

The Brooksider

Published by Friends of Brookside Gardens, Inc.



Fall, 2015

President's Letter

By Suzanne Carbone, Acting President and Barbara Schwarz, President Elect



Friends of Brookside Gardens (FOBG), we are very proud to be celebrating our 20th Anniversary this coming year! In 1996, a small group of devoted Brookside Gardens' volunteers decided it was time to form an official organization devoted to fund-raising for and to help build awareness of their beloved Gardens. The motivator, and chief architect was our own Joan O'Rourke, who is still active today with her teaching, chairing the annual plant sale, donating her time and funds, and never missing an FOBG board meeting.

Before we go into the coming year's events, we have to thank Joan O'Rourke and Taffy Turner for heading up the Plant Sale in September. Under their able direction and tireless energy, a group of at least 30 volunteers potted, re-potted, trimmed, watered, and cleaned up after a very messy raccoon intruder. We

had absolutely gorgeous plants to sell! Thanks to all of those who worked and all who came with family and friends to buy these plants. The first Saturday, many supporters came in the pouring rain. And following a second Saturday, the plant sale turned out to be a huge success, with profits surpassing any previous years!

In case you have not heard or seen the announcements, the Silent Auction scheduled for November has now been moved to Saturday, April 16, 2016 due to the current construction. We encourage all to continue to donate items! Please mark your calendars with the new date and come join us for a fun evening of bidding on more items than ever. We have lovely hand crafted items, art work, beautiful photographs, restaurant gift certificates, travel certificates from cruise discounts to Disney tickets, vacation homes, and much more. There will be musical performances and delicious hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine. All funds raised go to Brookside, so please come, bring your family and friends and enjoy yourself while supporting the Gardens you love!

An annual meeting is being planned for FOBG members to share ideas, be updated by Brookside staff, and enjoy each other's company. Since this is a special 20th anniversary year, we would like to hear from

members with 'history' of our organization! If you have any photographs of the early years, or stories to share, please call or e-mail us. We will be happy to make arrangements to get these from you. Information on the date and location of the annual meeting will appear in the next newsletter. The year will be followed by our annual Orchid Sale, the Garden Party or a similar venue, Green Matters, and several other events being put forward to fundraise and build awareness of the treasure we all support. We are developing a way to make financial donations via our website in memory of or in honor of life events. An acknowledgment will be sent to the donor and a gift card will be sent to the recipient. This will be a

meaningful way for us to support our family, friends, colleagues and Brookside Gardens! Details of these will follow.

We are looking forward to an exciting 20th anniversary year ahead. Thanks to your financial support and all the hard work of the many volunteers, we can be so proud of our collective contribution to making Brookside Gardens bloom! We truly have a magnificent jewel like none other in the heart of our community. With the wonderful staff at Brookside, whose tireless work is never ending, and the support of members such as yourself, Brookside Gardens will be here for years to come for many to enjoy as much as we do.

News from Brookside



Garden of Lights: Brighter than Ever!

By Stephanie Oberle, Director, Brookside Gardens

If you've walked through the Gardens this summer, you probably noticed staff wrapping trees and draping shrubs with lights. And yes, that means the Garden of Lights will be open this winter! Jeff Patterson, who manages the light show, and Tate Green, his

assistant, have been working hard since the spring, hiring and training staff, ordering lights, overhauling old forms and applying lights to new forms. We continue to buy more LED lights, which last longer and are

more energy efficient than incandescent bulbs. Often the LED lights have brighter and more saturated colors, including deep blue, bright pink, purple and gold. Approximately 85-90% of the display is now in LED lights and every year we move closer to converting to 100% LED. Many favorite displays will be returning, including Nessie, the Bullfrog, the Rainbow and the Caterpillar. A number of local musicians have generously donated their time to perform each evening the show is open. And the train exhibit, installed by The Washington, Virginia, Maryland Garden Railway Society will be up and running in the South House of the Conservatory.

