

Connecticut Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER

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Serving Horticulturists Since 1887

June 2015

The Benefits of Worm Castings in Your Garden & Why You Should Consider Vermicomposting Your Food Scraps

by Steven Devloo

Our mission at Earthworm Technologies is simple: 1) Do something about all those beautiful food scraps needlessly going to waste in landfills that are polluting our environment, and 2) Create highly-effective premium and unique organic gardening fertilizer products to make it easy and to encourage people to implement organic practices in their gardens. Food in landfills expels an unnecessary amount of methane which is 20 times worse than carbon dioxide into our atmosphere. By using the science of vermiculture, we help divert food scraps while creating fun and easy-to-use organic gardening products that are eco/child/pet friendly.

Everything Earthworm Technologies creates as a company we derive from vermicomposting food scraps. One could say we are “knee-deep in worm poop.” Any gardener who is not familiar with what worm castings can do should learn about all the great things they could achieve by vermicomposting their food scraps and/or using worm castings for all their gardening needs. And the best part



Regular garden worm (top) and red wiggler (bottom)

is you can do it on your own, for free, with a few simple items.

To start, here are some facts you might find interesting regarding food waste and earthworms:

- There are thousands of worms in existence today ranging from enormous (several feet long found in Australia/Asia) to microscopic (nematodes). We use just one very specific type of worm in our vermicomposting operations – the red wiggler (Scientific Name: *Eisenia Foetida*) known to be a voracious feeder of waste with the added benefit of having a wide range of moisture/temperature tolerances. You can see the difference between a regular garden worm and red wiggler worms in the photo on page 4.
- 97% of our food waste gets thrown away into our garbage bags, which in turn end up in landfills. (We’re so focused on paper and plastic but forget about the most useful item in the recycling chain... our food waste!)
- An average family of two creates about 8 pounds of good quality food scraps per week, according to our experience and research, as well as what we accept for composting, which is only pure food scraps such as vegetable/fruit.
- The average grocery shopper ends up buying and throwing away, on average, 25% of the produce he or she buys.
- Charles Darwin, most known for his theory of evolution and book “On the Origin of Species,” was actually quite fascinated with the earthworm and its tremendous benefits to the Earth. Darwin dedicated 40 years of his life running experiments involving earthworms and eventually wrote a whole book dedicated to the subject called “The Formation of

(continued on page 4)



By Heather Lockwood

2015 Spring Plant Auction \$4,728 Raised for Scholarships

By Leslie Shields
Auction Committee Chair

CHS held its Spring Plant Sale and Auction on auspicious May Day. We were in our first west-of-the-river venue in a long time. The hall was packed and there were plants spilling off the tables. People were excited by the selection. About one third of the group had not been to our auction before.

The bidding was spirited. At one point, Adam Wheeler from Broken Arrow held up a one gallon pot. “What will you give me for this stick in a pot?” and that was all it was, BUT it had two sets of brilliantly colored new foliage in an orange-pink shade. As he told us more, it became more and more desirable. Bids went up and up. It was finally sold for \$72. Not bad for a stick in a pot! In case

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and articles for publication should be
sent to: news@cthort.org.*

Send Membership Information
& Direct General Questions To:
Bonnie Penders
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2433 Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Membership Dues:

Individual.....	\$45
Individual Senior (65+)	\$40
Family	\$65
30 under 30	\$30
Senior Family (65+).....	\$60
Sustaining	\$125-500
Business.....	\$70
Student (full time with valid ID)	free

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Letter from the President

Dear Gardening Friends,

One of the joyful responsibilities of the CHS president is honoring those who volunteer for our organization. At our May meeting it was my privilege once again as Joan Stubenrauch became our 2015 Service Award recipient.

Across the 24 years Joan and her husband, Ken, have been members, they have volunteered for the auction and symposium, facilitated meeting activities, served on our board and on various committees.

Joan's most significant role historically was with the Flower Show committee. Volunteering more than 1,500 hours, from creative outset to physical labor, Joan guided the forcing of the plants for the show. She took lessons from Nancy Dubrule-Clemente and David Smith, making our displays worthy of the highest awards. As the Director of Plant Forcing, Joan was the linchpin for CHS – between numerous designers, Flower Show chairpersons, and the viewing public. She also created our plant lists for the many years – no small task when we are making sure the exact taxonomy is defined. Further, Joan helped run profitable plant sales after each show to offset expenses. Though CHS plays a different role at the show today – her contribution is none the less extraordinary.

