

Annual American Horticultural Society Gala 2006

THE FRIENDS OF RIVER FARM and the AHS Board of Directors presented the AHS's Annual Gala on Saturday, September 23. An artistic sensibility prevailed throughout the festive evening, styled "America's Garden Celebration," as guests strolled amidst the colorful displays of the Garden Centers of America's Fashion in Bloom (see page 12) and viewed the botanically-themed photography of **Amy Lamb**, which was on display in River Farm's Estate House.

A raffle and silent auction to benefit River Farm and the AHS included a wide variety of donated objects and services. A live auction presided over by AHS President Emeritus **Katy Moss Warner** and Gala Co-Chair **Skipp Calvert** included several one-of-a-kind and priceless items. One of the most sought-after of these was "An Afternoon with **James van Sweden**," the renowned landscape architect.

"The AHS was so pleased to have James van Sweden join us for this incredible evening," says Katy, "not only as the gala's honorary chair, but as someone who supports the AHS's mission of making America a nation of gardeners and a land of gardens."

"The gala was the exclamation mark at the end of a story that began last winter," says AHS Interim President **Tom Underwood**, "and has included an unbelievable number of projects we've accomplished this year."

Funds raised from the gala will help further the mission of the AHS and contribute to the success of River Farm as a site representing the best in American gardening.



Above: During the gala, AHS President Emeritus Katy Moss Warner shares a moment with landscape architect James van Sweden. Right: Photographer Amy Lamb chats with Timothée Sallin of Cherry Lake Tree Farm.



Changes to the AHS Board

MICHEL SALLIN, president and CEO of Cherry Lake Tree Farm, is the most recent addition to the AHS Board of Directors. Based in Groveland, Florida, Cherry Lake has been an AHS Corporate Partner since 2004. The company specializes in growing large, boxed ornamental trees for use by landscape developers and a wide range of corporate and private clients (see page 13 for a description of Cherry Lake's Fashion in Bloom display at River Farm).

When Michel purchased the company's Florida property in the 1980s, the primary crop was citrus trees. Over time he converted the company's operations to the production of large ornamental trees such as magnolias, bald cypresses, crape myrtles, palms, and pines.



Michel Sallin

Stepping down from the Board are **Felder Rushing**, a leading garden writer and radio show host from Mississippi, **William A. Pusey**, an attorney from Richmond, Virginia, and **Joel Goldsmith**, president and CEO of Goldsmith Seeds in Gilroy, California. "We greatly appreciate all the time and energy Felder, Bill, and Joel have devoted to the AHS over the last several years," says AHS Interim President **Tom Underwood**. "Their experience and passion for gardening have helped advance the AHS's mission and extend our national outreach."

Makeover for Fairytale Garden

THIS SUMMER, magical changes occurred in River Farm's Fairytale Garden. The AHS was lucky to have **Molly Turner** volunteering her time and effort toward the restoration of this part of the Children's Garden. Molly conceptualized this project to earn her Girl Scout Gold Award, which must be accomplished by the end of a high school student's senior year.

She says the River Farm Children's Garden had a formative effect on her as a child, and she "loved the opportunity to give back to the community."

The Fairytale Garden is designed to engage children's imaginations and introduce them to gardening through stories and fantasy-play. Molly's detailed proposal for the rejuvenation included replacing struggling plants, building a wrought-iron enclosure to distinguish this "garden within a garden," and improving the pathway that leads through it.

Molly surpassed the required 50 hours of volunteer time while working around her paid summer job. **Nancy Busick**, AHS youth programs coordinator, says that the necessary work to realize the Fairytale Garden's potential "would not have been possible for several years without Molly's initiative and offer to help."



Girl Scout Molly Turner puts the finishing touches on the Fairytale Garden at River Farm.

YourOutDoors is Newest AHS Corporate Partner

YOUROUTDOORS, INC., makers of the "Perfect Garden Tool System," is the newest member of the AHS's Corporate Partner program. The Florida-based company's innovative garden product includes 17 tools in one, featuring just about any tool the home gardener could ever wish for! The interchangeable tool system is designed for superior ergonomics, functionality, and durability.

As a testament to the company's commitment to charitable causes, a portion of the proceeds from all tool sales benefits the **World Craniofacial Foundation** and non-profit garden clubs across the country. To watch a video demonstration of the Perfect Garden Tool System and learn more about the AHS's newest corporate partner, visit www.perfectgardentool.com. For information about the AHS's Corporate Partner program, contact **Barry Goodinson**, director of development, at (800) 777-7931 ext. 125 or bgoodinson@ahs.org.

