



THE HORT REPORT

NEWSLETTER OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF MARYLAND, INC. | MAY 2016

Gardening Just Enough for the City:

*Roland Park, Guilford &
Tuscany-Canterbury*

Join us for the 25th annual garden tour of the Horticultural Society of Maryland on Sunday, June 5.

Featuring exquisite properties in some of north Baltimore's loveliest neighborhoods, this year's walking tour takes visitors to seven gardens that showcase imaginative ways to create a serene horticultural sanctuary in the city.

From inventive container, rock and pocket gardens to magnificent backyard retreats filled with roses, rare plants, ponds and charming outdoor art, every space has been designed to provide a welcome refuge for reflection, relaxation and gracious entertaining.

The tour takes place rain or shine. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy and comfortable shoes.

As always, the tour is free to members of the Society. Members will find the tour booklet enclosed in this mailing. Those who buy tickets will be sent directions to the first garden where they will receive the booklet. Guest tickets may be purchased in advance on the HSM website—mdhorticulture.org—or at the stores listed on the right.



25th Annual
Horticultural Society
of Maryland
GARDEN TOUR

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016
10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.
RAIN OR SHINE

- MEMBERS admitted FREE with current membership card.
- NON-MEMBER tickets – \$35, if purchased in advance by June 4 at our website or at one of these locations: **Green Fields Nursery** on Falls Road in Baltimore City, **Kingsdene Nurseries** in Monkton, **Lovely Manors Garden Design Center** in Phoenix, **The Perennial Farm** in Glen Arm, **Clark's Ace Hardware** in Ellicott City and **Graul's Markets** in Ruxton, Mays Chapel and Hereford.
- NON-MEMBER tickets – \$40, day of tour, at first garden (103 Ridgewood Road, Baltimore, MD 21210).
- For more information, call 410-821-5561 or email: gardentour@mdhorticulture.org

Members who would like to volunteer for the tour, e-mail Nancy Blois, nsblois@gmail.com

2016 GARDEN TOUR SPONSORS

- A&A Tree Experts • Arbor Valley Tree Service • Betten Landscape Design • Cavano's Perennials. • Davey Tree & Lawn Care Experts • Gibson Landscape • Green Fields Nursery & Landscaping • Harvest Moon Landscaping • Lowry & Company • North Hill Tree Experts • The Perennial Farm • Pinehurst Landscape Company • Slater Associates • TDH Landscaping
- Media Sponsor WYPR 88.1 FM • Preview Sponsor The Eliasberg Family Foundation Inc.

PHOTOS: Ann Betten

COMING HSM EVENTS

ANNUAL TOOL DRIVE

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016
6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Bring donations of used or new garden tools to the Vollmer Center before the May lecture. Tools go to "tool libraries" for loan to community garden groups.

ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The 2016 tour will feature gardens in Roland Park, Guilford, and Tuscany-Canterbury. Details on page 1.

BUS TRIP

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2016

Bus trip to Chanticleer, two private gardens and a nursery in the greater Philadelphia area. **SOLD OUT**

ANNUAL PLANT & SEED SWAP

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

One-for-one swap - 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

2016 FALL LECTURE SERIES

Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 13

JOE TYCHONIEVICH

Plant Breeding for the Home Gardener

OCTOBER 11

BRUCE CRAWFORD

A Designer's Love Affair with Trees

NOVEMBER 8

ANDREA WULF

The Founding Gardeners

DECEMBER 13 – TBA

For more information, visit www.mdhorticulture.org

Lectures are held in the Vollmer Center auditorium at Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21209. Members are required to show a current membership card for admission to lectures. Guests of members also receive free admission.

HSM Honor Roll

We thank the following volunteers (members as well as non-members) who have supported the Society's programs in recent months.

For the January Plant Forum: Jennifer Forrence and Helene Clapperton, coordinators; Kate Blom, Muffin Evander and Scott Ritchie, presenters; Nancy Blois, Paula Campos, Pat Sherman and Donna Watts, hospitality; Catherine Cook and Nancy Raskin, registration; Jackson Lehman and Mary Jo Sherrod

For the PPA/HSM Winter Seminar: Mary Jo Sherrod, chair; Janet Draper; Nancy Raskin, emcee; Sally Barker, Helene Clapperton, Catherine Cook, Muffin Evander, Crystal Patterson, Pat Sherman and Paula A. Simon

For the Home and Garden Show: Peter Bieneman, Pat Sherman, Paula A. Simon, judges; and Nancy Raskin, award presentation