Planning, installing and running the show involves many people. In addition to the light show crew, Gardens staff recruit and train dozens of volunteers to work in the conservatory, as show monitors, parking attendants and schedule the volunteer musicians. The gift shop is full of great holiday merchandise and is open while the show is open. Park

Police officers and Park Rangers provide security services each night. Park's Facilities Management staff ensure that the electrical supply system is running efficiently and the master welder takes our sketches and creates new light forms (look for the Venus Flytrap!). The staff at Park's Exhibit Shop design and fabricate new banners. And Park's marketing and media relations staff make sure the word gets out that the show will be back and open for business this year.

For me, the best part of the light show is walking through and watching how much our visitors enjoy spending the evening with family and friends, bundled up with a cup of hot chocolate, singing along with the performers, and making the Garden of Lights and Brookside Gardens a part of their holiday tradition

Gala in the Garden Silent Auction

Celebrating Brookside, the New Garden Gateway

April 16, 2016, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (Note: New Date)

Save the date and mark your calendar now. FOBG's Silent Auction, Gala in the Gardens, will be held on Saturday, April 16 from 6:00 – 9:00 pm. (Note new date) Join us for live music and light refreshments after you drive through the new Brookside entrance. Meet old and new friends as you enjoy the festive evening.

We are receiving beautiful items. You will be able to bid on interesting and useful auction items including: artwork from local artists; decorative and practical garden items; hand-made crafts and items for children; jewelry; hand-painted gourd bird houses; gift certificates for restaurants, entertainment and services; a trip to Disneyland; vacation rentals; and a chance to purchase tickets for the evergreen and plant raffle.



How can you can help?

- **Come and bring your friends.** Not only will we have outstanding auction items, fantastic live music, and great food – You will have a chance to meet others who share your love and support for Brookside. What better place to meet up with old friends and make new ones.
- **Spread the word.** Forward auction information to your friends and community & garden club list serves and newsletters. It takes two important things to get make a great auction – great auction items and lots of wonderful guests. We have great auction items. You can help us get the word out to potential guests.
- **Donate auction items.** Maybe you have some art work you no longer have a place for, a vacation home rental you could donate for a week or weekend, are a crafter or artist and have some pieces to donate. We have many items already and we are looking for more great things. **If you have something to donate, call our voicemail at 301-962-1435 or email us at friendsofbrooksidegardens@yahoo.com. You can also call Barbara Schwarz at 301-570-1140 or Kathy Kircher at 301-585-3334.**
- **Make a direct donation.** Consider making a direct donation if you cannot attend the auction or in addition to coming. Every penny we raise goes directly to support Brookside's gardens and programs. With the Gateway construction completed, there will be much for Brookside to do.
- **Volunteer to help.** We need help at the event and with auction planning. FOBG is your team. We guarantee a feeling of satisfaction from working with us to support Brookside.

Information on the auction and how to sign up will become available on the FOBG website, www.friendsofbrooksidegardens.org. Starting in January 2016, it will preview some of the exciting items being offered.

Brookside's Library by Joe Ann Stenstrom



A treasure trove is tucked into the Visitor's Center at Brookside. Have you discovered it? If you have, you know what a special place it is; if you haven't, treat yourself to an hour or so of browsing the amazing collection of materials found in the Horticultural Reference Library. Overseen for the last six years by **Jared Ashling**, Library Horticulturist and Volunteer Coordinator, the library is open Monday through Friday, 10 am – 3 pm.

The current facility was opened in 1998 in a space 25 x 36 feet, nearly doubling that of the original one that was 15 x 25 feet. That original library was located in the building housing the Conservatory and was also used as a classroom by the Adult Education Department of Brookside Gardens. Volunteers in the "Co-Horts" program were available in person and to answer phone queries related to horticulture. In addition, staff developed handouts on various horticultural issues, common but not easily found by the average home gardener.

In the current space, University of Maryland Extension Montgomery County Master Gardeners provide plant clinics on Wednesdays from 1 – 4 pm during construction. When that is completed, the clinics will return to the normal schedule of 1-4 pm on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday and 10 am – 2 pm on Saturday. Master Gardeners and Library staff/volunteers are available for consultations on garden design, plantings, pest control, wild life identification and much more for the home gardener. Aided by volunteers, many of whom are retired librarians, Jared selects and maintains this amazing collection of over 7000 books, 38 gardening periodi-

icals, newsletters from 46 local horticultural organizations, and brochures from public and private gardens in the area. A collection of seed catalogs allows browsing for new offerings as you plan your next year's garden. There is a large and valuable rare book collection, one of the oldest editions was published in 1757. A Brookside Garden plant annual planting list compiled by staff can be found at the Visitor's Center Information Desk.

