

DELAWARE BOTANIC GARDENS

Winter 2023



President Ray Sander and Executive Director Sheryl Swed

Update Report

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(L to R) State Rep. Ron Gray, SDT Board Member Jamie Hayman, DBG Board Member Peter Carter, DBG Vice President Carol McCloud, DBG Executive Director Sheryl Swed, DBG President Ray Sander, and DBG Board Secretary Brent Baker.

Being selected for the **2022 “Best Attraction” award** from the Southern Delaware Tourism Office on December 14 was a capstone of a remarkable year at DBG. In the last 12 months DBG has received National, Regional and Local awards, recognition and support including:

- **Governor’s Award** for Volunteer Service
- **Best Restored Shore Project**, for the Living Shore Line project along with the Center for the Inland Bays, by the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association.

- **One of the top ten public restrooms** in 2022 by CINTAS. This public restroom has also been nominated for a design award by the American Institute of Architects.
- **Fundraisers and Communicators Excellence (FACE) Award** for our 2020 Annual Report by the Association of Fundraising Professionals.
- **\$150,000** for horticultural and best stormwater practices project by the State of Delaware.
- **\$475,000** in the 2023 Community Reinvestment Fund of the State Bond Bill
- **Awarded \$150,000** from the Crystal Trust and Ellice & Rosa McDonald Foundation.
- **Raised over \$138,000** at our Annual Fundraising Dinner and continue to receive contributions to our annual End of Year Campaign
- In 2022 we **set new attendance, membership and educational programming records**, and our **volunteers donated over 5,600 hours** as Garden Stewards and Docents.



DELAWARE
BOTANIC
GARDENS
AT PEPPER CREEK

30220 Piney Neck Rd.
Dagsboro, DE 19939
PO Box 1390
Ocean View, DE 19970
delawaregardens.org

Photos by Ray Bojarski, Brent Baker,
and Stephen Pryce Lea



(L to R) Diann Sherwin, Cheryl Quirk, Craig Haggerty, Sam Cashdollar, Sheryl Swed and Ray Sander closed the gardens in mid-November.

- DBG’s outstanding Fundraising Consultant, Cam Yorkston, was awarded the **Lifetime Achievement Award**, by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, for his leadership and commitment to philanthropy. Cam & Kathy Yorkston have helped guide DBG’s successful fundraising since 2015.

One of the questions we are most frequently asked is “How did you transform a soybean field and deer ravaged woodlands into an awarding winning public garden in just six years?”

The answer is simple but the effort required is not. **PRQ – Persistence, Resilience & Quality**. DBG’s 2022 successes are not our first awards and the DBG Team is committed to PRQ in the coming years. For example, Stephen Price Lea and our tireless staff and generous volunteers have already planted 86,000 bulbs in the past six weeks. Our 2023 spring season will now feature over 200,000 bulbs in bloom over the early spring.

A full schedule of 2023 education programs will be available in early 2023 and our DBG members will have early signup opportunities for these frequently “sold out” programs. Visitors in 2023 will experience the horticultural & preservation creativity of our staff and volunteers throughout the 37 acres.

We will persist in our commitment of community service with free admission in exchange for food donations for local food banks. Despite the increasing costs which we all confront, DBG will be resilient and maintain our current membership and visitor fee structure thus making a visit to DBG a great and affordable way for individuals and families to enjoy the benefits of nature.

Please persist with us by becoming a member and by renewing your membership. Help us maintain the quality and affordability of DBG by donating to our End of Year Campaign. Become one of our resilient volunteers helping in the gardens, in the Welcome Center, or with education presentations and events. On to 2023!

Happy Holidays and a safe and healthy New Year!

Raymond Sheryl

President Ray Sander & Executive Director Sheryl Swed



LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS



On October 13, **Michael Riska** was elected to the DBG Board of Directors. Ray Sander praised Riska’s dedicated service as a long-time member of the DBG Advisory Council and Executive Director of the Delaware Nature Society.

