation, the Marmot Foundation, the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust and the State of Delaware (State Legislature & DNREC). Memberships increased to 450 in 2020. Four months of open days brought to us families who wanted to leave their legacy by naming a garden. These patrons include the Ellice and Rosa McDonald Foundation (Rhyne Garden) and Helen and Steve Raleigh (East Woodland Edge Garden). Ron Bass and George Robbins (the Knoll), Carol McCloud (The Folly Garden), and Sheryl Swed and Ray Sander (Welcome Center) continued their patronage both with sponsorships and with substantial volunteer commitments.

We end our 2020 Annual Report with hope, as reinventing operations in this virtual environment empowered us to weather significantly reduced revenues yet re-open our gardens to the public. We now have the architectural visions for two of the needed all-weather structures: The Annette Pennoni Meadow Pavilion and the permanent DBG Restroom Facility, both designed by SEA Studio Architects. We are most thankful to be able to continue working toward a financially

sustainable botanic garden and preserving this coastal treasure with the help of our community of friends. Our mission of inspiring the public, educating by example, sustaining our coastal environment, engaging the community, and envisioning the future remains intact. We thank all who made an exceptional effort in an unpredictable year to continue their support to the Delaware Botanic Gardens.



Ray, Sheryl, & Cam Yorkston show Pat Anderson (Crystal Trust) DBG's Living Shoreline



Ray discusses the Rhyne Garden Sponsorship with Murray Sawyer of the Ellice and Rosa McDonald Foundation



Steve & Helen Raleigh, Sponsors of the East Woodland Edge Garden

2020 GARDEN STEWARDS



Akhter, Jeanette	Jackson, Mary Ann	Polcino, Holly
Ault, Sue	Jaques, David	Poli, Jan-Marie
Baker, Brent	Johnson, Jeff	Precht, Tricia
Baldwin, Paul	Kelley, Bill	Quirk, Cheryl
Bass, Ronald	Kelley, Kate	Ravida, Peggie
Belano, Alex	Kimmel, Margaret	Rives, Elizabeth**
Broomfield, Tony	Klima, Donald	Rondeau, Thomas
Buono, Donna	Lesperance, Kathy	Saville, Garland
Bushong, Marjorie	Licinski, Ben	Scarangella, Sally
Carroll, Jane	Licinski, Falon	Schaab, Angela
Cousineau, Violette	Long, Pat	Schaab, Kurt
Cowan, Jeannette	Maggio, Claudine	Schoch, Sandy
Csicsek, Jack	Marshall, James	Schoch, Tony
Daugherty, Jerry	Marshall, Judith	Sellmayer, Kate
Dean-Pratt, Bridget	Martin, Judy	Sherlock, Maureen
Dennis, Peggy	McCloud, Carol	Shields, Maria
Donhauser, Carol	McNamee, Bonnie	Simeral, Jill
Dudley, Belinda	Miller, Maureen	Steenhoudt, Karen
Dudley, Karen	Mills, Beth	Stokes, Gary
Easton, Lorraine	Miskowich, Marilyn	Stokes, Jane
Ferguson, Les	Morano, Maureen	Vane, Carolyn
Filiaggi, Antoinette	Moses, Julie	Wells, Gwenn
Franklin, Laura	Moussa, Suzanne	West, Anne
Gaulding, Carol	Oberkofler, John	Wiles, Karen
Haggerty, Craig	Oberkofler, Linda	Willocks, Alison
Hall, Mary	O'Hare, Sharyn	Wisniewski, Bob
Halteman, Judy	Osterdale, Ann	Wisniewski, C.B. (Carolyn)
Hammond, George	Palmerino, Edward	Yori, James
Healey, Jamie	Peters, Jane	Zimmer, Rene
Hitz, Bill	Phinney, Angela	



2020 DOCENTS & TOUR GUIDES



McCloud, Carol**	Precht, Tricia
Buono, Donna	Quirk, Cheryl
Carroll, Jane	Ravida, Peggie
Easton, Lorraine	Rives, Elizabeth**
Haggerty, Craig	Scarangella, Sally
Hall, Mary	Schaab, Angela
Healey, Jamie	Schaab, Kurt
Kimmel, Margaret	Sherlock, Maureen
Lesperance, Kathy	Stokes, Gary
Marshall, James	Stokes, Jane
Martin, Judy	Willocks, Allison
Oberkofler, Linda	Zimmer, Rene
Phinney, Angie	** Tour Guides

“Have you been to the Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek in Dagsboro? The 37-acre slice of Heaven running along the waterfront is a naturalist’s dream, and a place that can leave one breathless with aesthetic wonder and blown away by the hard work that it must have taken to pull it off in the first place.