This extensive collection covers all areas of horticulture. Responsible for selection, **Mr. Ashling** receives recommendations from the staff at Brookside

Gardens, volunteers and visitors to the library. Materials are selected using the typical acquisition criteria of basic information, up-to-date and new editions, and additions to fill a need. Donations are accepted if they add value to the collection and fill a need. Items not added are put on the used book sale shelf that benefits the library. A recent acquisitions list included 79 new volumes including the following intriguing titles covering many other vital subject areas for the gardener:

- DEEP-ROOTED WISDOM: SKILLS AND STORIES FROM GENERATIONS OF GARDENERS by Augustus Jenkins Farmer (SB 454.F27, 2014)
- A HISTORY OF THE GARDEN IN FIFTY TOOLS by Bill Laws (SB 454.8.L395, 2014)
- THOMAS JEFFERSON'S GARDEN BOOK, 1766-1824. 1958 ed. (SB 479.J4, 1992)

The library is enlivened by a rotating exhibit of art work provided by students in the Botanical Art classes held at Brookside Gardens and by other local artists. The themes are generally horticultural and change approximately every six weeks. In an inviting corner under some of this artwork is the children's area. Filled with enticing books about gardening and nature in several languages – lots of bugs and wild life, even orchids! This is a pre-schooler's delight with beautiful picture books plus story and factual books for the older child, some old favorites and exciting new books. Homeschoolers use this collection regularly and the Children's Education Department

at Brookside makes use of it for classes and story times.

How does one learn about all these wonderful resources? Information announcements and book reviews are posted on Facebook. Handouts highlighting related materials are prepared for Adult Education classes and new book announcements are sent to staff. At the entrance and in the Children's Corner, seasonal and thematic displays feature materials found in the collection. As an aid to finding materials, there is an in-house computer catalog. Reminders of Library of Congress cataloging numbers are on each shelf and at the ends of each stack. Unfortunately, circulation is for staff only with no loans for the public. Even so, one can spend happy hours browsing, researching and finding information serendipitously.

In wandering through the gardens, you may have seen the three "Little Free Libraries". These are maintained by the library, but stocked by visitors who "take a book and leave a book". These little box libraries are located in the Conservatory featuring tropical plants, The Children's Garden with children's gardening books, and on the Woodland Walk with books on the **natural** setting. Eagle Scouts built these charming repositories and they were painted by volunteers.

As Volunteer Coordinator, **Mr. Ashling** is assisted by **Jodi Bucknam**, Assistant Volunteer Coordinator who maintains the list of volunteer jobs to be filled. If you are interested, these opportunities are posted on a white board as you enter the library and on the Brookside Gardens Website. For teens, SSL hours can be counted and the list is sent to high school SSL Coordinators. Contact Jodi at 301-962-1429.

One of the fascinating parts of Jared's job is coordination of the Community Supported Agricultural Program. In cooperation with Farm Fresh in Lancaster County, PA, a vegetable/produce sharing project with approximately 80 members brings weekly de-

liveries to be picked up at Brookside. Annual cost of a full membership is \$700; half shares are also available. The average cost per week is \$25-\$30. Not available during construction, the program will resume after completion of the construction project. The library collection supports this endeavor with preparation helps and suggested recipes.

As you can see, there are treasures in abundance in this valuable resource at Brookside. Browsing through the library on a recent afternoon, I found the following interesting books:

Flowers for your table: **THE CUT-FLOWER GARDEN** by Theodore James (SB 449.J33, 1993)

Travel and gardens: **GARDENS AROUND THE WORLD** by Mick Hales (SB 451.H36, 2004)

A place to take visitors: **CAPITAL SPLENDOR: GARDENS AND PARKS OF WASHINGTON, D.C.** by Barbara Glickman (SB 466.U65 W36, 2012)

"Postage stamp" yard: **THE TINY GARDEN** by Jane McMorland Hunter (SB 473.H86, 2006)