Mr. Riska holds an M.Ed in Natural Science from the University of

Delaware and has served as a science educator in Delaware for over 50 years before retiring from his role as Executive Director, Delaware Nature Society. During his tenure as Executive Director at Delaware Nature Society (1984–2011), endowments grew from \$300,000 to \$18 million, and he oversaw program expansion to 35 staff members and 1,000 volunteers. Over the years, Michael held positions as Associate Professor for the University of Delaware, teaching courses for teachers in Environmental Education and planning curriculums and special programs for Delaware youth.

In November, David Small, Chair of the DBG Advisory Council announced two new members of the Advisory Council – Carol Bason and Elizabeth Rives. He said, “I welcome Carol and Elizabeth to our advisory council team. They both, as longtime DBG volunteer leaders, bring that special experience to the table.”



Carol Bason holds an MS in Biology/Environmental Science & Public Policy, a BS in Biology, and a Certificate in Wetland Science & Management. Over the past 5 years, Carol served as a volunteer science advisor at Delaware Botanic Gardens where she has provided research, marketing,

and development support. With her expertise in government contracting, she brought to DBG six State-funded environmental grants in stormwater management best practices that created the Rhyne Garden, the Living Shoreline Project, and the Green Technology demonstrations at the Restroom Facility.



Elizabeth L. Rives holds a BA from the University of Virginia and a graduate certificate in Natural History Field Studies from the Audubon Naturalist Society. She served as a financial services, communications, and policy professional for most of her career and later worked as an

environmental educator & communications specialist at the National Park Service. Elizabeth has been a volunteer at Delaware Botanic Gardens since 2018, serving as a docent, tour guide and project leader for the woodland tree and shrub inventory.

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Fall Harvest and Sea Witch Festival



As a member of the Rehoboth Beach Chamber of Commerce, DBG celebrated the Sea Witch Festival, October 28, 29, and 30. Again, this year, Jan Poli our volunteer DBG designer, built an 11-foot tall DBG Sea Witch. This year we moved the DBG Sea Witch to the woodlands near the Point.

New this year was the “Woodland Discovery Trail” with eight animal creatures, created by the staff and volunteers, and the animals were all made of natural materials. Building on last year’s features of “Preppy,” the DBG Sea Serpent, and the West Woodland Troll bridge, these new amazing creations included: a six-foot tall Snail by Sam Cashdollar and Jeremy Cole; Turtle by Sam, Jeremy & Bridget Curran; Lizard by Sam, Jeremy & Bridget; Heron by Stephen Pryce Lea; Owl by Judy Marshall & Michelle Garrett; Eagle & Luna Moth by Margaret Kimmel; Spider by Bridget Curran, and Snake by Cheryl Quirk.





DBG Annual Dinner

On September 29, over 300 guests were thrilled to be under the big white tent in front of the Piet Oudolf Meadow. DBG partnered with the SoDel Concepts Team. This dinner marked the 10th year of our SoDel partnership, and Lisa & Scott Kammerer of SoDel Concepts were honorary co-chairs of the dinner. The dinner festivities began at the Welcome Center deck with a champagne toast, and quick golf cart tours were available before the sunset dinner. The excellent wine selection was presented by Bin 66, and the wonderful music in the tent was by DBG artist-in-residence, Vince Varrassi and 5th Avenue.



PROGRAMS

“Back to the Gardens”



In addition to having fun, the annual dinner is a major event in the DBG annual fundraising program. Thanks in large part to our sponsors and the \$25,000 challenge by Ron Bass and George Robbins, we raised a record setting \$139,119. Sheryl Swed, who was the overall dinner coordinator said, “I want to thank everyone who helped with this wonderful dinner. I especially want to thank the dinner sponsors and the \$25,000 challenge donors, because that really helped us reach new dinner giving records.” Sheryl then recognized some special contributors who worked behind the scenes, including:

- Ron Bass and George Robbins, who again sponsored the \$25,000 Challenge.
- Carol Bason, Ray Bojarski, Joanne Shipley and Brent Baker for their excellent work on the award winning 2020 DBG Annual Report, which was given to all dinner participants.
- Harry Orth, the DBG printer who produced the beautiful Annual Report, personally brought them to ensure they were delivered in time to give to the dinner guests.
- Ray Bojarski and Joanne Shipley for the DBG 2023 Calendars that were given out to participants.
- Carol McCloud, Jan Poli, Craig Haggerty, and other volunteers for decorations and the creative “Gift Bags,” given to all dinner guests.
- Peter Carter for sponsoring the champagne toast.
- Angie Phinney for the table seating arrangements and name tags.
- Jane Hines for keeping track of the Challenge Pledge Cards.
- Jim Marshall for giving the golf cart tours at the beginning.
- All the staff and volunteers who helped make the dinner a spectacular event.



