October 6, 2024
Issue #26

NOTES FROM LENDONWOOD

Hello, Friends of Lendonwood!

One of the pleasures of serving as president of Lendonwood Gardens is to be able – even INVITED – to brag about our beautiful garden. Recently, I had the privilege of making a presentation to the Northwest Arkansas Daylily Society in Springdale, Arkansas. The audience included a generous friend of Lendonwood, Bob Stassen, a daylily connoisseur who has donated many varieties to the garden in the past. Continuing that trend at the meeting, he brought a crate full of clumps of a gorgeous daylily called "Freeda James" and donated them for our annual plant sale. Illustrated with a photo attached to the crate, they were a hit at the sale! Lendonwood is so fortunate to have such generous supporters. Thank you, Bob – and all our other friends!

Many Plant Sale customers will be enjoying the lovely "Freeda James" daylily from clumps donated by Bob Stassen of the Northwest Arkansas Daylily Society.

PLANTS, PLANTS, AND MORE PLANTS: And speaking of the Plant Sale, we had a good turnout for our annual event on September 14. We had Japanese maple seedlings, succulents, iris rhizomes, daylily clumps (see above!), and many other plants. We thank all who donated plants and bulbs. Besides raising funds for the garden, we got to meet new visitors, many of whom had never been to Lendonwood.

VOLUNTEERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT: Every fall, we take the opportunity to publicly recognize the loyal volunteers who keep the garden going and growing. At the Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, we honored the Wednesday Weeders, the Welcome Center

workers and others with coffee mugs “planted” with small succulents. Each claypot-shaped mug proclaimed its owner as “Gardener of the Year” – as they all are! The volunteers joined us in expressing appreciation for their fearless leaders, Ela Johnson (Wednesday Weeders) and Shirley Daggett (Welcome Center).

Wednesday Weeders at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner included, first row from left, Chris Lietzke, Debbie Jarrett, DaMaris Fields, Barbara Sparks, Colleen Jones, Sue Matheny, Ela Johnson; back row from left, John Lowry and Jamie Clowers.

Welcome Center volunteers included, from left, Cindy Reynolds, Jena Bolt, Pat O’Connor, Shirley Daggett, Nancy Kopp, Nancy Harper, Marilyn O’Grady and Sydney Mosburg.

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 2024-25: Also at the Annual Meeting, there was a brief business meeting in which a slate of officers was presented for consideration by Lendonwood members. In a unanimous vote, the following officers were elected: Pauline Hale, president; Ray Geis, vice president; Jim Reynolds, treasurer; and Carol LaRue, secretary. Thanks to all who agreed to serve!

2024-25 Lendonwood officers are, from left, Jim Reynolds, treasurer; Carol LaRue, secretary; Ray Geis, vice president; and Pauline Hale, president.

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP: Lendonwood's Gift Shop is filled with the perfect gifts for the holidays or just because! Drop by and check out the new garden flags, books for all ages, locally carved sculptures, turned wooden bowls, stained-glass figures, kids' craft kits, holiday items, women's shirts, t-shirts, and more. The Welcome Center is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 12 noon to 4 p.m. Hope to see you soon!

Just a few of the fun gift items available in the Gift Shop at Lendonwood. Come shop!

HELP US 'PUT THE GARDEN TO BED': Everybody – and everything – needs a little rest, and Lendonwood is no exception. On Saturday, October 26, we'll be preparing the garden for a winter's nap, and we invite you to come join the fun. Some have asked us what kinds of jobs are involved. The answer is: many different tasks for all ages and abilities – and you get to choose what's best for you. For example, if you have trouble kneeling or bending your knees, perhaps you could stain benches. Or, if you have young children, they could pick up small sticks and dispose of them. If you like working with your hands, maybe you could help with fence repairs. Or, if you avoid getting on ladders, perhaps you could help clear flower beds. In any

case, it's flexible and fun. AND you get donuts and coffee in the morning – and lunch at noon! We meet at the maintenance barn at 8:30 a.m. for forming teams and choosing jobs. The workday concludes about 2 p.m., but any amount of your time would be appreciated.

Carol Merciez of the Grove Area Chamber of Commerce helped clear debris from pathways in the Azalea Garden. Thanks, Carol!

TODAY'S GARDENING TIPS:

October is the time for many garden chores, but let's focus on trees and shrubs. Both can be planted now and into November. Water them in and provide mulch for protection from cold weather. If fall conditions are dry, be sure to water plants adequately, especially your evergreens. Install tree guards around young trees if they are vulnerable to animal damage. Observe the changing tree colors in your area to help you choose new trees based on fall color. If you see leaf spots, gather and dispose of fallen infected leaves to lessen the chances of overwintering diseases. But, mostly, enjoy this season of color and cooler weather!

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

Pauline Hale, President
Lendonwood Gardens