In Fall 2012, Joan stepped in when the need arose to finish out the execution of the many details of the Mark Twain House/CHS Symposium. It was her efforts procuring donations for the silent auction that contributed more than 30% of the fundraising profit for this event.

In 2014, Joan became the Education Chairperson. She has gathered a loyal, creative and diligent team that makes our workshops happen. She has already escorted her committee ahead of planned timing in the execution of details for our February 2016 Symposium (exact date to be announced).

It is Joan's exceptional standards in all that she does for CHS – in spite of whatever else life throws her way – that made it logical to honor her with the 2015 CHS Service Award. Please congratulate her when you see her.

CHS cannot thrive, as it has for more



Nancy Brennick, left, with Joan Stubenrauch

than a century, without a bit of time from *every member*. Joan has done more than her share – won't you consider how you can contribute?

Right now we need:

- Hospitality Chair: To run the schedule of volunteers for beverage service at meetings, the auctions and our Ice Cream Social
- Planned Giving Chair: To define donation methods suited to CHS members
- Assistant Treasurer; Auction co-chair; Raffle co-chair ; Finance co-chair

Our Committees need fresh contributions from our almost 800 members. Please see board members and chairs at our meetings. *Look for the *green volunteer vests* our leaders will wear so you know who to go to!

One other bit of joy I want to share: Honors Night at Naugatuck Valley Community College (where we donate two scholarships per year). Director Keri Milne and I represented CHS as 115 scholars received awards. CHS presents a Dick Jaynes Scholarship and one other "*In recognition of outstanding student achievement in the field of horticulture to a student showcasing a pattern of academic excellence and outreach within the practice of the discipline.*" The stories of these students' successes, in spite of life's challenges, made us tear up. I cannot wait for you to meet them in the Fall.

Don't forget the early start for our Annual Ice Cream Social: 6:30 pm. Thanks to **Whole Foods** at Bishops Corner, who donated the ice cream for this event.

In the meantime, don't forget your sunscreen.

Thursday, June 18 Speaker Robert Adzema Presents: Designing the Light: Sundials and Sense of Place

Robert Adzema is a painter and a sculptor currently residing in Palisades, New York and Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

Adzema is a professional plein-air landscape watercolor painter. He said he feels that the freedom and immediacy of the watercolor medium is a perfect balance to the exactness and mathematical geometry of sundials.

He has created sundials and other sculpture for public plazas, schools, libraries, museums, memorials and gardens both public and private in the U.S. and Europe. In 2001, he was awarded the Sawyer Dialing Prize from the North American Sundial Society. He has had numerous one-person shows of his sundials and his watercolors. Adzema's work is in the public collections of the City of New York, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, The New York City Board of Education, the State of Connecticut and Rockland County in New York.

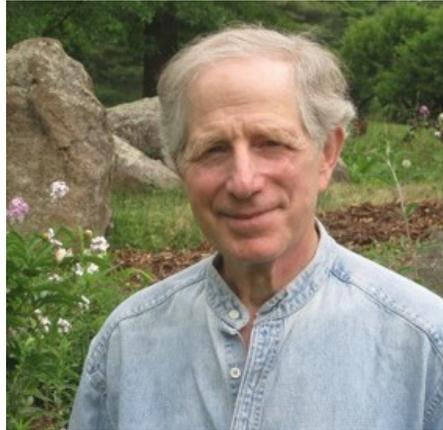
"My sundials are abstract sculptures that measure the apparent motion of the sun throughout the day, the seasons and even the year," said Adzema. "These



Sundial at Rockland Center

mostly large, public works are carefully laid out, accurate both mathematically and geometrically, and permanently set for their exact location. They are intrinsically about sunlight and shadow.

"I have been using the science of sundials as the basis of my many successful public art projects since 1976. I endeavor to make sunlight physical



Robert Adzema

and make time and place inseparable," he continued. "The work is site-specific, where the forms evolve out of the exact longitude and latitude of the site as well as the surrounding physical and historical landscape and input from the community. I prize good fit, where the form, color, materials, size, scale and content work in relation to both the human scale and the site."

Adzema received his Bachelor of Industrial Design from Pratt Institute and his Masters of Fine Arts in Sculpture from Indiana University. In 1978, Adzema co-authored with Mablen Jones "The Great Sundial Cutout Book," both a teaching guide to sundial science and a practical guide for making one's own accurate sundial models. Since that time he has made sundials an essential part of this sculptural work.

While many of his sundial sculptures were designed for public spaces, he has also designed smaller scale sundials for private gardens and as memorials.