For the Garden Tour Committee: Nancy Raskin, chair; Ann Betten, Nancy Blois Anne Gossett, Nancy Grabowski, Donna Imhoff, Tanya Jones, Crystal Patterson and Shelley Wygant

For the Sponsorship Program: Sally Barker

For the Lecture Series Committee: Paula A. Simon and Mary Jo Sherrod, coordinators; Nancy Blois, Helene Clapperton, Muffin Evander and Carol Oppenheimer

For Meetings Hospitality: Donna Watts, Jennifer Forrence, Nancy Blois and Pat Sherman

For the Plant Raffle: Nancy MicKey and Mary Jo Sherrod

For the Communications Team: Pat Cieslak, telephone messages; Helene Clapperton, webmaster; Aaron Haslinger, web consultant, Carla Hackley, Facebook manager; Nancy Raskin, event coordinator; and John Fitzpatrick, January newsletter mailing

For the 2016 Membership Directory: Catherine Cook and Nancy Raskin. Bill Cook, Conor O'Hara and Andres Bonett helped with the mailing

For the January 2016 issue of The Hort Report: Melanie Moser, contributor; Paula A. Simon, photography; Joel Cohen and John Fitzpatrick, proofreaders



Members examine some impressive evergreen container plantings at this year's Plant Forum.

PHOTO: Paula A. Simon

Welcome New Members!

Elizabeth Betlejewski
Amanda Clay
Kirsten Coffen:
Garden Architecture
Paul Ferraro
Jeff Fillat
Seely Foley
Stanley Gabor

Marilyn Gabor
Eric Groft:
Oehme, van Sweden
Mary Ellen Hubbard
Anne Litke
Stephanie Litz:
Picea Garden Design
Hannah Magram
Ciro Martins

Carolyn Mullet:
Carex Tours
Beverly Ousley
Scott Ritchie
Kristin Rowles
Mary Scovanner
Kimberly Wolf
Milly Wolf
Yilin Zou

PLANT PROFILE

Daphne genkwa, Lilac Daphne

By John T. Fitzpatrick, Ph.D.

One of the most eye-catching plants in the Vollmer Center entrance garden is Lilac Daphne. From mid-March to early April, its wands of lilac blossoms draw visitors to take a closer look. All along the stems that grew the previous season, small clusters of flowers emerge before the leaves appear. The individual blossom is composed of a narrow tube terminating in four obtuse lobes. Lilac Daphne plants make a big cotton-candy statement. They grow to three or four feet high and wide. After they flower, elliptical leaves of a soft, gray-green color develop and stay in good condition until falling, with little change in color. The fruits, which I have not observed, are said to be grayish white and ellipsoidal.

The natural distribution of the species is in central, eastern and southern China and in Korea. It was introduced to cultivation by the notable British firm, Veitch Nurseries, which sponsored Robert Fortune, who brought the plant back in 1843. After it was lost in cultivation, Veitch sponsored Charles Maries to re-collect it, leading to the reintroduction in 1878. The curious specific epithet, *genkwa*, bears some explanation. It comes from the Chinese name for the plant, transliterated as *Yuan Hua*. Given a Japanese pronunciation, this sounds something like *genkwa*.

Advice regarding cultivation of the species is confused, with some authors insisting on near-neutral pH soils while others pooh-poo that notion. The requirements on which all appear to agree are a regular supply of water, excellent drainage and full sun. The species is considered short-lived for a shrub, perhaps 10 to 12 prime years, but it is not so temperamental as some other cultivated species of the genus—*DD. x burkwoodii*, *cneorum*, *mezereum* and *odora*—which are ill-famed for dying suddenly and inexplicably. In commerce, the plant is propagated by softwood cuttings.

Some visitors lean over to sniff the flowers of Lilac Daphne but pull back disappointed. Yes, this is a Daphne, but there's no fragrance! Some authors say that there is a sweet odor while others say there's not. Responding to the former, Michael Dirr writes: "I can smell a cheeseburger from three miles distant, but not this subtle fragrance with my nose pressed to the flowering branches." This lack of



Daphne genkwa, or Lilac Daphne, with purple or lavender blooms, is lovely to look at but not much to smell.

odor is unusual among Daphnes and it's not the only characteristic that sets *D. genkwa* apart from the others. Most of its leaves are opposite rather than alternate.