The color palette in your garden: **PLANT COMBINATIONS FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE: OVER 400 INSPIRATIONAL GROUPINGS FOR GARDEN BEDS AND BORDERS** by Tony Lord (SB 473.L68, 2010)

Privacy: **LANDSCAPING FOR PRIVACY: INNOVATIVE WAYS TO TURN YOUR OUTDOOR SPACE INTO A PEACEFUL RETREAT** by Marty Wingate (SB 473.W54, 2011)

Four-footed visitors: Find help in **BEAUTIFUL DEER-RESISTANT PLANTS: THE PRETTIEST ANUALS, PERENNIALS, BULBS AND SHRIBS THAT DEER DON'T EAT.** By Ruth Rogers Clausen (SB 994.D4 C63, 2011)

For more information contact library staff at 301-962-1476.

Garden Guardian by Dr. Dick Hammerschlag



Gentiana acaulis

As challenging as it may seem to successfully manage a garden in our climate, how would you like to be responsible for a botanic garden just sixty miles from the Arctic Circle? After all, we enjoy semi tropical growing season summers and generally near freezing temps during the winter. Admittedly there is some propensity for extremes, but by and large the temperature ranges are such that we are tempted to push the plant zones up and/or down as the opportunities to grow various plants arise. As hinted above, maybe you wouldn't anticipate too much for the **Akureyri Botanic Garden** (ABG) which lies on an East facing slope at the dead end of the Eyjafjordur fjord in northern Iceland, yes just sixty miles or so from the Arctic Circle. I checked out a world atlas to see what else might be at a comparable latitude that might resonate as a known place. As far as I'm concerned, there is nothing to speak of!! Suppose I just said that Oslo (Norway) and Stockholm (Sweden) are at least 600 miles further south!! Ok, so as part of our travels throughout Iceland last June, Freddi and I weren't expecting much as we circled around the town of Akureyri, the second largest 'city' in Iceland with about 18,000 hardy souls, trying to locate this nine acre public park. Our difficulty locating it was mostly linguistic as we English types asked for the Akureyri Botanic Garden and the locals knew it as Lystigardur. Silly us, but we did finally corral it!!

Our simple expectations were overwhelmed by what we found. The Akureyri Botanic Garden turned out to be a MOST charming, educational and professionally managed garden!! Considering how bleak Iceland is for much of the year, perhaps you can appreciate how strong the magnetic power of this greenspace Oz can be!! And thus, that is the magic of this public garden which doubles as a pleasant rendezvous AND as an educationally rewarding botanical visit.

Similar to the way other publically supported gardens have evolved, a couple acres were first nurtured by a few 'garden ladies' in 1912 until 1953 when it was turned over to the city for funding support, etc. It is Iceland's first public garden. Since then, in the past fifty years it has filled out to its current size (four acres or so plus adjacent parking) and matured into the successful garden that it now is.

Let me enumerate the myriad ways this 'surprise' garden worked for us.

1. It was simply delightful. Just visually with the laid out paths surrounding colorful plant beds on the hillside overlooking the fjord with mountains in the background - it provided a pleasant oasis and summer refuge for both winter weary natives and travel worn tourists. Right in the center lies a vibrant café which includes outside tables with many of the visitors just soaking up the summer sun and a few suds!!! There were also ornamental pools, sitting benches, fountains, vistas, etc. The garden is open from June to Sep-

tember and stays open until 10:00 p.m. every day. It doubles both as a public park and a botanic garden. Keep in mind the long summer days....soooo long in fact the sun never set nor did the sky ever darken the entire three weeks we were in Iceland!!

