Thank you to our friends and supporters!

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DEAR FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM:

THANK YOU! The response to our annual appeal has energized all of us at FONA. Long-standing projects are moving forward and completion is in sight. 2015 brings new direction, fresh ideas, and a renewed optimism … thank you for making it all possible.

We are able to look ahead now because of the extraordinary generosity of so many individuals in the last weeks of 2014, with more than $200,000 received in general and restricted support. Not only did we meet our $25,000 challenge of raising a match from new and increased gifts, we ended the year with a balanced budget and with nearly $100,000 in commitments for special projects including the Washington Youth Garden. This is truly a demonstration of your interest in and commitment to the National Arboretum through FONA.

To recap 2014, FONA’s gifts to the National Arboretum totaled more than $530,000. In addition to its support of the care and maintenance of its heritage collections, FONA funded eight interns for 3- and 6-month internships at the Arboretum and gave the Arboretum the funds to complete the Flowering Tree Walk. When finished, the Walk will circle the Great Meadow and connect to the Capitol Columns and allow visitors to enjoy a tree-lined stroll around the heart of the Arboretum.

We are thankful for a committed board that provides leadership, hands-on assistance, and terrific financial support. For all of us here at the Arboretum, our donors are absolutely essential to our current and continued success, and to the growth of the National Arboretum as a treasured resource.

As always, I want to get to know you, so please send me your thoughts. I want to hear from you! 🌟

Best wishes for a good year,

Thomas M. Costello, Executive Director
Friends of the National Arboretum
tcostello@fona.org
202.544.8733

EDITOR’S NOTE. Please note the following corrections in the Late Fall 2014 issue: In the article “In Memoriam: Elizabeth Crisp Rea,” Betty Rea was the president of the Herb Society of America from 1976 to 1978; she was never the vice-president as stated in the article. Bob Lederer was the executive director of the American Nurserymen’s Association; he was not a member of the National Herb Society. In the “Meet Our Interns” story, we incorrectly stated that interns Elizabeth Roche and Kean Mackenzie were funded by The National Herb Society. Elizabeth Roche was funded by Ohio University, and Kean Mackenzie was funded by FONA. We regret the errors.

ON THE COVER Snow in the Chinese Moon Gate garden. Photographer: Amy Forsberg

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LINDSEY RIETKERK joined FONA in September as the Development and Marketing Coordinator. As a recent graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Lindsey brings her love for Tar Heel basketball to the FONA team, along with other passions. At Chapel Hill, Lindsey was a director for TEDxUNC where she organized a TEDx conference that included more than 25 speakers and performers and helped the conference achieve “green” certification by partnering with sustainable donors and sponsors. Lindsey also studied abroad in Rwanda and The Hague while in college as part of her undergraduate degree in Peace, War, and Defense. Lindsey grew up in a military family and lived in many places as a result, but now she allows that DC is moving to the top of her list of “favorite” cities.

CHRISTOPHER GOULART’s lifelong passion for horticulture stems from working on his family’s tree and shrub nursery in Little Compton, Rhode Island, as a child. Following his graduation from the University of Rhode Island with a B.S. in Environmental Horticulture and Turf Grass Management in 2009, Chris completed an internship at Carlton Plants in Dayton, Oregon, and came home to work on the family farm. During this time, Chris also worked with the Little Compton Tree Committee identifying Rhode Island State Champion Trees. Inspired by these experiences, as well as visits to local botanical gardens and arboreta, Chris came to the USNA as an intern in spring 2014 and worked in the Conifer and Boxwood Collections. Hired as FONA’s new Administrative Coordinator, Chris hopes to help raise awareness and funds for the Arboretum.

