# 2015

# The Polly Hill Arboretum

Year in Review



# Living Collection Statistics

The Arboretum continues to increase the scientific value and genetic diversity of its living collection through the acquisition of seeds, plants, and cuttings from a variety of sources.

The living collection (as of December 31, 2015) contains 1,615 taxa representing plants from 125 families and 344 genera – *Stewartia, Ilex, Rhododendron, Magnolia,* and conifers continue to be the most prominent. These numbers reflect 160 new accessions in 2015 of seeds, plants, and cuttings of which approximately 50 percent are of documented wild origin. **Appendix A** lists all 2015 accessions, their provenance, and how they were received.





Noteworthy among the 2015 accessions are wild-collected seeds resulting from a second trip by Curator Tom Clark to the southeastern United States funded by an American Rhododendron Society Research Foundation grant, including seed of the redlisted *Rhododendron flammeum* and *R. vaseyi* (pictured left), *Halesia diptera*, and *Hydrangea quercifolia*, among other taxa of conservation and horticultural value.

Other highlights include wild-collected seed of *Magnolia macrophylla* var. *ashei* and seed

from the northernmost population of *Magnolia virginiana*, the latter having been collected by a former PHA intern.

In 2015, 329 plants representing 100 taxa were deaccessioned from the living collection, many of which were surplus or were being evaluated for adaptability and horticultural value. Others were removed due to overcrowding, senescence, or were removed and replaced by plants of known wild provenance.

# Stewartia Grove Rehabilitated

Following the successful rehabilitation of the Dogwood Allée over the past several years, PHA staff (in collaboration with Bartlett Tree Experts) undertook a similar project to improve the overall health and condition of the Stewartia Grove in an area called the Vegetable Field. The trees are fairly crowded and several trees were exhibiting reduced vigor; our efforts were directed at reinvigorating this iconic feature.



A large area of the root zone was air-spaded; this involves using a directed stream of pressurized air to break up and loosen compacted soil. Based on an analysis of the soil's chemical and physical characteristics, soil amendments were incorporated during the process to correct the pH and nutrient levels, and to improve the structure of the soil. The area was then mulched with rotted wood chips to prevent weed growth, increase the level of organic matter, and help maintain soil moisture levels. This grove of 11 *Stewartia pseudocamellia* trees includes the original specimens of two of Polly Hill's named selections: 'Milk and Honey' and 'Mint Frills'. The grove is a striking feature in all seasons.

#### New Horticulture Staff Expand Capacity

In 2015 we welcomed two new full-time horticulturists to our ranks. Ben Madeiras joined the staff in April as Horticulturist and Brian McGowan came on board in early June as our Plant Propagator/Horticulturist. Both joined the staff at a time of great momentum and progress at PHA and their contributions have already been significant and appreciated.

Born and raised on Martha's Vineyard, Ben (pictured right) places a high value on what makes the Vineyard community unique. Involvement with the horticulture program at the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School fueled Ben's interest in plants that soon grew into a fullfledged career. He acquired experience in residential horticulture with various landscape companies. As his interest in plants and landscapes grew, PHA became one of his favorite places on the Island. Ben pursued his plant passion beyond high school graduating with an Associate of Science degree in landscape contracting



from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture. He went on to earn a BS in landscape architecture from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, graduating *cum laude*.



Brian (pictured left) started when the growing season was already in full swing but confidently took it in stride employing skills honed over years of pursuing his genuine passion: plants. Brian's experiences with plants are as broad as his interests. Most recently he was the assistant director of horticulture at Wave Hill, in New York City. His work as a restoration designer for Cape Cod-based Wilkinson Ecological Design, as well as his volunteer conservation work, attest to his dedication to ecologically sound practices. In

addition, Brian's formal education includes a master's degree from the Conway School of Landscape Design in Conway, Massachusetts, and a BS in plant and soil science from University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

## **Production Area Expanded**

Having a dedicated and experienced propagator on staff has enabled PHA to propagate and produce even more plants. It became apparent that more growing space was needed and in November staff and volunteers (pictured right) erected a new hoophouse that will be used for overwintering plants and as a growing space during the growing season.