2. A condensed growing season with telescoped flowering meant that a profusion of plants were flowering at once for us – e.g., many temperate climate Spring and Summer bloomers were out at the same time – like tulips, daffodils and daylilies..... Thus, lots to see everywhere. The place was jumping alive having just come out of dormancy in early June and now chugging along at the end of June!!! So much to see and most everything appeared in great shape – very happy!! The weather was cooperating while we were there with sun, low wind and temps near 70 F. No wonder things were doing well – Goldilocks conditions – not too hot, not too chilly.....
3. The Garden was very well organized and labeled. Many horticultural beds are committed to specific genera such as Geranaceae or Primulaceae. One section was set aside for Icelandic native plant, another for rock garden plants from around the world.
4. Iceland is characterized as having maritime sub-arctic flora which means it is cold but not bitterly cold. What I appreciated most about the garden is that it also serves as a research/study site. Essentially, none of the perennials are brought inside during the winter (there was one greenhouse on site and it was used for propagating and growing to size). It would be costly to try to sustain plants inside during the nine months or so of long night winter. The temperate climate flora we were so familiar with had to survive under the winter blanket of snow. If it didn't survive, that was noted, and other plants/cultivars tried. Nothing was babied. The Botanic Garden staff are in contact with other Botanic Gardens and freely exchanges information and plant materials. To reiterate, extensive records are kept and the Garden serves as a model/testing ground as to what plants can actually survive that far north!!

...and that was just the Akureyri Botanic Garden!! There was soooo much more in the rest of Iceland!!



***Lupinus* in Iceland**

Meet your Friends

Barbara Waite-Jaques cannot remember a time when gardens were not an important part of her life,



starting with her grandparents' garden at her first home in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Her father was a physician in the U.S. Public Health Service, which necessitated frequent moves, and, at each new home, Barbara

and her father would dig up a patch of grass and plant a garden. When she and her late husband, Dale, moved to Colesville in 1977, they discovered Brookside. Brookside Gardens became the destination for contemplation and exercise, the place for teaching grandchildren the beauty of nature and the treasure practically in their backyard for showing off to visitors. The bench in the azalea garden honoring Dale is the place where family and friends can spend peaceful moments. Since 2003, she has volunteered as a *Wings of Fancy* docent and conservatory gardener.

Barbara's involvement with Friends of Brookside Gardens began when volunteering to assist in the annual fall plant sale. Joan O'Rourke, our founding president, recruited her to join the board in 2004. On the board, Barbara has served as secretary, *Brooksider* editor, Silent Auction co-chair and president. Currently, she is serving as co-chair of the Procurement Committee for the April 2016 Silent Auction.

As a child, Barbara attended elementary and secondary schools in Atlanta, Georgia, Columbus, Ohio, New York, New York, Bethesda, Maryland, Staten Island, New York and Seattle, and Washington. She attended Barnard College, Antioch College and the University of Colorado, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics. University of Maryland

awarded her a Master's degree in Mathematics Education. Montgomery County Public Schools was her employer from 1971 as she taught mathematics at Einstein, Springbrook, Magruder and Walter Johnson High Schools. She was a curriculum and examination writer for both Montgomery County and the state of Maryland. Before retirement in 2001, she was the secondary mathematics teacher specialist at the Board of Education.

Barbara enjoys visiting with family in Louisiana, Florida, Ohio, Illinois, Texas, Virginia and Maine. Her son Aaron practices pain management in Dallas, where he lives with his wife and four children; step-daughter Sharon teaches preschool and lives in Roanoke, Virginia with her two children; step-son Jake teaches high school and lives in Freeport, Maine with his wife and two children. International travel has taken Barbara to six of the seven continents but probably will never include Antarctica! For the past four years, Barbara's most frequent destination has been Clarksville, New York, the home of her companion, Geoffrey Stein. She and Geoffrey have known each other for over fifty years since their days at Antioch College.

Another volunteer activity for Barbara is with the Montgomery County Master Gardeners, where she has served as vice-president and chair for internal and external events committees and for plant clinics at the Twinbrook and Brookside Libraries. A new venture this year has been training for and serving as a docent for the Kreeger Museum.

In her leisure time, Barbara plays the recorder and attends performances of the National Symphony Orchestra, Arena Stage and the Kennedy Center Theatre. Most weekends, she can be found attending a movie or a film festival...and still walking whenever possible at Brookside Gardens.