THE TOP TEN REASONS TO ATTEND FONA’S ANNUAL GARDEN FAIR & PLANT SALE

10. Brush up on your Latin: read the plant tags at the Garden Fair
9. After a long, hard winter, attending the Garden Fair is better (and less expensive) for your psyche, yourself, and your garden than heading to a sunny island
8. Experience that sense of accomplishment as you clean up your garden after the winter and plant some lovely new plants that promise to bloom through to the fall
7. Exhibit your hipness as you invite friends to dinner and run out to the garden to snip herbs and pick some tomatoes
6. Spend some time with the plant experts and be the first person on your block to try a new cultivar with dazzling blooms
5. Bond with your children over which flowers would be best and which child will commit to digging the hole
4. Browse FONAbooks and bring home some well-priced how-to books, one or more titles from a broad selection of the best garden writers, fabulous gardens photo books, and landscape history, and a several collectible rare and hard-to-find books
3. Every plant selected for the FONA sale has been chosen for a reason and is special or hard to find or brand new... or all three. Herbs, heirloom vegetables, hellebores, roses, native plants, hostas... the list goes on.... Visit the vendor village and get expert advice from all those specialty nurseries and nonprofits
2. Enjoy a couple of tacos and watch Washington Revels salute spring and sing and dance around the maypole
1. Support the U.S. National Arboretum through your attendance and purchases...446 acres of greenspace... ready and waiting for you...free of charge.

—KATHY HORAN
This page: A red-breasted nuthatch; Right: Students from Brent Elementary School on Capitol Hill look through their binoculars in hopes of spotting some birds.
Students from Brent Elementary School, armed with hand warmers, clipboards, binoculars, fuzzy hats, and cheerful parents, used the weather to their advantage for their 6th Annual New Year’s Bird Counts for Kids, spearheaded by California’s Sonoma Birding Christmas Bird Counts 4 Kids events that take place across the country. Mike Mangiaracina, science teacher at Brent Elementary School and event organizer, says that although the weather can be an unpredictable factor in January with temperatures dropping and snow and ice affecting trail conditions, attendance is not hampered. In fact, Mangiaracina believes that holding the event in January helps it to be even more of a success because it is a unique opportunity for families to spend time outdoors during colder winter months. “The event is fascinating and magical in the winter,” Mangiaracina said, “and parents are grateful for something to do on a Saturday.”

About 120 students participated in the event on Saturday, January 10, in addition to 250 parents and volunteers. Mangiaracina is not sure attendance would match those numbers if the event took place in warmer months like May.

Mangiaracina includes the Arboretum every year on his list of bird counting sites because the Arboretum is “literally in our own backyard” for the parents and students of Brent Elementary School, located on Capitol Hill, and is an easy place for families to get to. Other District sites that students and families explored included Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, Kingman Island, and Haines Point.

Students and their parents were led by expert volunteers from the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, District Department of the Environment, and DC Audubon Society. A bird count of over 1,600 was recorded and posted for reference online and included bald eagles, a raft of lesser scaup, and...
yellow-bellied sapsuckers. Students ended the morning with a live raptor show at Brent Elementary put on by the Earth Conservation Corps.

Nick Lund, spokesperson at DC Audubon who helped lead a group of students at the Arboretum, responded via email that the Arboretum makes a great spot for birding in the winter because of the “huge variety of the habitat” there. There are “woods, grassy fields, open fields, riverfront, hillsides,” Lund wrote. “Frankly, there are birds all over the Arboretum in the winter, and they’re easier to see without leaves on the trees!”

Lund suggests the Asian Collection as a great place for bald eagle sightings and for finding locally rare red-breasted nuthatches and robins. The National Capitol Columns field, a habitat “found nowhere else in the District” Lund said, hosts “species like eastern meadowlark and kestrel.”

“The event is fascinating and magical in the winter,” Mangiaracina said, “and parents are grateful for something to do on a Saturday.”

Taking students to areas of the District is an important aspect of the annual bird count that Mangiaracina encourages. Although part of the day’s event focuses on the science of birds and exploration of their habitat, Mangiaracina also wants his students to understand that natural spaces in DC are finite and that having the opportunity to discover these areas while practicing good trail etiquette is just as critical as skill at observing birds in their habitats for accurate counts.

Winter temperatures might turn nature seekers into homebodies, but Lund says that one advantage to birding in the winter is that days can start later. “Birders are famous for getting up early in the morning to find birds,” Lund said, “but the reason to get up early in the morning— because they’re more active and vocal— only really matters in the spring and summer.”