APGA Annual Conference Coming to Nation's Capital

THE U.S. BOTANIC GARDEN and the Smithsonian Institution will host the 2007 American Public Gardens Association (APGA) Annual Conference, which will be held in Washing-



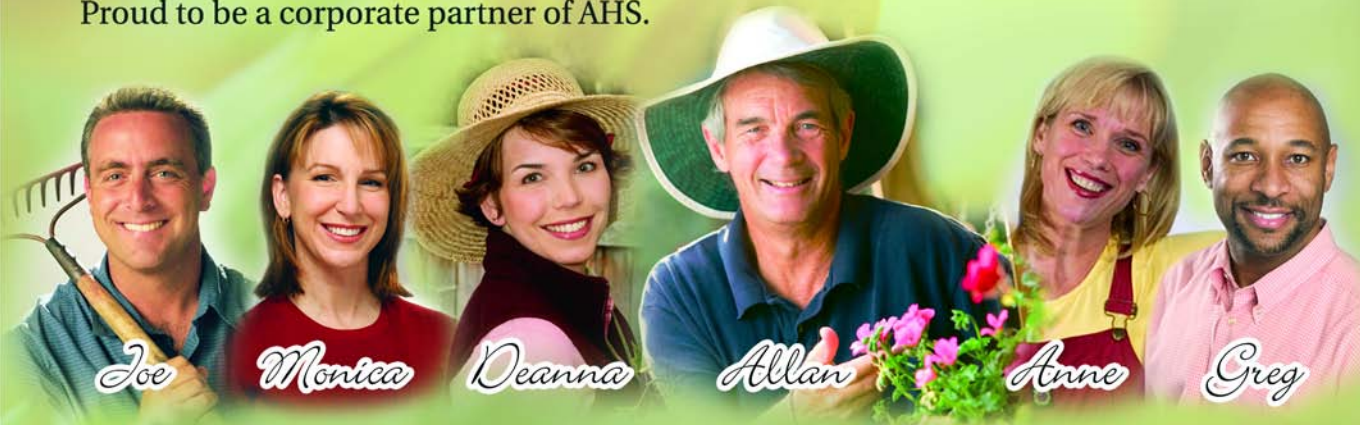
Smart Gardening

www.smartgardeningTV.com

Proud to be a corporate partner of AHS.

Join us each week for feature stories and gardening tips from the experts.

In High Definition on public television stations. Check your local listings for dates and times.





AHS NATIONAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

2006-2007 CALENDAR

Mark your calendar for these upcoming national events and programs that are sponsored or cosponsored by the American Horticultural Society.

2006

- DEC. 1–22. **Holiday Trees Display at River Farm.** George Washington's River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia.
- DEC. 14. **Friends of River Farm Holiday Reception.** George Washington's River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia.

2007

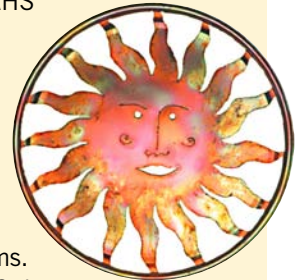
- FEB. 14–18. **AHS Green Garage® Exhibit at the 2007 Northwest Flower & Garden Show.** Seattle, Washington.
- APR. 2–28. **Washington Blooms!** George Washington's River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia.
- APR. 9–12. **AHS President's Council Trip.** Charlotte, North Carolina.
- APR. 13–JUNE 3. **Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival.** Lake Buena Vista, Florida.
- APR. 21 & 22. **Friends of River Farm Plant Sale.** George Washington's River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia. (Please note: Member's-only preview sale is from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on April 20.)
- APR. 26 & 27. **AHS Garden School.** "After Dark in the Garden." George Washington's River Farm, Alexandria, Virginia.
- APR. 29–MAY 2. **Colonial Williamsburg Garden Symposium.** Williamsburg, Virginia.
- MAY 4. **Magic of Landscapes.** Lake Buena Vista, Florida.
- MAY 20. **Friends of River Farm Family Picnic.** George Washington's River Farm. Alexandria, Virginia.
- MAY 31. **Taste of River Farm.** George Washington's River Farm. Alexandria, Virginia.
- JUNE 1. **Great American Gardeners Award Ceremony and Banquet.** George Washington's River Farm. Alexandria, Virginia.
- JULY 19–21. **National Children & Youth Garden Symposium.** Chaska, Minnesota. Hosted by the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Public Policy Programs.

For more information about these events, call (800) 777-7931 or visit the AHS website (www.ahs.org).

Gifts for Gardeners at www.ahs.org

When it comes to tools, clothing, plants, and decorative items, gardeners have myriad options. Fortunately, help for the well-intentioned gift-giver is just a mouse-click away at www.ahs.org. Through our AHS Marketplace link, you'll find a wide array of gifts available through alliances with companies such as **Gardener's Supply Company** and **Garden Artisans**. A percentage of the proceeds from all sales placed through the website goes toward supporting AHS educational programs.

Look for discounts in the Members-Only area (see password on page 4), and tell your family and friends how much you would appreciate a gift from www.ahs.org.



ton, D.C., from June 26 to 30, 2007. The conference theme will be "Defining Your Garden's Culture," with sessions addressing public garden identity as characterized by staff and community, landscape, and other factors. The AHS will be one of several partnering organizations, along with the American University, Brookside Gardens, Green Spring Gardens, Hillwood Museum & Gardens, and the U.S. National Arboretum. Visit www.publicgardens.org to learn more about the event.

All's Well at River Farm

SEPTEMBER MARKED a momentous occasion for the Society's River Farm headquarters: the construction of a new well! All of the property's potable and irrigation water needs have been met by two aging wells for many years. In late 2005, one well failed, leaving the property in a potentially precarious position

A new well at River Farm means more water is available for expanding gardens.

should a problem develop with the remaining functioning well. At its June meeting, the AHS Board of Directors allocated funds to drill a new well behind the Carriage House to replace the one that failed. The drilling machine, with its dinosaurlike proportions, elicited much curiosity from young visitors to the adjacent Children's Garden.



News written by Editorial Intern Heather Robbins.