"Garden sundials are some of my favorites," said Adzema. "They can create a focal point in a garden, where they are a reminder that sunlight is essential to life and the beauty and growth of plants. Sundials can function year round and provide beauty through all the seasons. They provide a physical sense of place in relation to North, South, East and West and remind us of the ancient and elemen-

CHS Program Meeting

Our meetings are open to members and non-members alike, with a \$10 donation requested from non-members. We look forward to seeing you!

Date: Thursday, June 18, 2015

**Come early for the
Annual Ice Cream Social
6:30 p.m. Followed by
the Program Meeting.**

Location: Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Dr., West Hartford, Conn.

tal roots of our fascination with the sun.

"The quiet thoughtfulness of a garden sundial gives us an alternative sense of time, one that is measured and slow, in tune with the turning of the earth and the progression of the seasons," said Adzema.

The purpose or function of the sundial, such as a memorial or as the centerpiece of an inviting plaza, will influence the theme or design idea.

The fabrication process involves using permanent materials that weather well such as bronze, stainless steel, painted steel or aluminum, stone or concrete. The result is a beautiful abstract sculpture that is functional, that is in scale to its surroundings and that can be easily read.

"My designs are meant to be sculptures that are poetic but that also function scientifically," he said. "The rest is up to our sun to provide the sunny hours for years of enjoyment.

"I am both a painter and a sculptor," said Robert. "These disciplines offer me two very different means of expression yet share a common subject: my passion for light. I feel that the freedom and energy of expression that I enjoy in my plein-air watercolor paintings are a happy and necessary balance to the formal and exacting discipline that I use in my sundial sculptures. In each instance, both are in the service of the beauty of sunlight." 🦋

Worms, from page 1

Vegetable Mould through the Action of Worms, with Observations of their Habits.” The book sold 6,000 copies in its first year (selling faster than his book on evolution when it was first published).

First, let’s discuss some of the reasons why doing something about your own food scraps is beneficial to you.

Throwing your food scraps in your garbage bags pollutes the Earth. It’s a fact! Those garbage bags end up in landfills where the food is unable to break down properly (due to lack of oxygen) and in turn contributes to methane release causing environmental damage. Composting and vermicomposting food waste, on the other hand, actually gives us some of the best all-natural soil amendments and fertilizers around.

How much are you spending on organic fertilizers, soil amendments and chemicals for the garden per year? You can have the best organic fertilizer to use for free! A definite economic benefit for the gardener.

The vermicompost/worm castings you produce are super-packed with micro-nutrients, minerals and beneficial microbes in plant-ready form that your garden is going to love, giving you the gardener the healthiest and most beautiful garden in the neighborhood.

So... how do you vermicompost your food scraps?

It’s so easy, you’ll be shocked!

You can go online and find all kinds of different systems but why spend money if you don’t have to? All you need is a 5-gallon bucket to start or even better get one of those Rubbermaid Totes at Home Depot for a few dollars.

- 1) Drill some holes into the lid.
- 2) Throw in some of your vegetables and/or fruit food scraps to start, but absolutely NO meat, fish, or dairy and I don’t recommend onions or acidic fruits like lemons/oranges since those will set the system off balance if not monitored properly (and most home vermicomposters will usually make this mistake). Meats, fish and dairy products will also putrefy, start to smell and throw off the pH balance of the bin

causing you to give up on everything. I suggest you stick to old breads, cakes, veggies and fruit scraps in addition to the cardboard or black/white newspaper shredding for bedding... ALWAYS keep a couple layers of shredded newspaper on top of everything in the bin. ALSO, no pits – peach pits, mango pits, etc. (the home vermicomposting bin will take forever to break those down.

3) Cover the worm food with a layer of shredded newspaper as mentioned.

4) Add a pound of red wiggler worms (you can find sources online). A quick back-of-the-hand calculation that’s helpful is one pound of red wiggler worms = approximately 1,000 worms. Unlike what most articles say about one pound of worms eating one pound of food per day, more likely you will experience 1 pound of worms eating about a ½ pound of food per day in a home worm bin system. I would also suggest you get one pound of worms for every square foot of bin space.

5) In the beginning, worms have to get used to their new home, so start off feeding leafy things and paper for a couple weeks until they’re used to their new environment and then you can use the 1/2 pound of food scraps per one pound of worm estimation.

6) Finally, put the lid back on.

We suggest you keep your worm bin indoors in Connecticut. The reason we recommend red wigglers is because they have a very tolerant range of temperatures at which they can survive, ideally between 50 degrees and 85 degrees, but if you want them working, eating, procreating etc. the ideal temperature we found is about 70 degrees (needless to say, extreme temperatures as we expect in Connecticut in the winter, as well as the summer could kill your worm population if kept outdoors).