Lund suggests that it takes only a little bit of encouragement for students to warm up to birding in colder months. He writes that challenging kids to identifying as many species as possible when they go out engages kids in seeing their surroundings differently.

“It’s almost a back-door way of getting them to understand their environment by framing it in a new way.” Lund said.

UPCOMING DC BIRDING EVENTS

DC Audubon
DC Audubon runs the C&O Canal Count on the 184.5-mile trail between DC and Cumberland, MD, in January and also hosts monthly walks. Check out upcoming walks and find more information at http://audubondc.org/about/

Audubon Naturalist Society
The Audubon Naturalist Society offers free and fee based birding trips in and around the DC area. For upcoming dates and locations go to http://www.audubonnaturalist.org/index.php/nature-programs/adults/free-birding-trips

Want to know more about bird counting for kids?
Mangiaracina’s third graders participate in an environmental education program through the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center called “Bridging the Americas.” His students partner with a school in Latin America to learn the migratory patterns of a specific bird and trade letters and pictures throughout the school year. To learn more about the program, go to http://nationalzoo.si.edu/scbi/migratorybirds/

Sonoma Birding Christmas Bird Counts 4 Kids
Learn about the history of CBC4Kids and why the event was started! http://www.sonomabirding.com/cbc4kids_history.html

LINDSEY RIETKERK, Development and Marketing Coordinator at FONA, had a blast counting birds with Brent Elementary School and suggests that everyone bring hot chocolate when they do birding in the winter.
Join Us for a Tomato Grafting Workshop

Want to learn how to make your tomatoes produce more and be more disease resistant? Tomatoes are notoriously susceptible to soil-borne viruses, which results in very low yields. Grafting is a means by which you can have virus-resistant, highly productive tomato plants. Garden enthusiast Dr. Andrew Robie has been grafting tomatoes for years and will provide a hands-on learning workshop to teach you how to graft your own tomato plants.

WHEN: Saturday, April 11, 2015, 10 a.m.–noon
WHERE: The lobby of the Administration Building at the National Arboretum
COST: FONA Members $12; nonmembers $15*
REGISTER: www.fona.org or call Lindsey Rietkerk, 202.544.8733
Attendance is limited to 25; registration is required.

This workshop is presented by USNA, FONA, and the Washington Youth Garden.* The fee covers all supplies, including rootstock, scion, pots, and soil.

—PAT TAYLOR

The Collector’s Corner at the 2015 Garden Fair & Plant Sale

The Garden Fair will have an enlarged Collector’s Corner this year, featuring rare and exciting plants that are difficult or impossible to obtain from local nurseries. There will be hardy lady slipper orchids (Cypripedium species and cultivars) donated by Hillside Nursery (MA) and blooming gentians donated by Edelweiss Perennials (OR) for sale. We anticipate a good selection of rare and unusual rhododendrons donated by the Rhododendron Species Foundation (WA) that are unavailable on the east coast. Cutting-edge nurseries such as Plant Delights (NC) and Far Reaches Farm (WA) will be donating plants that no one else sells. In addition to perennials, a selection of rare trees and shrubs from a variety of nurseries will also be featured in the Collector’s Corner. So if you are looking for something special at the Garden Fair, please stop by the Collector’s Corner and let us wow you with these most desirable plants!

—KEVIN MCINTOSH

Cypripedium reginae by Bouba.

—PAT TAYLOR

NOTEWORTHY

Cypripedium reginae by Bouba.
ALNEER BROTHERS
Seed & Plant Catalogue
For 1898.

ALNEER'S NEW PRIZE SWEET PEAS,
Pkt. 5 Cents, OZ. 10 Cents, 1 lb. 20 Cents.

SUNSET 10 Cents Each.

CLIMBING METEOR, NEW 20 Cents Each.

Rockford, Ill. U.S.A.
Soon after what most people call “the holiday season” comes the real holiday season – Gardening Catalog Time. Just after January 1, the mailbox is suddenly bursting with bright, tempting catalogs of all varieties. Although the weather outside is frightful, the fire is just delightful and perfect for nestling down with a dozen or so catalogs and beginning to dream.

