

NOTES FROM LENDONWOOD

Hello, Friends of Lendonwood!

With the coming of fall, Lendonwood has a new president – but the official files didn't have to move far. Jim Corbridge has retired after several years of leading the garden to new levels of improvement. The new president, elected at the Annual Meeting September 12, is (drum roll, please)... me, Pauline Hale, his wife. As I said at the meeting, I'm looking forward to working on at least three broad areas: building our volunteer base, improving our garden's infrastructure, and creating more reasons for people to visit. I'm sure there are other areas we need to tackle, and I hope you'll share your ideas with us as we go along. Many thanks to our other officers elected for 2023-24: Carol LaRue, Secretary; Jim Reynolds, Vice-president; and Margie Murphy, Treasurer.



Officers elected at the Annual Meeting on September 12, 2023 were: Carol Larue, Secretary; Pauline Hale, President; Jim Reynolds, Vice-President; and Margie Murphy, Treasurer.



Pumpkins, pumpkins, pumpkins everywhere! Adding a little fall décor to the garden provides photo ops and general enjoyment for visitors.

AZALEAS HAVE ARRIVED: More than 300 azalea plants have been delivered, planted, irrigated, and mulched – as part of the project to rejuvenate our Azalea Garden. Many thanks to key volunteers Ela Johnson, Chris Lietzke, John Lowry, Ray Geis, John Dunsworth and Jim Reynolds, all of whom are making this “renewed” Azalea Garden possible. Also thanks to the City of Grove’s Tourism and Convention Board for their generous grant for the project. We’ll be having a celebration of the project’s completion soon.



Some of the new azaleas were even blooming when delivered. We can’t wait to see how they light up the garden next spring! Volunteers Chris Lietzke, left, and Ela Johnson have spent countless hours planning, clearing, prepping, and implementing the project.

ONGOING PLANT SALE: This year, instead of a one-day Plant Sale, we decided to have a multi-week sale, effective immediately. We’ll be selling aloe vera, hibiscus, mandevilla, pansies,

mums, daffodil bulbs, iris rhizomes, ferns and more. If you have plants or bulbs you would like to donate for the cause, please let us know.



Volunteer Sydney Mosburg checks out the hibiscus plants on sale on the back porch of the Welcome Center.

FALL WORKDAY SET FOR OCTOBER 28: Don't forget about our "Put the Garden to Bed" fall workday on Saturday, October 28. Come join us for a few hours of camaraderie and community service, starting at 8:30 a.m. with coffee and donuts. Small teams of workers will tackle various jobs from light tasks to heavy-equipment operation. All ages and abilities are welcome; no green thumb required! Lunch will be served.

COLORFUL FLOWERS EVEN IN FALL: People often think the coming of autumn means no more flowers or color in the garden. Nothing could be further from the truth. Right now, you can find zinnias, salvias, toad lilies, viburnum berries, purple shamrocks, and much more. Not to mention: when the Japanese maples start turning brilliant colors in November! Don't miss it! Here are just a few examples.



Salvia planted by Grove third-graders



Toad Lilies



Glory Bower



Viburnum berries

WHITE PUMPKINS AT THE ANGEL OF HOPE: We've recently learned of the significance of white pumpkins during October and decided to add four white pumpkins to the base of the Angel of Hope Statue in Lendonwood. We understand that October is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month, and the white pumpkin is used as a way of including, remembering and honoring children who have passed away. As always, we will honor lost loved ones at our Angel of Hope ceremony on Wednesday, December 6, at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend.



Board member Jim Corbridge helps place white pumpkins at the base of the Angel of Hope Statue in memory of lost children.

TODAY'S GARDENING TIPS:

Fall has arrived and, with it, the realization that it's time to prepare for next year. It's a good time to plant flowering bulbs like daffodils, tulips, crocus, iris, hyacinth, peonies and lilies. For

these plants, you may want to amend your soil with a little compost and bulb fertilizer. If you're growing various summer herbs like rosemary, tarragon, oregano, marjoram, sage, thyme or basil, you can take cuttings and dry them out to use in dishes through the winter. It's not cold yet, but you may want to protect your tender summer flower bulbs. Dig up summer bulbs that won't survive very cold weather, such as cannas, dahlias, gladiolus, and tuberous begonias. Let them dry out for a few days, then store away covered in peat moss or vermiculite. And, of course, take care of your tools, by cleaning the dirt off them and sharpening them before storing away. Happy October gardening!

That's all for now, folks! See you in the garden!

Pauline Hale, President
Lendonwood Gardens