# **Curation and Plant Records**

Curator Tom Clark and curatorial intern Victoria Stewart completed the curation of several areas including the Dogwood Allée and areas adjacent to the Homestead, Cow Barn and the plantings near the new Education Center and Botany Lab (currently under construction). The project involved reconciling data in PHA's plant records database with what actually exists in these areas; assessing the condition of each specimen within the area; updating the database with observations; and creating a management plan for each area. This curatorial project is the cornerstone of each curatorial internship and exposes each intern to a wide array of curatorial techniques and best management practices. The results inform better management practices of the living collection, future developments in these areas and decisions to deaccession plants.

The Dogwood Allée is a dramatic feature in the PHA landscape and a favorite of visitors when in full bloom in June. Twenty-eight kousa dogwoods arranged in two rows flank a central path that provides a long vista from the south end of the Arboretum toward the North Field. The value of this feature transcends its design and aesthetic value as it contains all eight of Polly Hill's original named *Cornus kousa* selections.

#### New Equipment Lightens the Load



In March, donated funds were used to purchase a Bobcat skid-steer loader. This versatile piece of equipment enables staff to complete a wide-range of tasks more efficiently and safely including moving large B&B (balled-and-burlapped) trees, turning compost piles, loading utility vehicles with bulky materials, and clearing snow from our driveways.

In addition, a grant from the Farm Neck Golf Foundation enabled PHA to purchase a walk-behind rototiller. This will be a tremendous asset in maintaining our in-ground nursery and in preparing new planting beds and maintaining existing ones.

#### PHA Interns and Internships

In June, two weeks after earning her BA in botany from Connecticut College, Victoria Stewart began her curatorial internship. Beyond her formal education, Tory completed a horticulture internship at the Arnold Arboretum in 2013 and worked as a curatorial/field assistant at the University of California's Center for Plant Diversity where she gained experience surveying rare plant populations, collecting herbarium specimens, and learning about curatorial practices in their herbarium—all skills that she employed as an intern at PHA.

At PHA she assisted with the on-going efforts to verify the living collection, gained hands-on experience working in the greenhouse and on the grounds, assisted with the mapping and recording of new plantings, and enthusiastically took on an independent project. Tory can trace her heritage to the Stewarts for whom the genus *Stewartia* is named. And therefore she has an understandable affinity for this genus of which PHA holds a nationally accredited collection.

For her stewartia-related project Tory used a monograph and identification key written by Stephen A. Spongberg (PHA Director Emeritus) and transformed it into a useful illustrated guide. Her revealing images of stewartia illuminate the technical language of botany resulting in an accessible and valuable resource. The results of her efforts can be seen at PHA's web-site at: http://www.pollyhillarboretum.org/plants/stewartias/.



(Pictured above) PHA interns Tory, Abby, and Jayne at Longwood Gardens

Tory completed her internship in December and is currently exploring full-time employment or other internship opportunities in the area of public garden curation and collections management.

Summer interns Abby Makowski and Jayne Boccella-Perras completed their 12-week horticulture internships on August 12. Each enjoyed gaining experience through working on a variety of tasks and projects ranging from general grounds maintenance to propagation to learning basic arboricultural techniques, all while gaining a broader understanding of the role that public gardens play in the world. Abby is currently a junior studying horticulture at

Michigan State University, and Jayne is completing her senior year at Temple University where she is studying horticulture.

# Crypt Gall Wasp

Black oak (*Quercus velutina*) is an important component of our Island's forests; 65 accessioned specimens are included in the living collection. In recent years cultivated and naturally occurring specimens have been impacted by crypt gall wasp (*Bassettia ceropteroides*) that has caused considerable die-back, and in some cases led directly or indirectly to the death of individual trees. PHA continues to maintain a collaborative relationship with Bartlett Tree Experts to monitor and study this insect in an effort to better understand its life cycle and the impact on individual trees in the

Arboretum's collection, and also to learn how the insect is effecting black oaks Islandwide as this species is a significant component of our woodland ecosystem. In July, entomologists Dr. Neil Hendrickson and Dr. Gretchen Pettis toured the Arboretum to conduct an on-site assessment of the black oaks. They met with staff and collected samples in an effort to gain a better understanding of the life history of this insect. Part of this study involves – on an experimental basis – insecticidal trunk injections to manage the pest and to determine the efficacy of such treatments. All agreed that the treated trees are faring better than untreated trees. The good news is that the overall population of this native insect is decreasing.