There has been one notable variety introduced in recent years, called the Hackenberry form. This is a more upright and fast-growing form that flowers heavily with pale lilac blossoms. It originated from plants that grew from wild-collected seed sent by the Beijing Botanic Garden to Don Hackenberry, a Pennsylvania plantsman. I believe that most of the plants now sold as Lilac Daphne are, in fact, the Hackenberry form. It is reported that white-flowered individuals are common in the wild but I am unaware that white forms are in commerce in the United States. At one time, a variety with blossoms twice as large as usual was offered by Roslyn Nurseries, now sadly out of business. There are opportunities to develop a range of cultivated varieties of this showy flowering shrub. When you get to know Lilac Daphne, I think that you will join me in looking forward to new varieties of it for our gardens.

SOURCES:

RareFind Nursery (www.rarefindnursery.com) 732-833-0613
Forest Farm at Pacifica (www.forestfarm.com) 541-846-7269
Wayside Gardens (www.waysidegardens.com) 800-845-1124

Dr. Fitzpatrick is an adjunct faculty member in the landscape architecture program at Morgan State University. He designed the Vollmer Center entrance garden, which includes Daphne genkwa.

Flora for Birds and Bees: Making Way for 'Wildlife Corridors'



By Nancy Taylor Robson

Imagine that you're about to bicycle cross-country from Baltimore to San Francisco. Now imagine that there is just one place—say, an obscure town outside Wichita, Kansas—where you will find food, water and shelter. That's akin to what a host of species, including monarch butterflies, birds and other key pollinators, face today. Where there once were flourishing corridors of native and naturalized plants that provided habitat for wildlife, there are now fragmented bits hemmed in by cities, shopping malls, highways and suburban developments with acres of lawn.

"Our activities unfortunately destroy a lot of wildlife habitat," says David Mizejewski, naturalist for the National Wildlife Federation and author of *Attracting Birds, Butterflies and Other Backyard Wildlife*.

While we can't turn back the clock, gardeners can each do something to help turn back the destructive tide and have a positive—and beautiful—impact.

"Because gardens are...groups of plants, they also have the potential to perform the same essential biological roles fulfilled by healthy plant communities everywhere," says University of Delaware entomologist Doug Tallamy, in his book, *Bringing Nature Home*. Tallamy, who urges each gardener to devote at least half of his or her planted space to natives, knows it works. He and his wife, Cindy, bought a suburban house and lawn in lower Pennsylvania 15 years ago that boasted the occasional sparrow. Within a couple of years, it had become a wildlife haven thanks to the wide variety of trees and herbaceous plants they planted, including Oak (*Quercus*), Willow (*Salix*), Crabapple (*Malus*), Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia*), Evening Primrose (*Oenothera*), Bee Balm (*Monarda*), Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), Joe Pye Weed (*Ageratina*, formerly *Eupatorium*) and Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*).

"We all need to be planting for wildlife in our own back yards," says Robin Efron, certified horticulturist and Master Naturalist at Adkins Arboretum in Ridgely. "If in housing developments, we did that, we would be creating wildlife corridors."

In general, wildlife needs food, water, cover and a place to raise young. Plants comprise a big portion of those requirements, but we need to be informed about what is best to plant for what we want to attract, says Efron. Adkins' monarch butterfly way station offers native Goldenrod (*Solidago*) and Aster (*Symphoricarpos*), both late season nectar sources, but is predominantly perennial Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*), the monarchs' primary host flower.

"If you're going to do it, do it so it truly helps," says Efron.

What helps is native and naturalized plant diversity, which is striking visually as well as ecologically rich.

"For example, Goldenrod and Aster together are beautiful and produce many more pollinators than just one swath of one or the other," says Robin Wall Kimmerer, Professor of Environmental and Forest Biology at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse. "It's the combination."

Corridors enable wildlife to move through one area to another to mate in another gene pool, which helps to keep a species healthy and is critical to its long-term survival. The great thing is, you can plant your piece of corridor without sacrificing beauty, magic or the power to astonish the neighbors. Gregg Tepper, former director of horticulture at Mount Cuba Center in Hockessin, Del., says beauty is definitely part of the equation.

"We'll be focusing on the beauty of the plantings," says Tepper, now the director of horticulture at Delaware Botanic Gardens, which is being established along Pepper Creek at Dagsboro. "People will come to see the beautiful flowers and textures, but beauty is [also] the ability to support life. And from that standpoint, it's going to be truly a beautiful place."

Tepper has 37 acres to work with. But for those of us with less, think: English garden. Appreciation for that denser, multi-layered beauty, coupled with an understanding of the many benefits of regional natives and naturalized plants, can not only amaze the neighbors but also produce a beneficial cascade.