QUICK NOTES



Delaware Center for Horticulture Visit

September 14: DBG was pleased to host update briefings for the horticulture professionals from the Delaware Center for Horticulture, Wilmington, DE. One of the Wilmington group was Mike Riska, new DBG Board Member.



Delaware Tourism Office Visit

October 14: Jessica Welch, the new director of Delaware Tourism Office, and Jaclyn Ott, Office Marketing Manager, visited DBG to get an update on the gardens. As Jessica and Jaclyn arrived, Carol McCloud was finishing a tour with the Wicomico' Garden Club of 29 people, who came from Maryland to enjoy the gardens, so the timing was perfect. The Delaware State tourism director said she was impressed that these guests were from out-of-state.

DBG Tour Director Carol McCloud said, "It was fun hearing our Wicomico' guests express how much they loved the gardens, and the two Delaware State Tourism Office people were hearing all these great comments." Board Member Scott Thomas, who is Executive Director of Southern Delaware Tourism, helped update the Delaware Tourism Office visitors about DBG.



Dagsboro Free Admission Day

October 22: For the first time, we offered our Dagsboro neighbors a chance to have free admission to the gardens. It was clear at Dagsboro Night Out, that many of our immediate neighbors had not yet visited the DBG, and they were very pleased with this opportunity to visit. Our first Dagsboro residents arrived promptly at 9 a.m.



DBG Volunteers celebrate the "Best Attraction" Award at a December 14 luncheon.



DBG is a non-profit, which means we work every day to attract financial support from foundations, businesses, and generous individuals who realize the added value of having a public garden in southern Delaware for the benefit of all. Here are some giving opportunities as we continue to raise funds.



Year End Appeal

We ask you to consider a year-end gift to DBG by going to delawaregardens.org/donate or sending a check to: Delaware Botanic Gardens P.O. Box 66, Dagsboro, DE 19939

Gift Suggestions

Also, we suggest that you consider a gift certificate of a Garden Membership for someone special. The DBG membership includes unlimited free garden admission for a full year, plant sale previews, discounts at the Gift Shop, and early notice of special events.

Go to delawaregardens.org/gift-a-membership to purchase a gift membership.



Benches Needed

We need new benches for the west woodlands trails, and for the new loop to the west of the Restroom Facility taking you to the Restrooms and Welcome Center Area. So, we need more benches for guests to rest and enjoy the blessings of nature that surrounds them. The holiday period is the perfect time to name a bench after someone special for a gift that will remain for many years to come. There are two types of 48-inch benches — one with a back and one flat bench. The benches can be inscribed with up to 33 character including spaces. Delaware Botanic Gardens will be engraved on the first line.

Go to delawaregardens.org/support and scroll down to bench and rocker donation details. Yes, we need some rocking chairs too.

Naming Rights Opportunities

DBG is thankful to organizations and individuals who have sponsored the naming rights to our garden features. Such naming rights provide funds to our operational accounts, including funding staff salaries. Opportunities for future Garden naming partners include:

- Observation Deck at Pepper Creek
- West Woodland Garden Pathway Bridge
- The Three Inland Dunes Gardens
- Reflecting Pool in Folly Garden
- Two Vernal Pools in East & West Woodlands
- The Gallery Garden
- Midway Woodland Edge Garden
- Oak Grove
- Piet Oudolf Meadow or sections of the Meadow

To see details of these exciting naming opportunities, go to delawaregardens.org/support and scroll down to naming opportunities.

If any individual, organization or foundation is interested in sponsoring a garden, please contact Executive Director Sheryl Swed at 202-262-9856 or email sherylswed@delawaregardens.org.