#### 2015 Weather Statistics



The lowest temperature recorded was -19.2°C on February 21, and the highest temperature recorded was 32.7°C on July 20. The most remarkable feature of the weather experienced in 2015 was the significant amount of snow that PHA received and the duration of cold weather. This anomalous weather pattern began with a major blizzard January 26-27 that left in excess of 50cm of snow and buffeted the Arboretum with powerful winds. April and May were quite dry but precipitation through the Summer was near average until late September when precipitation was above average. Beyond the colder than normal temperatures experienced in January, February and March, the remainder of the year was near or above average. The last two months of the year were noticeably warmer than average.

#### Temperature and precipitation summaries for 2015 recorded at PHA

	Monthly	Monthly
Month	<u>mean temp.</u>	precip.
January	-0.7°C	79.5mm
February	-4.4°C	58.7mm
March	0.8°C	111.8mm
April	8.1°C	27.4mm
May	15.1°C	11.9mm
June	17.6°C	74.2mm
July	21.8°C	65.5mm
August	22.4°C	77.2mm
September	19.2°C	84.8mm
October	12.2°C	159.3mm
November	9.5°C	82.0mm
December	9.1°C	120.1mm
	2015 Total	952.4mm

## Membership

This year PHA membership remains steady, averaging 650 to 700 members. Most new members join at the Visitor Center during their visit. Many are first-time visitors who come to purchase plants (pictured right), take a tour, or attend an education program and decide they want to support us. Others join to receive free admission and member discounts on merchandise and programs. Many join in support of our mission. Other favorite member benefits include our newsletter, *Meristems*; discounts at local nurseries;



and free admission and discounts at other gardens nationwide.

#### Adult Education



Our adult education programming, filled with tours, talks, and workshops, was very successful. This year most workshops sold out well in advance.

Vanishing Acts: Trees Under Threat, an outdoor traveling exhibit by the Morton Arboretum, was on display from March through June 30, 2015. This exhibit, designed to increase public awareness of the future of the world's endangered trees, was very well received.



Many of our summer programs addressed themes related to *Vanishing Acts*, focusing on trees, seeds, natural history, plant conservation, and the benefits of trees to society. Other programs included workshops on native island tree identification, an intensive introduction to Island grasses, insect identification, pruning, permaculture, herbal salvemaking, mushroom cultivation, and ecological landscaping.

Evening lectures, sponsored by local nurseries, featured four distinguished speakers: Ned Friedman from the Arnold Arboretum, Paul Redman from Longwood Gardens, Bill McNamara from Quarry Hill Botanic Garden in Glen Ellen, California, and Sir Peter Crane of the Yale School of Forestry. PHA staff Tim Boland, Tom Clark, and Ian Jochems also presented a program on their seed-collecting trips to the Ozarks and southeastern United States.

#### **Garden Tours**



In March a group of PHA members spent four days in Arizona visiting several botanic gardens. The theme "Gardens Thriving in the Desert," was a wonderful contrast to our cold New England winter! Based in Phoenix and Scottsdale, visits included the following: Desert Botanic Garden, Tohono Chul Park, Sonoran Desert Museum, and the Boyce Thompson Arboretum.

On-Island our fourth annual Martha's Vineyard Garden tour sold out well in advance and was once again a highlight of the summer. These tours are fun, educational, and also serve to raise funds for our general operating expenses.

#### Youth Education

Our youth education program continues to grow. Our spring programing was especially busy due to the exhibit *Vanishing Acts*. We served 940 students last spring: 603 participated in our usual spring programing, and an additional 337 visited for the special exhibit *Vanishing Acts*.

This summer we also added a Family Book Series. This story-time program featured the reading of a nature-based book, followed by a simple activity related to the book. This program, and our Family Backpack Tour were very popular with families.



#### Volunteer Program



In 2015, over 2,500 volunteer service hours were contributed to the Arboretum with volunteers being on site nearly every week of the year. In an effort to support our growing and dedicated volunteer roster, which now includes 75 active volunteers, the Arboretum has started using Volgistics, an online volunteer management program. This new program is capable of tracking

volunteer information including; schedules, contact information, interest, addresses, and hours of service. We are grateful for our robust volunteer program, a mutually beneficial program that continues to grow!

#### PHA Joins Global Tree Conservation Effort for Endangered Oaks

As a result of a continuing collaboration with the Morton Arboretum, Executive Director Tim Boland travelled with PHA research associate Matt Lobdell, and representatives from five botanical institutions to collect four rare oak species from the southeastern United States.



