



Jefferson Market Garden News

Volume 10, Number 1

Summer 2010

I believe a leaf of grass is no less than the journey work of the stars, and the pismire is equally perfect, and a grain of sand, and the egg of the worm.

--Walt Whitman

YOU'RE NOBODY 'TIL SOMEBODY LOVES YOU. As the Garden steps smartly into its 35th season in bloom, its appearance is far different from the original spare green space enclosed by a chain-link fence. Which supplanted a rubble-strewn 1/3 acre lot, all that remained of the blunt-faced behemoth of an 11-story prison, torn down without ceremony, good riddance.

The plat, of course, remains the same and many of the trees, too, though of these, several have reached or are reaching the end of their natural lives. (All of the trees here are monitored for safety and health by professional arborists.) These splendid trees stand in tribute to the visionary Villagers who demanded a garden on this corner—and got it. We celebrate all of them, with a curtsy to those who are happily still with us: **Anne Spira** and **Allen Pilikian**, **Martin Hutner**, **Ruth Sprute** and **B. J. Westman**.

The redesigned and many times replanted Garden of today celebrates continuity and the commitment of all the planters and preservationists who have worked to fulfill the founders' green dreams, who lend their support year after year, at all levels, to sustain and improve this Village treasure. We are talking about you here, dear readers. No thanks are too great. Bundles of floribunda to each and every one of you!

WE WANNA BE IN PICTURES. Speaking of then and now, the Garden is included in a summer exhibition, **Before There Were Parks**, at the NYC Parks Dept.'s Arsenal Gallery, 830 Fifth Avenue (64th Street), 3rd Floor. Curated by **Jonathan Kuhn**, Parks' Director of Arts and Antiquities, the exhibit's photos illustrate the transformation of urban spaces. Earlier incarnations of this corner (not so pretty) are juxtaposed with images of its present state of perfection. Monday-Friday through September 9th, 9 am–5 pm. Free.

ALL SHOOK UP. The calendar, that is. Daffodils in late February. Tulips starting in March (those fabulous red-and-yellow Flairs and creamy, oh-so-delicate species tulips—um-m). Rivers of roses in May. ALL GONE by June. Our heads were a-spin. It was Spring on speed! What do we have to look forward to? **SummerMusic** in the Garden. **Eric Oxendine** on classical guitar on Wednesdays 4:30 to 6:00 pm from July through September. Y'all come. It is also never too late to arrange to get married here, or to schedule photo and location shoots. For details, contact **Virginia Giordano**, vgpnyc@gmail.com.

THE SWEET SPOT. Several Friends of the Garden have stepped up to the plate and hit it out of the park for the benefit of everyone who is a fan of this “diamond.” A bow and BRAVO/BRAVA to our own all-star lineup this anniversary season:

- ❖ Last November, thanks to a grant from **Con Edison**, we doubled the size of the pond and deepened it (the fish are breathing sighs of relief), installed a state-of-the-art liner, and built a taller waterfall. Cheers to Con Ed Godfather **John Leo** and Friends.
- ❖ Underway now, with the generous support of NYU (applause for **Gary Parker** and Friends, please), the redesigned area surrounding the new pond is being replanted and renewed.
- ❖ A “conspiracy of two” between JMG Vice Chairman **George Paulos** and Godfather **Ron Daniel** has produced a second pond bench, now in place and a very “hot” seat it is. Thank you, gents.
- ❖ An incredibly generous Spring gift from the **Flora F. Morrell Charitable Trust** enabled us to purchase and have planted all at once *all* the trees, shrubs and other plant material in a grand new back bed. (**Keil Brothers Garden Center** of Bayside, yay!)

- ❖ The excellent designs for the pond planting and the back bed, both by JMG horticulturist, **Susan Sipos**, seamlessly integrate the “just in” with the existing plants and trees. Here are some members of that gorgeous chorus line, stretching from the pond around the western yellowwood tree and east towards the rose garden: rhododendrons 'Catawba' and 'Roseum Elegance,' hydrangeas 'Annabelle' and 'French Elf,' barberries 'Aurea' and 'Crimson Pygmy,' sand cherry, Viburnum Carlesii, Ligularia 'Firecracker,' hosta 'Sum and Substance,' dwarf cypress, begonias, impatiens, ornamental grasses, and more!

We are also grateful to the Monday Irregulars, **Ruth Sprute**'s gang of gardening volunteers who meet on Mondays to weed, dig, and mulch all season.