You may see **Elaine Dynes**, FOBG's Membership Chair and outgoing Vice President, walking through Brookside Gardens at any time of day. Like many of us, Elaine enjoys Brookside Gardens in every season. The surrounding landscape is always a delight to all the senses, so the walks, whether brisk or determined, are always invigorating. She may be planning the day ahead, or she may be considering weightier matters, like what to do with the rest



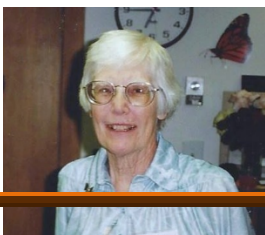
of her life. Regular walks at Brookside, or sometimes on the Matthew Henson trail, have become an essential part of her life.

Elaine is almost a native Washingtonian. Her family moved to Washington, DC during the Kennedy administration and she attended DC Public Schools. A resident of Montgomery

County since 1973, she feels very fortunate to live amid so many beautiful public parks.

Elaine has always loved animals and nature, but she spent more than thirty years working inside, often in windowless offices, at AT&T. After she retired in 2001, she started volunteering one day a week at Second Chance Wildlife Center (www.scwc.org) in Gaithersburg. About the same time, she became an active volunteer with Friends of Brookside Gardens, helping with data entry, mail-outs and the Annual Orchid Show. She became a member of FOBG's board in 2011. Elaine wants everyone to know that no special skills are required to serve on FOBG's Board. Everybody has something to offer.

Elaine still hopes to figure out what she wants to be when she grows up, but in for now, it's enough to know that she is happiest when she is with her grandchildren and when she is volunteering.



This summer, Friends of Brookside Gardens said goodbye to one of our own. **Sally Moran**, a founding member of FOBG's board and Membership Chair for fifteen

years, died in June. Sally had a genuine affection for the people she met. If you didn't know her from FOBG activities, you may have noticed her warm smile at the Marylandica shops at Brookside Gardens, where she was a regular volunteer. She often wore an apron as she tidied the shop's displays. She signed up many new FOBG members in that capacity, explaining that the member discount on large purchases could come close to paying the FOBG membership dues. She will be greatly missed!!!!!!



In this and future issues of *The Brooksider*, we will provide a listing of upcoming FOBG sponsored events and Brookside Gardens adult programs. The list will be updated as information becomes available. We hope this will be helpful in planning how you can take advantage of all that Brookside Gardens has to offer. Additional offerings, such as children's programs, art exhibits and excursions are available in the [Xperience](#) program guide.

FOBG Sponsored Events

	Date	Course #
Orchid Show and Sale	03/12/16	-----
"	03/13/16	-----
Silent Auction	04/16/16	-----

Brookside Gardens Adult Programs

	Date	Course #
<i>Excursions and Tours:</i>		
Richmond Holiday Adventure	12/01/15	8033
Philadelphia Flower Show - 7:00 am to 7:00 pm	03/03/16	8034
Philadelphia Flower Show - 10:30 am to 10:30 pm	03/05/16	8035

Speaker Series:

Gift Ideas for Gardeners - Brookside Staff	11/17/15	7898
Holiday Buffet - Adrienne Cook	12/11/15	8031
Edible Landscaping with a Permaculture Twist - Michael Judd	01/09/16	8032
Green Matters 2016: A Garden Gateway	04/08/16	TBD

Garden After Dark (for two people age 21 and up - see Xperience for details):

Holly Daze	12/08/15	8018
Birds and the Bees	02/09/16	8019

Horticultural Workshops:

Cone and Nut Wreath - Lynn Richard & Diane Lewis	11/03/15	7921
Winter Container Gardening - Joan O'Rourke	11/17/15	7922
Thanksgiving Centerpiece - Local Color Flowers staff	11/24/15	7923
World of Flavor - Laura Vogel	12/04/15	8025
Festive Fresh Greens: Wreaths - Joan O'Rourke	12/15/15	8026
Festive Fresh Greens: Centerpieces - Joan O'Rourke	12/16/15	8027
Cleaner, Greener Home - Laura Vogel	01/20/16	8028
Birds, Bugs and Buds: Glass Jewelry - Stephanie Oberle	01/22/16	8029
Getting Creative with Air Plants - Joan O'Rourke & Laura Vogel	01/27/16	8030

Cooking Demonstrations:

Fifty Shades of Grain - The Cook Sisters	11/18/15	7934
Pomegranates, Persimmons and Pears - The Cook Sisters	12/02/15	8020
Roots of Flavor - The Cook Sisters	01/13/16	8021