An additional tip to keep track of how much you’re feeding and how much is being eaten is to start off adding your scraps to the left half of the tote and then the next week add new scraps to the right side of the tote. Keep alternating sides once a week adding your new scraps to the op-

posite side. After a few months, you’ll see some nice black worm castings you can scoop up and add to your plants directly. While it may not look as refined as the worm castings we create for our commercial gardening products, it will work great nonetheless! Simply mix the worm castings with your soil, spreading them near the root zones of your flowers and plants or add them to your muslin satchels if you’re making homemade compost tea.

Concentrate on strengthening your soil and you will be pleasantly rewarded.

Worm castings are proving to be even more beneficial than compost, aged manure and conventional fertilizers... Why?

Fertile soil (most of us don’t even minimally have that!) has approximately 5 million beneficial microbes per gram (imagine about of the weight of a paperclip), however, worm castings have been found to contain up to 100 million beneficial microbes per gram, up to 20 times more than the surrounding soil.

Purdue University has reported that earthworms leave soil 5-11% richer in the essential plant-available NPK (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium) nutrients without even considering the vast amounts of micro-nutrients and beneficial microbes they add to the mix.

Worm castings (which look just like refined black coffee and smell like rich earth), due to the worms’ enzymes, also release micro and macro nutrients slowly throughout the season. Chemical fertilizers generally contain a high NPK content that isn’t even in optimal form for plant life to uptake so most of it leaches (runs off into our waterways) where it actually even pollutes our water. In other words, you really have to watch how much you use or you’ll actually kill your plants. Not so with worm castings!

Here’s a list of additional benefits:

1. Improves soil structure and porosity – creating a better plant root environment
2. Increases moisture infiltration and permeability, and reduces bulk density of heavy soils – improving moisture infiltration rates, reducing erosion and runoff

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Horticultural Happenings & Announcements

Happenings are listed on a space-available basis. To see a more extensive Happenings listing for June, please go to the CHS website: www.chhort.org and click on Programs & Events. To submit events, email the listing to news@chhort.org. Deadline for the Summer issue is June 22.

NEW! Speaker Evaluations Online!

In our continuing effort to improve our speaker programs, a new survey link for your feedback is on our website. CHS now has a Survey Monkey account that will collect and compile your comments and ratings for each speaker program throughout the year. To give your opinion: go to the CHS HOME page, click SPEAKERS 2014-2015, and scroll down to the speaker you want to evaluate. After the date and title of the talk there is a green link: "Evaluate this speaker: click here and take our survey." This link directs you to the survey for that speaker. Survey results will be reviewed by the board each month. Our Vice President and Program Chair will use them to plan future talks.

Hardy Plant Society Picnic Potluck

Saturday, June 27th, 2015, at O'Brien Nursery 40 Wells Road, North Granby. Hostas are a specialty!!! It is an exploration among delightful demonstration gardens and unique treasures to discover and purchase as your own. Come join HPS as John presents his gardens filled with exotic, native, and unique perennials, shrubs and trees, including a magnificent collection of conifers. For more information go to <http://cthardyplantsociety.org>.

Suffield Parks & Recreation Gardening Programs

New gardening classes taught by Julie Harrison, a horticultural expert with over ten years of experience in landscape design and gardening. Julie is also a regularly featured guest on WFSB's daily show Better Con-

necticut where her segments as the show's Garden Guru can be seen every Monday.

Planting an edible container garden

Wednesday, June 10, 2015 from 7 p.m.-8 p.m. at Suffield High School's Agriscience Large Animal facility hosted by the Suffield Agriscience Center. Julie Harrison will share different ideas of gardening with planting companions, herbs and other container-friendly and yummy plants. Container gardens will be available for purchase at the end of the talk. Adult (high school students interested in gardening are welcome). Registration closes on Monday, June 1 and/or earlier if enrollment reaches maximum capacity. Fee: \$10.00. Register on line at www.SuffieldRec.com. For more information call (860)668-3862

Worms, from page 4

3. Improves the moisture holding capacity of light soils – reducing water loss and nutrient leaching
4. Improves the cation exchange capacity (CEC) of soils (this is a measure of the soil's ability to hold and release various elements and compounds, for example: plant nutrients)
5. Supplies organic matter
6. Aids the proliferation of soil microbes
7. Supplies beneficial microorganisms to soils and growing media
8. Encourages vigorous root growth
9. Allows plants to more effectively utilize nutrients
10. Enables soils to retain nutrients longer
11. Contains humus – assisting in soil aggregation and making nutrients more available for plant uptake
12. Buffers soil pH

Don't forget... a little goes a long way! This stuff is efficient and jam packed with minerals and nutrients.