*Quercus ogelthorpensis* - Monticello Glade, Oconee National Forest, Georgia (pictured above)

The collaborative working group spent ten days making 91 collections that included the following: Arkansas oak (*Quercus arkansana*), Boynton oak (*Q. boyntonii*), Georgia Oak (*Q. georgiana*), and Oglethorpe oak (*Q. oglethorpensis*). All of these oaks represent species of conservation concern.

As part of this effort, a conservation assessment was carried out for each population encountered. The data

recorded included overall tree health, height, and any perceived threats to

the trees. Two former PHA interns (pictured right), Matt Lobdell, now head of collections/curator at the Morton Arboretum, and Catherine Meholic, now plant recorder at Mt. Cuba Center, participated on this trip.



#### Return to the Southeast for Native Rhododendron Conservation

In 2014, the Arboretum was awarded a \$2,500 grant from the Research Foundation of the American Rhododendron Society for a proposal submitted by PHA Curator Tom Clark titled "Assessing and Increasing the Genetic Diversity in Cultivation of Three Red-listed North American Rhododendrons: *R. eastmanii, flammeum* and *vaseyi.*"

Following a very successful expedition in 2014 to North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, Tom revisited the southeastern U.S. in October 2015 to continue this valuable conservation work. The project stems from the findings published in the Botanic Garden Conservation International (BGCI) Red List of Rhododendrons (2011) highlighting the fact that approximately 25 percent of the world's rhododendron species are of conservation concern, including the three subject taxa of this current project. The project directly supports PHA's conservation mission and our efforts to contribute to the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC). In particular, PHA has the capacity to help accomplish GSPC's Target 8: *At least 75% of threatened plant species are in ex-situ collections, preferably in the country of origin, and at least 20% available for recovery and restoration programs.* 

Hundreds of seedlings from the 2014 trip are in production and seed from the 2015 trip are germinating well. Seed from both trips were shared with peer institutions with a similar interest in rhododendron conservation and surplus seedlings will also be shared. In time, many of the young plants will find a home in PHA's West Woodland Garden, currently under development.

#### Botanical Surveys Contribute to the Flora of Martha's Vineyard

In September PHA research associate Melissa Cullina joined Executive Director Tim Boland on a three-day aquatic plant survey that included visits to Ox Pond Meadow in Edgartown, Chilmark Pond, and the Roth Woodlands wetland in Chilmark.



Melissa Cullina collecting at Ox Pond Meadow

The local aquatic and wetland flora are historically the most understudied group of plants on the Island. Melissa is an expert in the study and identification of plants within these communities.

Our primary focus is to identify rare plants and also record new location records for plants not previously reported on Martha's Vineyard.





**Roth Woodlands Aquatic Flora Study** 

Brook Watershed in Chilmark. The Arboretum

The Roth Woodlands (pictured right) are part of an extensive wetland that appears at the head of the Mill



Executive Director Tim Boland at the Roth Woodlands wetland

The wetland is a diverse shrub swamp with several woody plant species that include beetlebung (Nyssa sylvatica), red maple (Acer rubrum), winterberry (Ilex verticillata), and Maleberry (Lyonia ligustrina). The survey was performed twice, once in the early summer and again in early autumn. In both instances plants were collected, identified, and dried.

In total, the Arboretum collected 343 plant specimens this past year representing 129 taxa.

#### Non-Native Willow Species Examined by Experts



In July PHA hosted botanists Irina Kadis (Arnold Arboretum) and her husband, Alexey Zinovjev. The group also included Julia Kuzovkina, associate professor of plant science and landscape architecture at the University of Connecticut.

The trio (pictured left) has a special interest in non-native willows (*Salix*), and their hybridization, reproduction, and spread into New England landscapes.

Increasingly, these plants appear on Martha's Vineyard in numerous habitats. They are difficult to identify as solitary species given their ability to hybridize. The willows appear to be either the European rusty willow (*Salix atrocinerea*), gray willow (*S. cinerea*) or possible hybrids between these two species. The Arboretum is fortunate to be able to collaborate and call upon specialists who help can when identifying complex plant groups. We look forward to further collaborations in the future!

#### **IOS President Béatrice Chassé visits PHA**



International Oak Society President Béatrice Chassé (pictured left) visited the PHA in October. Executive Director Tim Boland arranged for several forays into Martha's Vineyard's natural areas in pursuit of acorns. The weather was superb and the acorns aplenty! All six oak species and three suspected hybrids were found.