FALL CONTAINER CLASS

September 15: Jan Poli, DBG volunteer designer, led a “how to” construct a fall container class using natural materials. The class was “sold out” and well received.

THE GREAT MONARCH MIGRATION CLASS

September 22: This was a new class covering the journey of the endangered East Coast Monarch Butterflies as they make their way to winter hibernation grounds in the Sierra Madre Mountains of Mexico. This class was hosted by Margaret Kimmel, DBG’s butterfly expert, and Stephen Pryce Lea, Director of Horticulture and Educational Programs.



DBG INFORMATION DISPLAY

September 24: Trap Pond State Park Nature Fest. This was new event at the State Park, and DBG was there to spread the word.



DAGSBORO NIGHT OUT

October 11: DBG was a “presenting sponsor” of this event at the Dagsboro Fire Department. Ray Sander, Shery Swed and Brent Baker joined volunteer docents Jim Marshall, Andy & Diane McGrellis, Trica Precht, and Jill Simeral to inform Dagsboro residents about DBG, and at this event DBG announced the free gardens admission for Dagsboro residents on October 22.



TREE ID TOUR

October 13: Volunteer certified naturalist and tree expert, Elizabeth Rives held her popular class on tree identification and shared her holistic view of the ecology of the 12-acre woodlands.



FALL GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE

October 1/2/15/16: Stephen Pryce Lea led tours of the Piet Oudolf Meadow discussing garden maintenance, plants essential for wildlife habitat, and the meadow in the Fifth Season.



FALL BULB PLANTING CLASS

November 5: Stephen Pryce Lea held a new class about how, when and where to plant spring bulbs to get maximum effect. He explained it was best to select “naturalized” bulbs like tulips, crocus, and grape hyacinth that would multiply over time. He discussed best soil conditions and how to plant bulbs in layers (he called it “the lasagna layer style”) with larger bulbs planted deeper and the smallest bulbs near the top of soil.



HAPPY HOLLY DAYS

November 14: DBG celebrated the Delaware State American Holly Tree, and paid tribute to the wonderful Charles Anderson Holly Collection at DBG, which includes both evergreen and deciduous holly varieties, some with fruits ranging from bright yellow to vivid red.

(continued)

HAPPY HOLLY DAYS (CONT.)

At the learning garden, the Anderson Collection Holly Tour began with Stephen Pryce Lea giving a brief history of the American Holly Tree (*Ilex opaca*). Ray Sander then explained how the Anderson Collection came to DBG on March 27, 2019. Ray explained how Charles Anderson came to the gardens with his son, in 2017, before the initial meadow garden was built. Charles Anderson said that he wanted to donate his Holly Collection to DBG, shortly before he died (July 5, 2018). After he passed, his family decided to honor their father's wishes to donate part of his collection to DBG.



At that time, Greg Tepper, Director of Horticulture, went to Mr. Anderson's home near Owens Mills, MD, just north of Baltimore and selected 34 Hollies that were brought to the gardens. Under the supervision of Sussex County ISA certified master Arborist Jeremy Hagar (then a DBG Board Member), the Holly Trees were replanted by the staff and volunteers. Ray Sander said,

“This was the first DBG Collection and we were honored to receive this Anderson Holly collection. We are thankful to his family for ensuring the Charles Anderson Collection was located here at DBG.”



Jim Resch of the American Holly Society, talked about his personal relationship with Charles Anderson, who was a well-respected landscape architect. Jim pointed out that it was too expensive to bring all the Anderson Holly Collection to DBG. So, he helped pick out the 34 Hollies, from the Anderson collection of 200 Holly Trees, which ended up at DBG. Resch also donated seven new Anderson Hollies that he brought from his own property to DBG.

Margaret Kimmel, who has studied the DBG Anderson Holly Collection, and researched a handout on the collection, then led a tour of the Anderson Holly Collection.



HOLLY WREATH WORKSHOP

The second event on Holly Days was a “sold-out” Holly Wreath Workshop led by Jan Poli, assisted by volunteers Craig Haggerty and Jane Carroll. During the “hands-on” class, everyone had the chance to make a Holly Wreath.