If maintaining a worm bin and recycling your food scraps to produce your own worm castings at home doesn't appeal to you, feel free to visit our website (<https://earthwormtechnologies.com>)

where you can buy our refined organic fertilizer products... or if you live in the southwestern part of Fairfield County, we even have a food scrap recycling program you can join so we'll do all the hard work for you (and you even get some of our EarthPods® organic plant food back free as part of the paid program).

Happy organic gardening everyone!

For more in-depth organic gardening tips go to our organic gardening blog: <https://earthwormtechnologies.com/organic-gardening-blog/> or ask questions on the organic gardening forum <https://earthwormtechnologies.com/organic-garden-forum/>.

Earthworm Technologies, LLC is an eco-organic gardening company based in Stamford. The company was founded by Steven Devloo who is also the CEO and creator of BloomPucks® and EarthPods®. Their products are all organic, eco-friendly and made directly by the company in the U.S.A. The packaging is made from recycled paper sources and printed with soy inks, making it compostable and bio-degradable. Additionally, they only use high-germination grade non-GMO seeds.

Schedule of Dues

Approved by our Board
of Directors for the
2015-2016 membership year:

Membership Type	2015-2016
Sustaining:	
<i>Dream Designer</i>	\$500
<i>Plant Expert</i>	\$250
<i>Garden Builder</i>	\$125
Individual	\$49
Family	\$69
Senior Individual (65+)	\$44
Senior Family (65+)	\$64
\$30 under 30 years	\$30
Student (full-time with valid ID)	FREE
*Horticultural Business Sustaining level: Advisory Board	\$250
*Horticultural Business Sustaining level: Strategic Alliance Partner	\$150
Horticultural Business Member:	\$70
*Garden Club:	\$80

*asterisk denotes expanded membership level: details on our website by July 1, 2015.

Glorious Gardens of New Jersey Thursday-Saturday, September 17-19, 2015

The Connecticut Horticultural Society presents Glorious Gardens of New Jersey, September 17-19, 2015. Highlights include:

- Private Garden of Andrea Filippone with lunch in the garden
- Grounds for Sculpture
- Newark Art Museum
- Greenwood Gardens
- Leonard J. Buck Garden
- Private Garden of Janet Mavec

Day 1: We're off on our fabulous 3 day getaway to enjoy a special Tour of the Glorious Gardens of New Jersey! Nestled in the heart of central New Jersey, our first stop is GROUNDS FOR SCULPTURE, where art and nature are always at play. At its core are more than 270 sculptures by renowned and emerging contemporary artists, each thoughtfully positioned on meticulously landscaped parkland full of thousands of exotic trees and flowers.

Enjoy this magical park with time on your own for lunch at one of several Cafés.

Head back north to the NEWARK MUSEUM OF ART. Here we will have a docent-led tour of the American Art Collection which will include paintings, sculptures and photography by such greats as Mary Cassatt, John Singer Sargent, Georgia O'Keeffe, Warhol and more...

Check into our home for the next two nights, the HILTON SHORT HILLS. This four star property has luxury ac-



Greenwood Gardens, New Jersey



Grounds for Sculpture, Hamilton Square, New Jersey

commodations, a spa and is conveniently located next to the designer Short Hills Mall.

Dinner tonight will be at FIORINO'S RISTORANTE. We will enjoy Organic baby green salad, Entrée choice of Chicken Fiorentina, Slow Roasted Lamb Shank, Veal Scaloppine or Grilled Salmon with Tiramisu for dessert.

Day 2: Our first stop today will be the REEVES-REED ARBORETUM for a guided walking tour. This is a spectacular garden gem! The tranquil grounds include woodland trails, azalea, herb and rose gardens, wildflowers, perennials, a greenhouse, bog garden and fish pond, and a stone Amphitheatre.

We'll stop for a scrumptious lunch at BASILICO's, one of the most sought after Italian restaurants in Essex County. We'll choose from their delectable Garden Menu.

Enjoy an afternoon tour of GREENWOOD GARDENS. You'll think you've entered a garden in Italy as we stroll through the wrought iron gates into this unique and romantic garden. Interesting artwork, beautifully maintained trees, tea house, pond, and helpful docents will make it very special. We return to

the hotel for you to relax, and enjoy the remainder of the evening and dinner on your own.