Kevin Small, director of planning for Bel Air, was inspired to create a sustainability plan for the city—approved in 2013—by what he saw in his neighbor Deborah Wrobel's yard.



At the Washington home of David Mizejewski and Justin Wolfe, a beautiful and inviting mix of Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*) is backed by Anise Hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*) and white-bloomed Mountain Mint (*Pycnanthemum virginianum*), both of which bees love. In fact, there's a bee in the Mountain Mint.



Looking toward the house we see the bright leaves of Raspberry (*Rubus*) and the Anise Hyssop. Beyond that is Catmint (*Nepeta*) just starting to trail over the bed's curb with another Hyssop beyond that. Justin Wolfe is bent over in the background tending a plum tomato plant. Purple Wave Petunias are used at nose height in a cone-shaped basket and near the back stairs because, David says, "I love the way they smell."



Looking from the house there is a water feature in front of the aforementioned tomato and Hyssop. A simple water container holds Pickerel Weed (*Pontederia cordata*), Dwarf Cattail (*Typha minima*) and *Iris versicolor*. Just to its side is a tiny bog garden of varied Pitcher plants (*Sarracenia*).

"It's very much of a natural habitat," says Small. "They do a lot of stuff for cover for birds, for food, and water."

"We don't have much room," says Wrobel, dean of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics at Harford Community College. "A third of an acre. But we wanted a yard that would be a habitat. We also believe in minimal impact on the Chesapeake Bay."

In support of Harford County's effort, the National Wildlife Federation offers a Wildlife Habitat certification program.

"One of the things we wanted to do is to recognize folks who in their backyards would create a wildlife habitat," Small explains. "We assist them with information on how they could become certified—for certain kinds of things, for wildlife, color, whatever. There's a plaque when you're certified."



Nancy Taylor Robson is a freelance garden writer, author and Master Gardener. She lives in Galena on the Eastern Shore.

PHOTOS: David Mizejewski

SUGGESTED READING:

- Douglas W. Tallamy, *Bringing Nature Home* (Timber Press)
- Richard Louv, *Last Child in the Wood* (Algonquin Press)
- Richard Louv, *The Nature Principle* (Algonquin Press)
- William Stolzenburg, *Where the Wild Things Were* (Bloomsbury)
- David S. Wilcove, *No Way Home* (Island Press)
- David Mizejewski, *Attracting Birds, Butterflies and Other Backyard Wildlife* (National Wildlife Federation)
- Carolyn Summers, *Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East* (Rutgers University Press)
- Catherine Zimmerman, *Urban and Suburban Meadows* (Matrix Media Press)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

DOUG TALLAMY'S BEST BETS FOR THE US MID-ATLANTIC REGION
<http://www.bringingnaturehome.net/what-to-plant.html>

BAY WISE GARDENING

<https://extension.umd.edu/baywise>

<http://www.belairmd.org/216/Wildlife-Gardens>

<http://www.delawaregardens.org>

<http://www.nwf.org/How-to-Help/Garden-for-Wildlife/Gardening-Tips/Tipsheets.aspx>



Henry J. Hohman: Maryland's Master Nurseryman

By Harry Merritt

Half a century ago this spring, the Garden Club of America awarded its highest honor to Maryland's Henry J. Hohman, one of the giants of ornamental horticulture.

The GCA Gold Medal of Honor, for "outstanding service to horticulture," was one of many awards that Hohman (1895-1974), the owner of Kingsville Nursery, received during a 60-year career. In 1973, the year before he died, the Royal Horticultural Society presented Hohman with the greatest honor of all, its gold Veitch Memorial Award.

The citation, by RHS President Lord Aberconway, called Hohman "the most distinguished nurseryman in America—distinguished in the sense that anything others can grow he can grow better, and he grows...a great many more and different plants that other people [in America] cannot grow. Thus they are preserved in cultivation."

It is overstating matters only a little to say that trees and shrubs were Henry Joseph Hohman's life. Born in Baltimore, Dec. 18, 1895, he began gardening as a boy, winning a \$5 gold piece for his efforts in a contest in 1912, according to a Baltimore *Sun* article from April 1966. Hohman was still in his teens when he went to work for a nursery in Baltimore. In 1921, he opened Kingsville Nursery on 40 acres in eastern Baltimore County.

In his first few decades in business, Hohman was much involved with horticulture at the state level, serving as president of the Maryland Nurserymen's Association in 1935 and 1936 and as a member of the plant selection committee for the arboretum at the University of Maryland in College Park in 1941. He was a founder of the Maryland Holly Society and president of the old Maryland Horticultural Society.