WBOC-TV “OUTDOORS DELMARVA”

November 10: Jason Lee, host of “Outdoors Delmarva” visited the gardens, and interviewed Ray Sheryl and Brent. The eight-minute feature was broadcast on Saturday, November 12 and Sunday, November 13. WBOC-TV (CBS) and WRDE-TV (NBC) have been wonderful DBG TV partners this year.

VETERAN'S DAY

November 11: Unfortunately, we got rained out on Veteran's Day, when we planned to give Free Admission to military veterans and guests who brought donations for the Food Bank of Delaware. However, we did collect some food, but it was not of the volume we had planned. The good news is that we collected over 1,900 pounds of food in our earlier Earth Day and Mother's Day food drive.

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE



ANNETTE PENNONI MEADOW PAVILION

The progress on the pavilions has been slower than we planned, but we want to thank Scott Edmonston, Eric Pfeffer, Mark Davidson and Dan Barbato, our new advisory council member from Pennoni, for getting everyone together and moving it along. The Request for Proposal (RFP) will go out soon, and if all goes well, we will select a builder and have the ground-breaking early in 2023.



STAFF-VOLUNTEER POLE BUILDING

We are waiting for the final building permit approval. As soon as that is received, we will begin site preparations including moving the two containers out of the footprint of where the new building will go.

VOLUNTEER & TOURS UPDATE

News from Carol McCloud,
DBG Vice President & Volunteer Director



(L to R) Michelle Garrett, Jeannette Cowan,
Carol Mccloud, and Jane Stokes bundled up

We are consistently adding new Volunteers to our team. We are grateful for their dedication and love of the Gardens. They, along with our staff, are the backbone of our organization. To date we have the following number of active volunteers:

- **Garden Stewards: 64 and counting**
- **Docents: 30**
- **Board of Directors: 15**
- **Administration: 4**
- **Total Volunteers: 113**

Throughout the cold, rainy and windy fall our volunteers worked alongside our staff to continue to keep our Gardens beautiful. The fall colors of our falling leaves and the magnificent muhly grasses blowing in the wind brought a wave-like effect to the Rhyne and Meadow gardens. This process brings us to our awe inspiring Fifth Season at the Gardens.

We had a very successful fall in the gardens with lots of activity throughout. For the second year we participated in the Sea Witch Festival as well as created our own Woodland Discovery Trail with animal creatures carved out of wood from our Woodlands. Staff and Volunteers have again brought their endless energy and creativity to a new level. We had specialty tours of the Meadow

by Stephen, our Director of Horticulture, plus Woodland Tours by Elizabeth our certified naturalist.

During all of this our Garden Stewards continued to maintain the Gardens and our Docents went above and beyond to make sure we had coverage during our newly extended hours. As I have said before, our volunteers come in all kinds of weather. Some fall days have really been cold, as you can see our docents just bundle up and continue despite the weather.

The DBG Sea Witch Festival and Fall Harvest decorations were on display from October 13 through the closing day on November 20. The Woodlands Discovery Trail with animal creatures went from an idea to actuality in a very short time. The creative work by our staff/volunteer team continues to be extremely impressive. My admiration for Jan Poli, the creator and builder of the 11-foot DBG Sea Witch is beyond reproach. Thank you to Jan and all the creators of the new animal creatures, Stephen Pryce Lea, Sam Cashdollar, Jeremy Cole,



Volunteers preparing the berm



Students working on berm



(L to R) Carol McCloud and Teresa Maggio

Bridgett Curran, Margaret Kimmel, Judy Martin, Michelle Garrett. They did an amazing job in a very short amount of time. The positive reaction from our guests prove how outstanding a job everyone did in creating the creatures.

In addition to regular maintenance, and the fall harvest activities, our Garden Stewards have been working very hard this fall adding an additional 86,000 bulbs to the Piet Oudolf Meadow (60,000), Rhyne Garden (25,000) and Folly Garden (1,000).

In addition, they have also planted the berm across the front of the Gardens with 1,683 native sapling trees which were part of a grant from the Urban Community Forestry of DE.