- ❖ Hats off! to **Eileen Appel**, who stepped in to pinch-hit for **Bob Arkins** as assistant director of gate volunteers this season. We simply do not think we could have managed without Eileen at the helm.
- ❖ Kudos to the wonderful JMG Godparents, whose donations of \$500 or more fund our summer aide. This anniversary year, our Friends at **Yale University Press** (let's hear it for New Haven) have donated copies of **Flowers and Herbs of Early America** as a special gift to Garden Godparents. “This magnificent book” (Horticulture Magazine) is sumptuously illustrated with stunning color photographs and elegant period engravings, watercolors, and woodcuts. There is still room in the corps of JMG Godparents, and this swell tome will be yours, with custom bookplate, when you enlist.

KISS THEM FOR ME. Everyone, that is, who was involved in JMG's fab 2010 Friends Garden Party and Summer Solstice Celebration, with a ceremony led by **Lynn Pacifico**, marking our 35th! Anniversary on a beautiful Summer evening. The featured Silent Auction was a smashing success, with wonderful prizes donated and purchased by many local supporters. And lots of other generous folks donated food, wine, entertainment and more to keep us all happy. Details on the enclosed sheet, with party photos.

It takes a Village to celebrate. Behind the scenes, talented volunteers organized and ran the event with style. Hurrah! for **George Paulos**, who took charge of the whole party. Cheers! for **Nancy Pasley** and **Joan Sherman**, who organized the auction. And thanks indeed! to **Jeanine Flaherty**, **Gail Fox** and **Jim Yeske**, who helped make it all happen.

SHORT CUTS. A ladybug release by **Village Preschoolers**, all wearing handmade ladybug hats (we wanted one). The new classes at **St. Joseph's Academy** on their “first date” with the Jefferson Market Garden. Our adored **P.S. 41** kindergarten classes field-tripping and mapping. The jolly kids of the **Perry Street Summer School** swinging by. The Saints Tour of the West Village, conceived and written by marvelous **Molly Rice**, livening Spring evenings. They all came, saw, and cozied up to the Garden. Play it again, Spring 2010.

*...I went out
to the new wood
because, at times as these,
it is a true good
to be alone
among the trees...*
--Peter Fallon
from **A Summer Flood**

The Garden relies on your tax-deductible contribution to:

Jefferson Market Garden, 70A Greenwich Ave., PMB 372, New York, NY 10011.

Or online: www.JeffersonMarketGarden.org

Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area, Inc.
Our latest annual report may be obtained, upon request, from the Office of the Attorney General,
Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

*Many, many thanks to all those who made our 2010 Friends garden party
and first-ever Silent Auction such a success*

The music: **MCJAM Woodwind Quintette** Lucinda Mermin lucindamer@aol.com

The solstice celebration: **Lynn Pacifico** lynnpax@earthlink.net

The party photos: **Umar Abbasi** ospreyint@hotmail.com

The food: **D'Agostino Supermarkets, Maracas Mexican Restaurant, Magnolia Bakery, Murray's Cheese Shop, Neuman's Catering** pneuman@caterernyc.com

The wine: **Village Vintner, Village Wine & Spirits, Allen Pilikian, George Paulos, Nancy Pasley**

The sound system: **Wizard Studios** events production (212) 568-9500

The bartenders: **Gary and Patricia Weathersbee**

The Garden photo, a special prize for auction bidders: **Paul deVries**

<u>Auction Items and Donors</u>	<u>Winning Bidders</u>
Garden consultation Susan Sipos , JMG Horticulturist	Rhona Leong JMG volunteer
Van Houten Farms gift certificate Union Sq Greenmarket Wed Fri Sat	Mary Vanderwoude JMG volunteer
Interior design consultation Martin Hutner , 20 West 9th St.	Angela Miknius JMG supporter
Two tickets, 2011 Spring House Tour Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation	Suzette Burdett Village PreSchool Center
Styling and Cut CarloMarco Studio , 136 Waverly Place	Laurie Moody JMG volunteer
Island Time Facial Treatment Pacific Touch Spa , 928 B'way (21-22 St.)	Suzette Burdett Village PreSchool Center
"Girlfriends" Haircuts Doodle Doo's , 11 Christopher St.	Jennifer Gilkie American Express
Dinner for two, Cornelia St. Café 29 Cornelia St.	Tim Lee JMG supporter
O. Ottomanelli & Sons gift certificate 285 Bleecker St.	Diane Darrow & Tom Maresca JMG volunteers
Dinner for two, Gene's Restaurant 73 West 11th St.	Barbara Sievert JMG supporter
One-year memberships plus 20 rentals World of Video , 51 Greenwich Ave.	June Fait, JMG supporter Shelly Menolascino, M.D., JMG supporter
Apple iPod Touch Tekserve , 119 West 23rd St.	Matt Saravay Wizard Studios
Dinner for two, The Lion Restaurant 62 West 9th St.	Shelly Menolascino, M.D. JMG supporter



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