Hohman earned enormous respect for his knowledge and skill with plants, drawing customers from a wide area, first from Baltimore and Washington, later from other states

and Europe. He propagated plants for Longwood Gardens and the National Arboretum, among many others, and donated Hollies to Cylburn Arboretum.

"He was a wonderful guy," said HSM member Jack Lowry of Lowry & Co. nursery in Phoenix. "Very, very highly respected."

Around the time of the RHS award, Joseph Alsop, a prominent Washington columnist and a longtime Kingsville client, visited the nursery for an article that appeared in the Baltimore *Sun* and newspapers nationwide. He described the nursery as "a vast, half-impenetrable jungle of wildly assorted vegetation," with 11,000 species and varieties of trees and shrubs, including about 1,000 of *Azalea* and 200 of *Buxus*.

Buxus, or Boxwood, was one of Hohman's strong interests. He popularized *Buxus microphylla* 'Compacta,' often referred to as 'Kingsville Dwarf.' The first bonsai at the National Arboretum was a Hohman-grown *B. microphylla* 'Compacta.' When garden designer Rachel "Bunny" Mellon was planning the White House Rose Garden in the early 1960s, she chose Kingsville's low-growing *B. microphylla* 'Green Pillow.' There is also a *B. microphylla* 'Henry Hohman.'



Henry J. Hohman visited Hershey Gardens in 1971. He donated a collection of over 400 varieties of conifers, Boxwoods, Hollies and other evergreen plants to the gardens.

Alsop planted eight species or cultivars of Kingsville Nursery boxwoods at his Georgetown home, including, he wrote, a dwarf “with a curiously lacy habit of growth,” “a new strain...that is wall-growing,” and another “with the gnarled growth habits of Japanese dwarf trees.”

The American Boxwood Society’s Memorial Garden, at the State Arboretum of Virginia in Boyce, is dedicated to Hohman and the late John T. Baldwin of the College of William and Mary. The garden is planted with more than 150 species and varieties of Boxwood.

Another of Hohman’s Washington customers was George C. McGhee, a high-ranking official in the State Department. McGhee, who was planting an arboretum at his Farmer’s Delight estate in Loudoun County, Virginia, went to see Hohman. “He was cantankerous, so I’d try to butter him up,” McGhee recalled in an interview with *The Washington Post* in 1997. “But more often than not, when I’d say I’d like to have that one or another, he’d reply, ‘Oh, this one is not for sale’ or ‘I couldn’t let that one go.’” Still, McGhee managed to buy 23 conifers, including several cultivars introduced by Hohman.

Sidney and Jean Silber—names well known to many HSM members—bought Kousa Dogwoods from Hohman for their splendid garden on the outskirts of Baltimore. According to a January 2003 *Baltimore Style* article, Sidney Silber was awestruck when he visited Kingsville Nursery for the first time in 1960. “I had never seen so much *Rhododendron* before,” Silber said.

Hohman also developed varieties of *Ilex*, or Holly, and was the co-author, with Fred Galle, of *Evergreen Hollies for the South*. “He introduced a lot of species,” said Bill Kuhl, the owner of McLean Nurseries in Parkville, who bought plants from Kingsville in the early 1970s. “We still grow ‘Cheerful’” (*Ilex opaca* ‘Cheerful’) at McLean, Kuhl said.

“The genetics [of Hohman’s creations] live on in Hollies such as ‘Mary Nell,’” Kuhl said. This Holly was developed in 1962 by Joe McDaniel at Tom Dodd Nurseries in Semmes, Ala. He crossed Hohman’s *Ilex cornuta* ‘Burfordii’ x *I. pernyi* ‘Red Delight’, with *Ilex latifolia*, Lusterleaf Holly. Another Holly, *Ilex* x *koehneana* (*latifolia* x *I. aquifolium*) ‘Hohman Holly,’ was named in the nurseryman’s honor.

Some of the plants Hohman grew were extremely rare. He was instrumental in propagating *Elliottia racemosa*, Georgia Plume, a shrub native to Georgia that was on the verge of extinction. Hohman, according to a 1969 issue of *Arnoldia*, published by Harvard University’s Arnold Arboretum, had two *Elliottia* plants at his nursery. He gave one *Elliottia* to

A complete list of the trees, shrubs and other plants hybridized, introduced or popularized by Henry Hohman or associated with his or Kingsville Nursery’s name might fill several pages.