On November 2 we had 18 students plus two chaperons volunteer from the Somerset County Technical High School, Horticulture Program. Their teacher, Theresa Maggio, said her students learned a lot and will be back next spring. We thank them for their support and positive energy. We look forward to them returning next year.

We are blessed to have so many dedicated DBG staff, volunteers and other volunteer groups working together. Thank you to everyone for their support.

If you'd like to join our team of volunteers, please go to our delawaregardens.org, click on Support, Volunteer to Help, fill out the form, send and it will come directly to me carol.mccloud@delawaregarden.org.

TRAINING

We continue to have in-house training for our volunteers. This fall Stephen gave special training for Fall Maintenance in the Piet Oudolf Meadow.

TOURS

DBG Garden Tours are very popular. With the addition of our new restrooms we have been able to accommodate larger tours. We had 37 prebooked larger group tours this

past year. We also had our usual 10 a.m. tours on open days, as well as, special educational tours by Stephen, Elizabeth Rives and Margaret Kimmel.

LARGE BUS TOUR SEPTEMBER 22

Gardens of Delaware and Brandywine Valley,” organized by landscape designer Karen Chapman/Le Jardin et Tour with 23 guests.

Chapman later reported online (tdesigns.com) saying, “The opportunity to visit phase 1 of the new Delaware Botanic Gardens was very exciting and I was curious to see how the meadow, designed by Piet Oudolf, was maturing in its third year. My personal ‘aha moment’ was seeing how the Arkansas blue star (*Amsonia hubrichtii*) was being used. The juxtaposition of the dark, dried seed heads of coneflowers (*Enhinacea spp.*) against the blue star foliage was captivating, especially when the breeze rippled through.”



As Director of Tours, I share the privilege of also being a Tour Guide. The opportunity of being a tour guide is shared with Stephen Pryce Lea, Elizabeth Rives, Gary Stokes & Margaret Kimmel. We are in the process of training additional tour guides to accommodate more tours in the future. If you are interested in having a large group tour, please contact me at carol.mccloud@delawaregardens.org.

Thank you to everyone for a great 2022 Season!

HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

News from Stephen Pryce Lea,
Director of Horticulture



Celebrating a Successful 2022 Season at DBG

It has been a colorful and cool fall at the Delaware Botanic Gardens with many garden areas displaying their transition toward the winter season. Piet Oudolf's Fifth Season is indeed a timely celebration of wonderment and imagination, a season often overlooked by the traditional gardener.

Shades of tan to brown bring the plant's architecture into clear view, the plant's skeleton against the wintery, cloud-filled sky is amazing, a great contrast to the garden's structure. The garden's early Fall mist gives way a few weeks later to a light frost that creates a blanket of ice crystals across the meadow.

DBG celebrated Fall in style with attendance at an all-time high, and guests were delighted by the return of the Sea Witch in her new woodland location. The staff and volunteers demonstrated amazing creativity with both the DBG Sea Witch and Forest Creatures. The natural animal figures amazed our guests with many asking who we brought in to make such professional and unique sculptures.

During Fall and until the last day of the season, it was a delight to so many adults, families, and children smiling and taking pictures with the DBG festive decorations. Success was applauded by our guests both in-person

and across social media and the local press. Well-earned praise goes to our dedicated volunteers and staff — who always work hard as a dedicated team.

As the garden goes from strength to strength, it's important to acknowledge the hard work, commitment, and devotion of the entire DBG community. Your service and financial support allow us to create a unique natural setting for our Sussex County neighbors and visitors. Proud to be a part of this team — always reaching higher levels of achievement. Our new tours and classes have been a great success based on the reaction of our guests, who have requested more classes in 2023. The team is currently putting the final touches to our educational programs for the upcoming season and looks forward to sharing them with you in the New Year. Thanks for your continued support.

Many guests visit the garden seeking advice for their landscapes and leave inspired by our naturalistic gardens. The staff and volunteers find it incredibly rewarding to provide advice and observe the joy people receive from our gardens' natural beauty. The garden is best visited through the seasons, with thousands of bulbs in Spring, and colorful Summer-long blooms, and in fall, the meadow turns pink with the Muhly Grasses that have been center stage, entertaining and educating our guests.