Barbara Shea

You can approach these catalogs in many ways. You can actually make a list and order things such as seeds for your vegetable garden, bulbs for both spring and summer, or just the right perennial for that empty spot. This, of course, is the reason you were sent all those catalogs in the first place. But you can use the catalogs in other ways. You can use them to identify plants you already own but can’t name, you can get ideas for things you want to hunt down at plant sales and garden centers, or you can just enjoy them. Tony Avent’s catalog for Plant Delights Nursery is a work of literary genius. It is worth ordering that $30 epimedium just to ensure that you get next year’s edition. However, you should beware of another season I like to call the “What were you thinking?” season. This extends over most of the rest of the year. It starts in March with the arrival of carefully boxed plants that need to go into the ground immediately, even though it’s 45 degrees and raining. You thought you would add just a bit of color to a dull portion of the perennial border, and right now, the whole thing is a muddy mess. Then there is summer, when the vegetable seeds you ordered with the bright idea of expanding your vegetable garden, sit in their box glaring at you accusingly. It seemed like such a good idea in January, but WHAT WERE YOU THINKING! And the bulbs . . . oh the bulbs. You dreamed by the fire of a sweep of tulips and daffodils to brighten the spring and chase away winter, forgetting that you would have to be out on a raw November day planting the 1,000 tulips you just had to have. WWYT. Yes, I do it every year. To me it’s an act of faith. I read the McClure and Zimmerman, Scheepers Bulbs, and Brent and Becky Heath’s catalogs cover to cover and try to order only what I really need. Never works.

Among my favorite catalogs are Burpee and Territorial—still the best for the vegetable and flower seeds you plant every year. Select Seeds has wonderful heirloom varieties, and John Scheepers Garden Seeds has unusual vegetable and flower seeds and incredible descriptions. This is another catalog to keep around and read at your leisure. Seeds are a great way to get a lot of plants for very little money. You don’t need a complicated setup to get the seeds started. I have shop lights hung over an old picnic table in the basement. My kids used to say “Mom is in the basement practicing gardening.”

For woody plants and perennials, I get at least 30 catalogs. I used to order a lot from them, but now I just use them for ideas and instead buy my plants at the FONA plant sale. It saves on shipping, and I can take my time planting them—plus, the FONA experts have already pored over the catalogs and picked the best of the best. RareFind in New Jersey is an excellent catalog full of unusual plants as is Broken Arrow in Connecticut (both are available online or in hard copy). Iseli Nursery is wholesale, but their online catalog is available to all. If you would like a reliable source of cut flowers from summer to frost, you should peruse Swan Island Dahlias, a beautiful catalog and a great source for many varieties. Treat them as annuals if you don’t want to dig and store them. They’re still a bargain. Even though I buy most of my plants from the FONA sale, I would not give up all those hours of romping through the catalogs. Just order from a few and more will arrive in your mailbox.

Katharine S. White, the wife of E.B. White, has written a charming book almost completely about garden catalogs: Onward and Upward in the Garden. It is a delightful read, and at least two copies will be available for sale at the Garden Fair.

BARBARA SHEA is Chairman of the Friends of the National Arboretum and an avid gardener.

“See “A Romp through the Catalogs” in the above mentioned book.
2014 WAS AN EXCITING YEAR FOR THE WASHINGTON YOUTH GARDEN. In addition to donating more than 900 pounds of harvest, we served more than 2,500 students through our SPROUT Program, trained seven high school students as WYG Green Ambassadors, and added two new partnerships to our Garden Science (school garden partnership) program! Joining the three active partner schools and two alumni schools, KIPP Webb Campus and Hendley Elementary School are two new campuses committed to providing a living laboratory for their students and integrating hands-on, garden-based learning into their school days. We eagerly welcomed these schools to our Garden Science program and can’t wait for their 2015 Build Days to arrive.