Here are just a few:

Acer palmatum ‘Kingsville Red’ – A Japanese Maple, “vigorous, hardy and upright...with bright red-purple leaves,” according to J.D. Vertrees and Peter Gregory, *Japanese Maples: The Complete Guide to Selection and Cultivation*.

Acer palmatum ‘Kingsville Variegated’ – A Japanese Maple with deep-green or blue-green leaves, with variegations of white or pink that turn deep rose in fall.

Cornus florida ‘Hohman’s Golden’ – A Dogwood with leaves that have “bright yellow margins,” according to Donald Wyman, *Wyman’s Garden Encyclopedia*.

Cytisus battandieri, or Pineapple Broom, has bright yellow “candlestick flowers that smell like pineapple only better,” *The Washington Post*’s Henry Mitchell wrote in 1985. “It was a favorite plant of...Henry Hohman, who was forever calling our attention to its virtue and its surprising hardiness.”

Ilex cornuta ‘Burfordii’ x *I. pernyi* ‘Red Delight’, a Holly named and introduced by Hohman.

Ilex crenata ‘Kingsville Dwarf’ – A dwarf *Ilex crenata latifolia*, discovered in Maryland in 1912, bought by Kingsville in 1926 and introduced later.

Ilex crenata ‘Kingsville Green Cushion,’ an edging type of Japanese Holly.

Ilex opaca ‘Cheerful’, a female Holly that is dense and compact.

Pieris japonica ‘Dorothy Wyckoff’, or Japanese Andromeda, a compact, rounded shrub with reddish-purple buds that produce white flowers. It was registered by Hohman in 1960.

Rhododendron ‘Hohman Satsuki Azalea’. Compact, low-growing, orange or red blossoms.

Tsuga canadensis ‘Kingsville Fastigiata,’ described by Laurence C. Hatch in *Cultivars of Woody Plants: Taxodium, Thuja and Tsuga*, as “narrowly upright, branches very short, not very distinct with age.”

Tsuga canadensis ‘Kingsville Spreader,’ a compact Eastern Hemlock.

Continued on page 8

2016 PPA/HSM Winter Seminar

This year's seminar was noted by some as the best yet! Here are a few snapshots from the event.



Clockwise from top left: Speaker Karl Gercens tantalized the group with his inspirational tales of travel on behalf of Longwood Gardens; Sidney Silber Scholarship recipient Yilin Zou having a book signed by speaker Thomas Rainer; Dr. Michael Sherlock, Jennifer Sherlock and Naomi Goldstick Rosner; members Ann Madden, Darlene Wells and Dorrie Wilfong at the morning break.

PHOTOS: Stephany Stockton and Paula A. Simon

Henry J. Hohman

Continued from page 7

the arboretum, and grew more from the donated plant's remaining roots.

In 1967, Hohman gave a collection of 400 varieties of conifers, Boxwoods, Hollies and other evergreen plants to Hershey Gardens in Pennsylvania. The collection grows in a section of the gardens dedicated to Hohman. He also donated "50 or 60 varieties" of Japanese Maples, said John Meszaros, the gardens' former director of horticulture.

In an oral history interview for the Hershey Community Archives, Meszaros recalled his trip to see Hohman. "He had a collection of unusual plants ... so we went down to see Mr. Hohman and he was glad. We got 400 varieties of evergreen plants, and among that, I would say there were probably 25 varieties of hemlock. ... Twenty-five varieties of hemlock and other numbers of varieties of

plants, boxwood and so forth, which is unheard of."

By the early 1970s, Henry Hohman was in failing health. He died July 25, 1974, in a Baltimore area nursing home. His widow, Elizabeth, and the staff operated Kingsville Nursery for a short time, then it went out of business, said HSM member David Thompson.

The British Embassy in Washington acquired some of the trees and shrubs, said Thompson, who owns Foxborough Nurseries Inc. in Street.

In 1975, Elizabeth Hohman sold the last plants her husband propagated to Thompson, then a recent University of Maryland graduate. "I got everything left in the greenhouse, his last cuttings," some growing in clay pots, others in tomato soup cans, Thompson said. "I cleaned out his propagation house."



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MEMBERSHIP

For information about membership or to join, visit the society's website: www.mdhorticulture.org or telephone Catherine Cook at 410-821-5561.

Benefits of Membership

Newsletters and membership directory; admission to the spring and fall lectures and the annual garden tour; and discounts on workshops, trips and special events.

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