Seeds were collected for her arboretum in southern France and for International Oak Society members attending the International Oak Conference at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois.

As part of her trip Beatrice presented a fantastic travelogue of her collection activities titled *Around the World in 80 Oaks!* Outlining the development of her collections she reflected on the same philosophies and practices as Polly: "Start plants from seed and plant them out small. You will have an interesting life if you pursue plants, and when plants fail, all is not lost! It creates an opportunity to try another!"

Following her visit to the Martha's Vineyard, Béatrice had a wonderful opportunity to spend two days in Boston visiting the collections and facilities of the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, and continued onto Mt. Auburn Cemetery to tour the magnificent trees at this historic landmark.

## **Education Center and Botany Lab Construction Underway!**

In 2016 the Arboretum will open its new Education Center and Botany Lab. The funds for this project were enabled and inspired by a \$500,000 matching grant from the Cedar Tree Foundation (CTF). The match, completed this past fall season, was the result of gifts from major donors, volunteers, membership, and a \$200,000 Massachusetts Cultural Council state grant. The state grant would not have occurred unless a majority of the funds had already been raised. The CTF grant made the dream of our new building a reality!



This new building will allow PHA to expand and advance many critical goals that were first set in place in our 2006

strategic plan. Our education programs will be expanded year-round, and we will also begin to reach the upper grade levels including high school students.

The building will also provide the lab and research space to support several projects we are currently involved with:

- The flora of Martha's Vineyard
- Forest ecology and climate change monitoring
- Collections verification using advanced curatorial techniques



Site of new Education Center and Botany Lab

Incorporated into the planning of the new project was the protection of our largest Japanese stewartia (*Stewartia pseudocamellia*). Portions of the old stone foundation were left in place to protect the root system. The trunk and canopy will benefit with the east wall of the building shifted an additional six feet to the west.

The building project broke ground this past September and construction has proceeded at a fast pace aided by a mild fall and winter season. The location of the new building is in the center of the Arboretum campus between the Arboretum office, the Homestead, and our guest quarters and library called the Cowbarn.

We continue to work on the interior design of the building and prepare the classroom facility which will comfortably hold 30 students with capacity up to 40.



#### **Board News**

In October of this past year, Arboretum Board Chairman Joan Margot Smith retired from the PHA board after many years of service. Joan's impact on the Arboretum cannot be understated. Joining the board after the passing of her husband, Arboretum co-founder Dr. David H. Smith, Joan has led with both pragmatic and philanthropic support. Joan has led in the best way, by example. Understanding the PHA's origins and mission, her ability to connect with people from membership to staff to board members would help guide our organization from its very foundation to its firm establishment. She has seen the Arboretum through the revision of by-laws, strategic planning, and the creation of a solid board and network of supporters.



A woman of diverse interests and talents, Joan takes great joy in both the people and programs of the Arboretum. Her infectious enthusiasm and delightful sense of humor are balanced by her determination to see PHA not only become established, but prosper. An accomplished artist and musician, Joan designed PHA's distinctive logo found everywhere from our stationary to our T-shirts!

Beyond her involvement with PHA, Joan is active in the stewardship of the family foundation David Smith established in 1990 – the Cedar Tree Foundation located in Boston, Massachusetts. The Arboretum has benefited by the support of the Cedar Tree Foundation (CTF) in project-based grants that have helped both spur donations and leverage matching support for our first endowment campaign (2007) and our new Education Center and Botany Lab (2015) currently under construction. Additionally CTF has been generous with additional grants for marketing, renewable energy developments, and renovations to our historic buildings.

Executive Director Tim Boland adds, "Joan has quietly but effectively led the Arboretum through a remarkable period of advancement. She understands the tremendous responsibilities not-for-profits have to their membership, community, and professional peers. She has been an absolute joy to work with, be around, and share in the amazing quality growth we have made. We expect to see Joan and her family in the years ahead enjoying the Arboretum that has prospered with her involvement."

Joan's last PHA board meeting was in October and at that time the PHA Board of Directors elected Hunter Moorman of West Tisbury to the chairmanship. Also at that time, Joan was recognized for her past leadership by being elected as a PHA honorary board member. Congratulations Joan!

#### Publications

"The Botanists Corner: Polly Hill Arboretum Receives Funding to Build New Education Center and Botany Lab." Timothy M. Boland. *Rhodora*, Vol. 117, No. 971, pp.391, 2015.