Providing these programs to WYG’s many beneficiaries has always relied on a small staff and lots of dedicated volunteers, so we are excited about the addition of three new faces to our team! As part of our partnership with FoodCorps, a grantee of AmeriCorps committed to connecting kids to healthy food in school, we’ve gained three service members who coordinate gardens and provide programming to students at four schools in our Garden Science program. All of them have been busy since October teaching students and have already made huge strides in their sites’ garden programming.

LAUREL CAPLAN
Laurel recently received her B.A. from Occidental College in Los Angeles, California, where she had a major in Spanish language and culture and a minor in urban and environmental policy. Through a number of varied internship experiences during college, she developed a passionate interest in the environment, education, food justice, and public health. She had a blast teaching nutrition and cooking classes to children in New Orleans at the Southern Food and Beverage Museum’s free summer camp. As an intern with Women Organizing Resources Knowledge & Services (W.O.R.K.S.), a nonprofit organization dedicated to affordable housing in Los Angeles, she taught gardening and nutrition skills to both children and senior citizens in various communities within the city. As an assistant garden program coordinator at Green Light New Orleans, she developed garden procedures and materials and translated documents for members of Spanish-speaking communities. At WYG, Laurel teaches students through WYG’s garden at Center City PCS’s Trinidad Campus and also at the budding garden at KIPP DC’s Webb Campus. In her spare time, she loves to read, hike, volunteer at animal sanctuaries, shop at farmers markets, and cook vegan meals.

Schools: Center City PCS–Trinidad Campus; KIPP–Webb Campus; Favorite vegetable: Cabbage, because I love it in Armenian salad. Kale, because it is miraculously still growing in my school garden, and kids love cooking it!

KAREN DAVIDSON
Karen recently graduated from Luther College with a degree in English writing and international studies and a minor in environmental studies. During her time at Luther, her interest in local foods and gardens grew. She served as a Sustainable Foods Education intern at the college, volunteered at Seed Savers Exchange and the local food co-op, and worked as a gardener at a small local vegetable farm, Patchwork Green Farm. At WYG, Karen works with the Garden Science program teaching students through gardening, cooking, and healthy eating at John Burrough’s Education Campus STEM School. Karen has already been a huge proponent of starting school-wide organic recycling at Burroughs. She loves hiking, running, knitting, reading, traveling, and exploring local food cultures.

School: John Burroughs Education Campus; Favorite vegetable: Kohlrabi, because it’s delicious and looks unique, like an alien! Special Talent: I’m unusually good at using saran wrap.
CHANDLER WHERRY

Originally from Chicago, Chandler graduated from the University of Oregon with a B.S. in environmental studies. There, she fell in love with environmental education and food system sustainability. After graduation, she moved to a rural town in northern California to serve in a Native American community with AmeriCorps VISTA. For one year, she worked to create and manage a community garden, manage a small community food bank, and create a weekly nutrition and physical activity class with the local HeadStart preschool. After her time in California, she moved across the Pacific to Thailand, where she spent five months teaching English to Thai high school students. She then spent two months traveling around Southeast Asia and taking the opportunity to follow her dream of scuba diving the region’s beautiful reefs. At WYG, Chandler works with the Garden Science program teaching students and helping to expand the school garden at Friendship PCS’ Woodridge Campus. She is excited about gaining further experience working in school gardens as well as teaching about science, sustainability, food, and of course, gardening.

School: Friendship School PCS–Woodridge; Favorite vegetable: Eggplant, because it is so pretty! And you can find such cool versions around the world. Favorite thing: My favorite animals are nudibranchs, which are weird, little (and awesomely beautiful) sea slugs that live on ocean floors. One time when scuba diving, I missed seeing a shark, because I was so enamored of the teensy tiny nudibranch on the coral. Google them!

NOAH LEE is the Program Coordinator for the Washington Youth Garden and a graduate of the University of Chicago. He is responsible for implementing programs at the demonstration garden on the grounds of the U.S. National Arboretum. Would you like to get involved? Donate at our website (www.washingtonyouthgarden.org) or volunteer your time at our demonstration garden and with our educational programs (email us at volunteer@washingtonyouthgarden.org).