Day 3: The LEONARD J. BUCK GARDEN will be our first stop today. Sculpted from a glacial stream valley, many waterfalls once cascaded here, then subsided, leaving behind rock faces, outcroppings, ponds, and a stream. It took the eye of Leonard J. Buck, famous geologist and trustee of the NY Botanical Garden, along with landscape architect Zenon Schreiber to transform this gorge into the breathtaking showcase it is filled with rare and exotic rock garden plants.

We're off to the PRIVATE GARDEN OF ANDREA FILIPPONE, "AN ARCHITECT'S GARDEN" for a visit and Catered Picnic Lunch in the garden.

The gardens and landscape are part of an ongoing project begun in 1992 to completely renovate an eighteenth-century dairy farm on 35 acres. Over the years, the four abandoned barns have been connected together to form a delightful living/working space surrounded by lush havens. There is also a delightful, solar powered greenhouse, and a boxwood nursery with boxwoods from around the world. The formal

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Hartford Blooms – Garden Tour of West Hartford Thursday, June 11, 2015

Once again, CHS and Friendship Tours is going on a guided tour through the West End of Hartford. The planned itinerary* includes:

- The Peck Estate on Scarborough Street – featuring beautiful gardens & sculptures
- Jonathan Clarke Home – featuring a unique bamboo garden
- A delicious sit down luncheon at Car-

bone's in Hartford **Menu:** Garden salad plus a choice of Chicken Marsala, Veal Parmesan or Broiled Salmon, all served with vegetable, potato, and dessert. (Entrée choice in advance, please.)

And more... including a visit to Elizabeth Park to stop and smell the Roses...

**Since these are private homes, itinerary is subject to change.*

Cost: \$86 p.p. CHS members and \$89 p.p. non-members. Includes deluxe motorcoach. Payment due at time of reservation. No refunds on daytrips. Please provide a substitute. **Departure:** 9 a.m. Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Dr. West Hartford and returns 6:15 p.m. Or depart from Commuter Lot, 500 Main St, East Hartford leaving at 9:30 a.m., returning at 5:30 p.m. **To reserve,** please call Friendship Tours at (860) 243-1630 or go to www.friendshiptours.net.

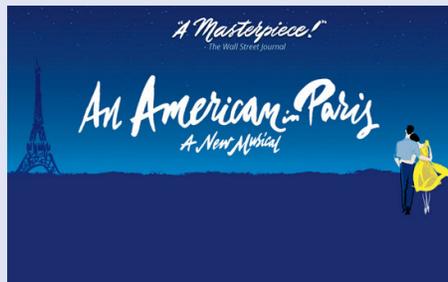
Matinee Broadway Show: “An American in Paris” Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Join us for Center Orchestra seats at a Wednesday matinee performance of the stunning stage production of “An American In Paris” at Broadway’s Palace Theatre.

The romantic story of a young American soldier, a beautiful French girl and an indomitable European city, each yearning for a new beginning in the aftermath of war, is the stuff of Broadway dreams.

“An American in Paris” promises to be the kind of new Broadway musical you thought they didn’t make anymore – a musical filled with beauty, artistry and the unmistakable beat of the human heart.

Highly acclaimed choreographer



Christopher Wheeldon directs a remarkable cast of singers, actors and dancers as they bring the magic and romance of Paris and the timeless songs of George and Ira Gershwin into perfect harmony.

Nominated for 12 Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Director, Best Choreography, Best Leading

Actor and Actress, and more, “An American in Paris” is sure to be a winner!

Enjoy a pre-show luncheon at Brazil Brazil. Advance choice of Chicken Breast with Italian Sausage or Pan Roasted Salmon with Dijon Glaze or Homemade Meat Lasagna.

Departure locations: Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford Commuter Lot, 500 Main Street, East Hartford. Estimated return times: 7:30 p.m. in East Hartford, 8:00 p.m. in West Hartford.

Price: CHS Members – \$215/person and non-Members – \$225/person.

To reserve, please call Friendship Tours at (860) 243-1630 or go to www.friendshiptours.net.

Glorious Gardens of New Jersey, from page 6

sycamore and boxwood garden, formal French Kitchen Garden and allées of trees are balanced by an informal sense of an American country landscape.