Garden Walks, Talks and Demos:

Seed Starting for the Vegetable Garden - Gordon Clark	02/15/16	8022
Everything You Want to Know About Pruning - Jim Deramus	02/19/16	8023
Ideas for the Exceptional Garden - Diane Lewis	02/23/16	8024

School of Botanical Art & Illustration - Workshops & Short Courses

White Line Woodcuts	11/07/15	7947
Painting Leaves with Sheen	11/15/15	7949
Botanicals in Miniature	12/05/15	8036
Pen and Ink Illustration	01/29/16 *	8037
"	01/30/16 *	"
"	01/31/16 *	"
Painting Roses	02/13/16	8038

See Xperience Magazine for Core Curriculum courses

*** This course meets more than once**

*For more information, see
or for fees and registration, click this link*

[Xperience Magazine](#)
[Active Montgomery](#)



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN OFF TO A GOOD START IN TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Thank you to the hundreds of you who mailed in your Friends of Brookside Gardens dues payment quickly enough so we could use bulk mail to send your membership cards at the end of October. Bulk mailing your new cards saves us hundreds of dollars. If you have not yet renewed, what are you waiting for? Renew today to save us the expense of printing and mailing reminder postcards.

***OUR GOAL: OVER 1,000 MEMBERS IN FOBG's 20th YEAR**

Montgomery County has a population of over a million, and Brookside Gardens gets more than 400,000 visitors annually, but FOBG has fewer than 900 members. With your help, we can all celebrate when we exceed our goal of 1,000 FOBG members in our twentieth year. You can find membership applications at the Visitors Center, on our website, and in Xperience. Do you have friends or neighbors who are not members of FOBG? This year, every member who recruits at least two new members will have their membership extended through October 2017, an extra year FOR FREE! Either give the new member a gift membership, or have them print a form from our website, <http://www.friendsofbrooksidegardens.org/membership/>, and be sure they enter your name (no address is necessary) in the NAME field under "This is a gift membership from:" Help us spread the word about Brookside Gardens and its sister, McCrillis Garden in Bethesda.

*LOTS OF BENEFITS

Along with the satisfaction of knowing your gift helps to nourish and grow Brookside Gardens, there are immediately tangible benefits. Benefits of membership include discounts at numerous local garden centers and a Wild Bird Center, 10% discount at Brookside Gardens' Marylandica Gift Shops, and special FOBG fees for many of the programs listed in **Xperience**, and a 10% discount and exclusive early bird shopping at FOBG's Fall Plant Sale. Members also receive **The Brooksider** electronic newsletter, filled with colorful photographs and information about the gardens and FOBG activities.

*YOUR MEMBERSHIP HELPS BROOKSIDE BLOOM!

We encourage each of you to join FOBG at the highest level you are comfortable with. Dues are used to support Brookside Gardens' programs and plantings and are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Members who give at the Patron or Benefactor levels will be acknowledged in **The Brooksider** and in Brookside Gardens **Xperience**. We appreciate your support and welcome any suggestions you might have to help us grow. Call us at 301-962-1435 with comments or to request membership forms.

FOBG – Membership – Benefactor & Patron Levels April 1 – September 30, 2015

Category	Date	Name
Benefactor - \$500+	5/28/15	Shirley Brownrigg Charitable Trust
	6/30/15	Bethesda Community Garden Club
Patron - \$250 - \$499	8/29/15	Michael & Jennifer Janezic
Memorial	6/30/15	Jeff & Sarah Kestner - in memory of Doris M Busching
	6/11/15	Abroms & Associates PC – in memory of Eugenia H Wallington
	6/13/15	Keven & Wendy Parrish – in memory of Eugenia H Wallington

Suggestions? Ideas? Let us know!

Friends of Brookside Gardens, Inc. Board of Directors

1800 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902

301-962-1435 (voice mail checked daily)

Email address: friendsofbrooksidegardens@yahoo.com

Web address: <http://www.friendsofbrooksidegardens.org/>

Barbara Schwarz, *President*, Joe Ann Stenstrom, *Vice President*, Julia Horman, *Treasurer*

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