Top: A student at Friendship Public Charter School -Woodridge helps sheet mulch on a community work day. Bottom: With the help of our beekeeper, Toni Burhnam, the Green Ambassadors had the opportunity to harvest honey from the WYG hives.
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Grateful thanks to all our many wonderful 2014 contributors to FONA and the Washington Youth Garden!

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Right Proper Brewing Company
Cynthia Roscoe
Christine Saum
Alison Shearer
April G. Sheldo
Becky Siegel
Vira and Bill Sisolak
Elizabeth Stevens
John Strand
Karla and Saul Strieb
The Fainting Goat
Todd Trafford
Christine Wegman and Charles Flickner
The Honorable and Mrs. Tommy Wells
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Rolla J. Wilhite
Elsa Williams
Louise Williams
Mary Louise Williamson
Olga and William Witting
Lisa Wood
Ellen Yorke

$100-$249
Douglas Adams
James Adams
Brian Albert
Edward Aldrich

WINTER 2015
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Michele Anderson and Franklin Nickerson
Anonymous
James David Applegate
Mary and John Arcuir
Stephen Ash
Alicia and Jim Bachman
Emily Bair and Bruce Bauman
Nancy Balz
Katherine Banks
Sharon Bauer
Jack and Anne Baur
He Yan and Michael Beal
Carrie Beall
Anne and Roger Bishop
Jane Blair
Robert Blandford
Nancy Bliss
Tersh Boasberg
Anne and Daniel Bookin
Michael Boyd
Robert Boyer and Richard Holcomb
Barbara Breteron
Vickie Brewster
Sally and William Briere
Naomi and Harold Brodsky
Susan Burrons
Helen and Edgar Butt
Angela Calle
J.W. Carey
Letita Carlson and William Himwich
Sandra and F. T. Carlson
Stephanie Carter
Irene and Versel Case
Carol Cavanaugh
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cecka
Doris Cedarier
Joyce Chandler
Margaret Chanin
Chartwell Garden Club, Severna Park, MD
Jeanette and Edward Chesky
Melanie Choukas-Bradley

Robert Clark
Sonia and Robert Conly
Leslie Conover
Mary Corley
Elizabeth Kyle Courtney
Winfield Crigler
Elizabeth Dame
Melanie and Fred Dann
Katherine David-Fox
Laurie Davis and Joseph Sellers
William Day
Andrew DePrete
Marcia L. De Sonne
Terese M. Donovan
Robert Drechsler
The Honorable and Mrs. Raymond DuBois
Diana Dunnun
Marion and Seth Eisen
Marian Elsasser
Eileen and Anthony Essaye
Kathryn Everett
Bridget and Robert Faden
Freddy Feliz
Leanna Fenske
Janet and Aurelius Fernandez
Lynne and William Fitzhugh
Ligeia Fontaine and Roger Kindler
John Fossum
Margaret and Donald Franz
Christine Freidel and Dougas Varley
Garden Club of Montclair, Dumfries, VA
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Michael Geary
Jennifer Giaccai
Martha Gibian
Elizabeth Goodman
Virginia Gray
Nelse Greenway
Jeanne and Spence Gregor
Elaine P. Grever
Suzanne Griffith

Karon Hall
Geraldine and Thomas Hamilton
Debra Hardy Havens
Virginia Hauser
Kathleen Hempstone and Albin Hawkins
Mary Page Hickey
Anne B. Hilliard
Tracey and Maynard Hoover
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Dandridge and William Ince
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Sheila and Earl Lindweit
Karin Lohman
Elizabeth Lomas
Ann Lunson
Kristen Luppino
Ellen Mack
DeDe MacVeagh
Charlotte Mandragos
Ida May Mantel
Grace Manubay and Timothy Ernst
Ellen W. Martin
Miranda and Robert Martin
Elke and Juergen Matthaeus
Judith and David Mauriello
Mimi McBride
Cathleen McCabe
Marie McGlone and Albert Thomas
Elizabeth and Robert McGuire
Deborah McKenzie
Joseph Meagher
Scot Medbury and Brian Lym
Blanche and Reg Meeson
Michael Meyers
Felix Milner
Carol Miranda
Penny and James Morrill
Jo Ann and Robert Mueller
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Clay Nettles
Barrett Nichols
Alice Norris
Rose and Howard Norseth
Jackie Noyes
Maureen Orth
Susan and James Palmer
Joyce and E.G. Pazianos
Carolyn Peery
Gracia Perfetti
Robert Perrino
Kathryn and Michael Pettit
Diana and Michael Pontri
Kathryn Powers
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Tracy Roman
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Chapel Valley Landscape Company
Camellia Forest
Conard-Pyle Company
Diageo
Angela Domanico and Alan Rudan
Foxborough Nursery
Frager's Nursery
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Greenleaf Nursery Company
Gristmill Landscaping
Hawkridge Nursery
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North Creek Nurseries
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Olive Garden
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Saunders Brothers Inc.
SAP
Walnut Springs Nursery
Youngblood Nursery
Whole Foods Market, P St NW