"Developing an Exemplary Collection: A Vision for the Next Century at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University." In press, Spring 2016, *Arnoldia*, the Magazine of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University. Volume 75, Number 1.

#### **Staff Presentations**

Tim Boland:

"Defining Native: MV Wildtype on Martha's Vineyard." Moderator for panel discussion after the lecture series. The American Public Garden Society (APGA) 2015 Native Plant Symposium, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Austin, Texas, March 19-20.

"In Search of Wild Seed – Ozark Adventures." Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College, special members lecture. April 9.

"Healing Fragmented Landscapes with Native Plants." Collaboration with the West Tisbury Library. April 18.

"Trees are the Answer! Cultivating Trees on Martha's Vineyard: Challenges and Opportunities." PHA Arbor Day Celebration. April 24.

"Trees are the Answer! Cultivating Trees on Martha's Vineyard: Challenges and Opportunities." Collaboration with the West Tisbury Library. April 25.

"Small Flowering Trees for Your Landscape." Collaboration with the West Tisbury Library. May 9.

"The ConServator: A Digital Flora of the Future." Presentation at the 120th Meeting of the New England Botanical Club. Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts. See attached (7). June 5-7.

#### **Staff Tours for Visiting Organizations**

Massachusetts Garden Club, Federation of Landscape Design Council - May 27

Arnold Arboretum Internship Participants - August 6

The Conway School - September 4

Cape Cod Natural History Group - September 19

Mount Auburn Cemetery - October 28

#### POLLY HILL ARBORETUM, Inc. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2014

#### ASSETS

Current assets:\$ 452,092Cash and cash equivalents\$ 452,092Investments1,299,920Pledges receivable36,050Inventory3,980Prepaid expenses20,000	$\frac{1}{2}$
Investments1,299,920Pledges receivable36,050Inventory3,980	$\frac{1}{2}$
Pledges receivable36,050Inventory3,980	) ) ) 2
Inventory 3,980	) <u>)</u> 2
•	2
1 10 paid expenses 20,000	_
1,812,042	2
Property and Equipment:	2
Land 2,377,23	
Building and improvements 3,868,30	
Furniture and fixtures 132,28	
Machinery and equipment 233,42	
6,611,24	
Accumulated Depreciation (1,551,356	
5,059,88	
Pledges Receivable 15,00	0
Restricted cash <u>9,52</u>	9
<u>24,52</u>	9
Endowment Assets:	
Endowment investments 18,903,58	36
Endowment pledges receivable	0
Endowment mortgage note receivable <u>616,70</u>	
<u>19,520,28</u>	<u>39</u>
TOTAL ASSETS \$ _26,416,74	<b>14</b>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses \$ 24,38	6
	_
Net Assets: Unrestricted 5,667,86	0
Temporarily restricted 7,303,10	
Permanently restricted 13,421,38	
26,392.35	
20,372.33	9
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS\$ _26,416,74	<u>4</u>

#### The Polly Hill Arboretum

# THE CORPORATION AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Timothy M. Boland, Ex Officio Sarah Griffin Pamela Kohlberg Gary Montrowl Hunter Moorman, President & Chairman Richard M. Reische Claire Sawyers E. Douglas Sederholm Lydia Hill Slaby, Treasurer Susan H. Wasserman, Secretary

#### HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Robert W. Doran Lisina M. Hoch Joan Margot Smith Philippe de Spoelberch Stephen A. Spongberg

#### **RESEARCH ASSOCIATES**

Melissa Cullina Jessica Dyson David R. Foster Matthew Lobdell Gregory Palermo

#### STAFF

Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director Jill Bouck, Youth Education Coordinator Tom Clark, Curator Barbara Conroy, Administrative & Financial Officer Betsy Dripps, Youth Education Coordinator Erin Hepfner, Visitor Services/Resource Specialist Ian Jochems, Horticulturist/Arborist Ben Madeiras, Horticulturist Brian McGowan, Plant Propagator/Horticulturist Karin Stanley, Education, Membership & Outreach Coordinator





Seed heads of Clematis 'Guernsey Cream'

The mission of the Polly Hill Arboretum is to perpetuate the experimental tradition in horticulture established by Polly Hill by sharing knowledge of plants and scientific procedure through educational programs, research, plant conservation, and exploration. The Arboretum seeks to preserve its meadows and woodlands, to promote an understanding of its collections, and to encourage their utilization for scholarship, observation, and the enjoyment of all.