From here, we are headed to the PRIVATE GARDEN OF JANET MAVEC, “BIRD HAVEN FARM,” a celebration of the vision and collector’s spirit of Janet Mavec and Wayne Nordberg. Hardscaping by Dale Booher adds clean lines of strategically placed stone walls, evolving Caruncho’s concept of a medieval village and a perfect haven for plants. The

landscape includes hay meadows, a lush orchard of heirloom apples, a boxwood bordered herb garden, vegetable and flower gardens, a meandering woodland walk with cascading ponds and a mahonia and laurel glade accented by a mixed shrub border.

We now bid farewell to our tour of New Jersey and head for home. Appropriate rest stops and dinner stop enroute.

Departure location: Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Dr., West Hartford (Cars may be parked here for the duration of trip).

Price: \$699/CHS member – twin and \$929/CHS member – single. Non-Members - add \$50.00 per person.

Includes: Deluxe motorcoach, 2 night hotel - Hilton Short Hills, hotel tax, baggage, 1 dinner, 2 lunches, sightseeing per itinerary, driver gratuity, \$30pp donation to CHS. Tour escorted by Brett Isaacson.

Cancellation policy: If a passenger cancels after deposit and before July 17, 2015 fee of \$75 pp; no refunds if cancelled after July 17 unless a substitute is provided.

To reserve, please call Friendship Tours at (860) 243-1630 or go to www.friendshiptours.net.



Along the Garden Path...Pioneer Valley September 2, 2015

Join us as we go Along the Garden Path...in the Pioneer Valley! Wednesday, September 2, 2015 is when we'll embark on a tour that includes these popular destinations:

- Amelia's Garden
- Tavern Restaurant
- Stanley Park
- Mums at Meadow View Farms

We start with AMELIA'S GARDEN. This 1.3 acre memorial park is a gem nestled behind Westfield's Ice Arena and Sports Complex. The head gardener will be giving us a personal tour.

We'll sit down for lunch at THE TAVERN RESTAURANT. It is located in a former post office built in 1910. The interior 20 foot ceilings along with several arched windows add to the ambience of this century old building. The menu: Salad, Rolls, Vegetable, Pasta, and Choice of Chicken Francaise or Baked Stuffed Scrod, followed by dessert. *Entrée choice in advance please.*

STANLEY PARK has been a family favorite for many years. Whether you come to view the five-acre Arboretum, Asian Garden, All-American Rose Garden, Herb Garden, Woodland Wildflower Garden or simply sit near the shrine area or duck pond, or enjoy a picnic or a stroll through the Wildlife Sanctuary,



Stanley Park, Westfield, Massachusetts

it is simply a delightful place to be. We will have a PRIVATE, BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOUR of the Green house with one of the head gardeners, as well as a tour of the Rose Gardens and more.

We've planned a special stop on the way home at MEADOW VIEW FARMS. This is THE place to buy chrysanthemums, so bring your plant markers in case we load up the bus!

Departure locations: 8:30 a.m. – Commuter Lot, 500 Main St, East Hartford and 9:00 a.m. – Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Dr. West Hartford. Estimated return times: 6:30 p.m. in West Hartford and 7:00 p.m. in East Hartford.

Price: CHS Members: \$82.00/person and non-Members: \$92.00/person.

To reserve, please call Friendship Tours at (860) 243-1630 or go to www.friendshiptours.net.



Last Chance!



Summer Gardens of Long Island Mon.-Wed., July 27-29, 2015

It's summer and we're off on a fabulous 3-day getaway to enjoy a special tour of the Glorious Gardens of Long Island! Trip will include Old Westbury, Coe Hall, private gardens including "Madoo" (Robert Dash's private home garden), a Bison Farm visit, and Pindar Winery.

(To learn about this tour in greater detail please go to www.friendshiptours.net.)

Cost: CHS Member: \$699 p.p. twin - CHS Member: \$939 p.p. single. Non-member add \$50. **Includes:** Deluxe Motorcoach, 2 night hotel-Hyatt Place East End, hotel tax, baggage, 2 dinners, 2 hot continental breakfasts sightseeing per itinerary, driver

gratuity, \$30 p.p. donation to CHS, escorted by Brett Isaacson. **Deposit:** \$100 p.p. due ASAP with reservation to secure your space. **Full Payment due at reservation. Cancellation Policy:** If a passenger cancels after reservation, there will be no refunds unless a substitute is provided. Contact Friendship Tours at (860) 243-1630 or www.friendshiptours.net.

April Historic Garden Trip to Virginia with Friendship Tours “Fantastic!”

What a fantastic week we had. Beautiful gardens and houses, from Virginia Beach to Charlottesville. The southern Garden Clubs welcomed us into their homes and gardens and the floral arrangements were incredible. All flowers used were from their gardens. From Sea Side Gardens of Virginia Beach to Free Mason Gardens of Norfolk to the beautiful gardens of Richmond, everything was beautiful, including the weather.