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Saunders Brothers Inc.
SAP
Walnut Springs Nursery
Youngblood Nursery
Whole Foods Market, P St NW

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In honor of Elizabeth Avery
Tuckie and Don Westfall

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Julie and Cornell Abod

In honor of Linda Derrick
Rene Lanes
Beverly Miller
Janey Nadler
Virginia and Patrick Render

In honor of Téne Dolphin
Catherine Crum
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Mark Fernandez

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In honor of Rani Parker and Merlene Mazycz
Joseph Meagher

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The Garden Club of Alexandria

In memory of Patricia A. Belcher
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In memory of Terry Dammann
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Michael Meyers

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William and Carol Ann Heinz
Historical Society of Early American Decorations, Shenandoah Chapter
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Elizabeth H. Rea
Patrick and Marla Redding
Joseph and Susan Rountree
Edgar and Ruth Smith
Tuckie and Don Westfall

In memory of Paul E. Sinner
Helen Anderson
Northern Virginia Community College

In memory of Richard Troyer
Lisa Sprague

In memory of Richard Wolf
Muriel Wolf
The Friends of the National Arboretum is an independent, nonprofit organization established to enhance, through public and private sector resources, support for the U.S. National Arboretum.

HAPPENINGS

LAHR NATIVE PLANT SYMPOSIUM: MAKING CONNECTIONS
Saturday, March 28, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Explore a variety of ways that you can use native plants in the landscape to make positive connections to the natural world. Learn how your plantings will benefit pollinators and how award-winning and timeless landscape designs follow nature’s lead. Get to know some unfamiliar natural ecosystems that are home to very interesting plants and animals. This symposium will help you put together well-designed landscapes that actively connect with nature. Fee: $95 ($76 FONA members). Registration required. To register, visit usna.usda.gov.

TOMATO GRAFTING WORKSHOP
Saturday, April 11, 10:00 a.m. – noon
Learn how to make your tomatoes produce more and be more disease resistant. Sign up for this hands-on workshop with Dr. Andrew Robie. Fee: $15 ($12 for FONA members). Attendance is limited; registration required. To register, please call Lindsey Rietkerk at 202.544.8733 or email lrietkerk@fona.org. Sponsored by FONA, the Washington Youth Garden, and US National Arboretum.

DINNER UNDER THE STARS
Tuesday, June 9, 2015
Save the date and sign up now. It’s FONA’s Annual Dinner under the Stars. Join us as we celebrate South Carolina! Invite your friends and share a table for a truly unique evening at the Arboretum. For more information, including ticket and table pricing, visit fona.org/sponsorship-and-ticket-buying/ or contact Lindsey Rietkerk at 202.544.8733.

VIEWING STONES OF NORTH AMERICA EXHIBIT
February 20 – March 29
Visit the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum to see this new exhibit. Sponsored by the Potomac Viewing Stone Group. Free.

Are you cleaning out your closets and bookcases in anticipation of spring? FONA welcomes donations of your garden-related books and sundries. The sundries can range from the practical to the frivolous—pots, vases, birdhouses, rakes, and hoes. Donations are accepted at the FONA office or call us at 202.544.8733 for pickup.