Want to know who put in that hard work? VOLUNTEERS. People who wanted to give the community something, well, beautiful. They did. They gave us magic.”

—Darin J. McCann, Coastal Point, December 25, 2020
“Looking for Magic this Christmas? Look all around you.”

Programs AND Events

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Board Appreciation to Ray Bojarski, DBG Visual Media Advisor (7/25/2020)
- *Delaware Today*, DBG voted “Best in Delaware 2020”: Best Downstate Place to Enjoy Nature; Best Downstate Nonprofit Instagram presence. (July 2020)
- DBG Virtual Dinner Party** (9/25/2020)
- DBG Annual Meeting** (12/04/2020)
- Community Appreciation Day (10/25/2020)
- Volunteer Appreciation Day (11/2/2020)

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Delaware Seashore Park Lecture Series. DBG Highlights for 2020. 50+ attendees. (1/7/2020)
- Floral Love is in the Air Workshop, Jan-Marie Poli, Rehoboth Beach Public Library (2/4/2020)
- Volunteer Training Seminars, South Coastal Library (1/13/20, 2/3/20, 3/3/20, 3/9/2020)
- A Piet Oudolf Story**, Deborah Chud. (3/4/2020)
- Classroom Connection Program** through the Selbyville Library. “Native Plants & Praying Mantis.” 12 attendees (11/8/2020)
- Piet Oudolf’s Design Principles**, Deborah Chud. (12/8/2020)
- Delaware Master Naturalist Certification, Program with University of Delaware Cooperative Extension & Delaware Nature Society (Initiated 12/11/2020)

PRESENTATIONS & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Unitarian Universalist Darwin Days. “Introduction to DBG.” 55 attendees. 2/16/20
- Rehoboth Beach Village Improvement Association**. DBG highlights for 2020. 12 attendees. (3/11/2020)
- East Coast Garden Center: “Delmarva Potting Shed.” Radio 105.9 live interview (3/14/2020)
- Milford Health & Rehabilitation Center, Delivered 100 pots of yellow narcissus plants (3/24/2020)
- Delmarva Life**, Lisa Bryant. Zoom interview with Brian Trader at DBG (4/22/2020)
- WBOC-TV. “Travels with Charlie: Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek” with Brian Trader (6/17/2020)
- Osorio, Lourdes. Native Plant Channel / YouTube. “Delaware Botanic Gardens: a botanic garden focused on sustainability.” Brian Trader Virtual DBG Tour** (7/31/2020)
- Delmarva Live, Jake Smith, Talk Radio WGMD-FM. Interview with Ray Sander (8/12/2020)
- CIB Citizen Advisory Council Café Meeting**. Brian Trader, Living Shoreline Project Presentation. 15 attendees. (10/15/2020)

- Botanic Gardens.” 30 attendees. (10/12/2020)
- DNREC & EPA Meeting**. NPS Projects at Delaware Botanic Gardens. 12 attendees. (10/26/2020)

PREARRANGED AND PUBLIC TOURS

- Martin Luther King Day “Free” Open House (1/18/2020)
- Gardeners by the Sea (10/17/2020)
- Eighteen Public Guided Tours (October-November 2020)

PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA

- “Delaware Delays Season Opening”, Cape Gazette (3/19/2020)
- “Work Continues Behind the Scenes at Botanic Gardens”, Coastal Point (4/3/2020)
- “Botanic Gardens shares spring cheer in Milford”, Cape Gazette (4/7/2020)
- Flood, Chris. “Botanic Gardens set to stabilize Pepper Creek Shoreline”, Cape Gazette (4/23/2020)
- “Delaware Botanic Gardens hold virtual tours”, Cape Gazette (4/28/2020)
- “DBG releases 2019 Annual Report”, Coastal Point (5/23/2020)
- Steele, Kelli. “Delaware Botanic Gardens keeps working through the COVID-19 pandemic”, Delaware Public Media (5/30/2020)
- Marley, Paige. WRDE-TV and WBOC-TV (CBS). Coverage of Delaware Botanic Garden Opening (7/16/2020)
- O’Neill, Sheila. “Video – 5 Essential Stops on Your Next Trip to Delaware”, Wiki.ezvid.com (7/27/2020)
- Till, Francis. “Conversations: Attached to the World: Piet Oudolf on the Garden of Life”, Ursula (8/19/2020)
- Johns, Tracey F. “Beautiful Botanicals in Dagsboro”, Tidewater Times (8/27/2020); Interview with Brent Baker (6/29/2020)
- Parks, Lynn R., “From Soybeans to Splendor. Botanic Gardens transform a monoculture into a thriving, diverse ecosystem”, Delaware Beach Life Magazine, August 2020
- Jones, Claire. “Delaware Botanic Garden in Bloom During COVID”, Garden Diaries (8/30/2020)
- Flood, Chris. “Botanic Gardens’ Shoreline Stabilizing Project Makes Progress”, Cape Gazette (10/1/2020)
- Marley, Paige. “First Look at Delaware Botanic Gardens New Changes”, WRDE-TV (11/10/2020)
- Zone V Meeting of the Garden Club of America: A Virtual Tour of Delaware Botanic Gardens”; 107 Attendees (11/12/2020)
- Shapiro, Susan. DBG Virtual Tours on Facebook: Meadow, Folly, Knoll, & Rhyne Gardens. WGAL-TV 8, York-Lancaster, PA (11/20/2020)

** Denotes Virtual Activity

Background photo: Delaware Beach Life magazine, August 2020

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED
as DBG grows and evolves...**

- Join over 500 others as a member of the Gardens
- Give a DBG gift membership or schedule a tour for your organization
- Volunteer as a Garden Steward or train to become a Hospitality Docent
- Encourage your friends and neighbors to join this unique Delmarva journey
- Sponsor a garden entity and receive naming rights for that feature



**DELAWARE
BOTANIC
GARDENS**

AT PEPPER CREEK

PO Box 1390
Ocean View, DE 19970
delawaregardens.org
302-321-9061

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Raymond J. Sander, *President*
Carol McCloud, *Vice-President*
Brent Baker, *Secretary*
Katherine Johnson, *Treasurer*
Sheryl J. Swed, *Executive Director*
Tom Bason
Ronald Bass
Peter Carter
Jeremy Hager
William McAvoy
Scott Thomas
LeDee Lickle Wakefield

2020 ADVISORY COUNCIL

Carla Markell, *Chair*
Bob Batley
Sally Boswell
Ronnie Burkle
Mark Carter
Henry DeWitt
David Doane
Shawn Garvin
Lillian Harrison
Barbara Katz
Huge Leahy
Diane Maddex
Collin O'Mara
Donald A. Rakow
Michael Riska
Rodney Robinson
Susan Ryan
Nelson J. Shaffer
Holly Shimizu
David Small
Doug Tallamy
Claudia West

2021 UPDATE:

DBG Board

David Baker, *Treasurer*
Todd Fritchman
Susan Lyons
Ryan Revel
Sam Seo
Karen Steenhoudt
Alison Willlocks

DBG Advisory Council

Tom Bason
Ron Bass
Marianne Walch

DBG Staff & Advisors

Craig Sims,
Director of Development
Stephen Pryce Lea,
Head of Horticulture
Jane Hines,
Financial Manager

STAFF AND ADVISORS

Sheryl J. Swed,* *Executive Director*
Brian W. Trader, *Deputy Executive Director
and Director of Horticulture*
Sam Cashdollar, *Director of Grounds & Facilities*
Jeremy Cole, *Horticulturalist*
Cam & Kathy Yorkston, *Development Consultants*
Angie Phinney, *Donor & Member Manager*
Carol McCloud,* *Director of Volunteers,
Speaker's Bureau & Tours*
Brent Baker,* *Director of Marketing &
Communications*
Carol Bason,* *Research, Science & Development
Advisor*
Tom Bason,* *Information Technology &
Webmaster Advisor*
Ray Bojarski,* *Visual Media Advisor,
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* Indicates volunteer position

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