At Ginter Botanical Garden, outside Richmond, again, we had a great tour guide who knew the history of Ginter and their gardens. One of the gardens outside the original house at Ginter, was designed by Connecticut’s own Rudy Favretti. He has designed gardens, including the garden behind the historic Welles Shipman Ward House in Glastonbury that my local club, the Glastonbury Garden Club, continues to maintain.

At Monticello, the reason I wanted to go on this trip, our guide, Michael, for the house, garden and slave tour, was incredible. I really got a feel for Thomas Jefferson, his mind and his visions.

Our week was wonderful. There were



Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Virginia

many of the same travelers from our Arkansas trip and Ken and I got to know each of them better. A new couple that just joined CHS at the flower show was on board as well as two new members from Glastonbury, who just joined, and were a delight.

Bob did a fantastic job driving. He went above and beyond. Backing up

through the gate at Ashcroft may have been his finest hour. Friendship Tours and CHS is lucky to have him.

Last, but not least, and as always, Brett did a amazing job. Another fantastic trip with Friendship Tours!

—Joan Stubenrauch

Auction, from page 1

you are wondering what the plant is, it was a *Koelreuteria paniculata* (Golden Rain tree) “Coral Sun.”

We had a good night with 71 bidders and an income of \$4,938. An excellent evening for the scholarship fund. None of this would have been possible without the fantastic donations and great volunteers. Over 20 nurseries, including first timers Al’s Landscapes, Pondering Creations, Winterberry Gardens, and Van Wilgen’s donated plants or gift certificates as well as many of our own members. We may have had the last of David Smith’s great plants but they were well appreciated and brought in \$862. Judy King contributed \$515 worth of plants.

We had many great volunteers but I particularly want to thank Karen

Ellsworth who kept our blood sugar up with delicious food. Thank you also to Elizabeth Morin, Fairlee Latawic, Keri Milne, and Sarah Bailey, who seemed to be taking care of things before I noticed something needed doing.

We will do this all in the fall again so come join us. One of our volunteers brought her husband along and she told me after the auction that he had such a good time that he wants to come next time and help out.

That is the big secret – We do this to raise money for our scholarships at UConn and Naugatuck Valley Community College; but we really do this because we have so much fun. You can too.

When you shop, please support the following nurseries that support us:

Al’s Nursery
 Baggot Farms
 Ballek’s
 Broken Arrow
 Cheshire Nursery
 Designs of Mann
 Flower Power
 Garden Barn
 Garden Sales
 Kevin Wilcox / Silver Spring
 McCue Nursery
 O’Brien Nurserymen
 Plant Group
 Pondering Creations
 Revay’s
 Shemins
 Summer Hill Nursery
 Van Wilgen’s
 Winterberry Garden
 Woodland Gardens

CHS Calendar at a Glance

Thu., June 18 – Save the Date!
Ice Cream Social at 6:30 p.m.
Program Meeting to follow –
speaker Robert Adzema presenting
“Designing the Light: Sun Dials
and a Sense of Place”

Mon., June 22 – Deadline for
Summer Newsletter

Mon., Aug. 3 – Deadline for
September Newsletter

Thu., Sept. 10 – Program Meeting
& Kick-off to the 2015-2016
CHS Year

Dated Material 🌸 *Please Rush*

The CHS Newsletter is printed
on recycled paper with soya ink.



Ice Cream Social – June 18, 2015 6:30 p.m.

Don't miss out on the CHS annual year-end event!

The fun starts
before the reg-
ular program
meeting on June 18,
starting at 6:30 p.m.

Children and grand-
children are welcome.

Come early and eat
lots of ice cream.

Show off your green
thumbs! Members and
guests are invited to
bring bouquets from
their gardens as festive
floral decorations for the tables.

Don't miss seeing your CHS friends one more time before
the summer break.

If you would like to help scoop, ladle sauce or otherwise help,
please call the CHS office at (860) 529-8713.



Ice Cream Social

Are you a retired librarian? CHS needs your help....

Our thousand volume library needs to
come into the 21st century. In order
to decide its eventual status we need to
digitally log each title. Our administra-
tor, Bonnie Penders, is going to start
the process. We need two volunteers to
help document our titles. Having the
digital info will allow us to evaluate the
collection and decide how we proceed
in caring for the library in total. Please
call Bonnie at the office to volunteer
to give a hand in this important task.
(860) 529-8713.