Featured tours include Fall Gardening for Wildlife Walks or bulb planting tips; you can even learn how to make a festive wreath, and popular classes are already scheduled for return. Garden tours are increasingly popular, with several large groups already booking for next year.

Despite the gardens being closed for the winter season the work never stops. The staff and hardest volunteers complete hoop house propagation work, final bulb planting, and fall maintenance, as we head towards the holiday season, returning refreshed for a New Year to prepare for another record-breaking season.

This fall we planted 1,683 native sapling trees on the Piney Neck Road berm to form a dense thicket and wildlife habitat. Amongst the trees we sowed perennial clover species to act as low-maintenance green ground cover and weed suppression beneath the growing tree canopy. Thanks to the Delaware Urban Community Forestry (UCF) for the funds to purchase the trees.

The preparation of the berm was completed by DBG staff but the fall tree planting on the berm was done entirely by our dedicated, hard-working volunteers. Thanks to Carol who managed the volunteer recruitment constantly bringing new people to DBG to volunteer, including the students from Somerset County, many people to thank for a job well done.

As Carol reported, the end-of-year crescendo is the planting of 86,000 new spring bulbs among our top priorities. The bulb planting in the Meadow is challenging because we have to be sure we do not disturb the bulbs we planted last year, and also maneuver in tight spaces between the plants and grasses. We all look forward to an impressive spring 2023 show, with these added bulbs.

Congratulations to everyone for a record-setting 2022 season. We learned, laughed, and worked together in all-weather conditions, making significant garden improvements for everyone to enjoy in the future.



Stephen with Somerset County students by berm



Berm planting



Stephen and volunteer planting bulbs in meadow

DBG is proud and happy to report that the "Back to the Garden" Dinner Party raised **over \$139,000** for operations.

Back to the Garden

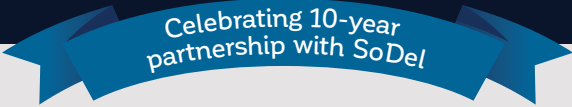
DELAWARE BOTANIC GARDENS **ANNUAL DINNER**
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022

THANK YOU
to our wonderful
Sponsors and
Challenge Match donors!

Raymond J. Sander,
President, DBG

Sheryl J. Swed,
Executive Director, DBG

Members of the DBG Board



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Sussex County Council
Ron Bass & George Robbins
Schell Brothers
Sheryl Swed & Ray Sander
Sussex County Land Trust

\$2,500 PURPLE MILKWEED

Coastal Tented Events
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\$500 SEA HOLLY

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Harry Orth
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AnniePowell.com
Print Coast 2 Coast of Lewes
Joanne & Mike Shipley
The Women's Journal

as of October 11, 2022

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:

Lisa & Scott Kammerer, Honorary Co-Chairs
Ronnie Burkle, SoDel Corporate Chef
Derrick Kelley, Co-Owner, Bin 66
Vince Varrassi, Musician in Residence & 5th Avenue
Peter Carter, Bele Casel donor, DBG Board member
Zach McCarthy, Coastal Tented Events
Bill Reeder, Affairs to Remember
Jan Poli, Floral Designs
DBG Team

Stephen Pryce Lea, Director of Horticulture
and Educational Programs

Sam Cashdollar, Director of Grounds and Facilities

Jeremy Cole, Horticulturist

Bridget Curran, Horticulture Assistant

Jane Hines, Financial Manager

Angie Phinney, Membership Manager

Our Dedicated Volunteers:

Andy McGrellis
Diane McGrellis
Jim Marshall
Tricia Precht
Ray Bojarski
Cheryl Quirk
Peggie Ravida
Margaret Kimmel
Kathy Lesperance
Jane Carroll
Michelle Garrett
Sally Scarangella
Jill Simeral

\$25,000 CHALLENGE DONORS

Ron Bass & George Robbins

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Heidi & Kevin Gilmore
Jamie & David Doane
Judith Ramey
LeDee & David Wakefield
Leslie Moser In Memory of Byron McAllister
Linda Miniscalco & Jeanne Drake
Lizbeth Lear
Lois Golian
The Nyssa Foundation Margaretta Brokaw
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