



HOUSE & GARDENS

Music Blooms at VVH&G in the Springtime

A feast for music lovers will be presented in three courses this spring at Van Vleck House & Gardens. Our traditional Mother's Day Concert will be held rain or shine on Sunday, May 9, from 1 to 2 p.m. Bring a picnic lunch and spread a blanket on the south lawn while you enjoy the sounds of a classical concert by musicians from the New Jersey Philharmonic Orchestra framed by the visual splendor of the wisteria in bloom.

Bracketing the Mother's Day Concert are two performances by the State Repertory Opera of New Jersey. In collaboration with The Montclair Foundation, the SRO will present Sunday Afternoons at the Opera on April 25, 5 to 7:30 p.m., and May 23, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Dazzling Divas, the April 25 performance, will feature two sopranos and two mezzo-sopranos singing arias, duets, trios, and quartets to piano accompaniment. Wine and food will be served. On May 23, cabaret performer Peter J. Oliff will sing Broadway songs of composer Stephen Schwartz, accompanied by jazz pianist Peter Nilsen. Wines, cheeses, and a Viennese table will be included in the event.

Both Sunday Afternoons at the Opera are fundraisers for SRO. The suggested donation is \$10 per person. Call SRO for reservations at 973-763-7969. For additional information, check www.vanvleck.org or www.njsro.com.



Eager gardeners peruse the abundance of plant specimens arrayed behind the courtyard of Van Vleck House at the 2009 Spring Plant Sale.

Annual Fundraiser Spotlights Heirlooms and Hellebores Spring Plant Sale Saturday, May 1 Don't Miss the Preview Party on Friday, April 30!

It's the glorious month of May! Come out and celebrate with us, rain or shine, and support the annual Van Vleck House & Gardens Plant Sale on Saturday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free and plants go fast, so line up early for the best selection!

To keep things fresh and green, Plant Sale Co-Chairs Joyce O'Brien and Marcia DeOteris have been working closely with local greenhouses to bring you exciting new selections for 2010. This year we will be offering an extensive array of **heirloom tomatoes** and **hellebores with flashy flowers**, as well as great **spring-blooming perennials** that will give your garden instant pizzazz.

As always, the Preview Party on Friday evening, April 30, will be a fun night to dress down, drink up, and get an early-bird opportunity to buy those plants. Once again the Plant Sale will be conveniently located on the main terrace, making it easy to enjoy the party festivities and shop at the same time. Additionally, this year's Auction will be **All About Plants!** Be prepared to bid on gorgeous garden design packages, unusual trees and bushes, and exotic floral arrangements. Being a Friend of Van Vleck House & Gardens has its privileges, so be sure to take advantage of this fantastic buying opportunity to support Van Vleck.

The educated consumer is our best customer. Get a jump start on the sale by browsing early at our website, www.vanvleck.org, where most of our Plant Sale inventory will be posted. We have invited local expert gardeners, designers, and landscapers to attend the sale to help you make educated plant-buying decisions.

Don't forget Mother's Day is just around the corner on May 9. Browse for a gift for Mom or for that special accessory for your garden in the Van Vleck Garden Boutique. Conveniently located in the Van Vleck House, the Boutique will feature fabulous items from The Garden Cottage.

As always, all visitors to the sale are invited to enjoy a tranquil stroll through the elegant, yet understated gardens that were lovingly developed over the past century by three generations of the Van Vleck family. Among the many springtime highlights is the fragrant and colorful Chinese wisteria that entwines the columns on the rear terrace. When the wisteria is in bloom, typically in early May, clusters of blue-purple flowers cascade dramatically, scenting the air and creating a magical display.

Van Vleck volunteers are greatly appreciated and are essential to the success of the Plant Sale. Anyone interested in volunteering either on the sale day or before, please email Shea Malloy at shea@corrtech.com.

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FROM THE GARDENS...

Ancient trunks now engulf the outermost Doric columns of Van Vleck House's courtyard. Their twining gray stems reach up through the wrought-iron balcony railing, softening the lines of classically inspired architecture. The plant's tight hold emphasizes the intimate connection between the house and its surrounding gardens.

Dormant silhouettes are overwhelmingly beautiful, but rapidly swelling buds will soon transform the bare skeleton. By early May, dense lavender racemes of flowers become the highlight of the garden. As blossoms drop, pinnately compound leaves expand in lush abundance. Later, stiff velvety pods split to expel glossy brown seeds.

These massive specimens were planted by Howard Van Vleck in 1939. While they were still young and supple, he guided them in opposite directions around their respective columns. *Wisteria sinensis* (Chinese wisteria) naturally twines counterclockwise, a means of distinguishing it from *W. floribunda* (Japanese wisteria), which twines clockwise. During the past seven decades these vines have matured as they witnessed the growth of the Van Vleck family. While continuing to offer us a stunning display year after year, they increasingly show signs of structural problems.

I remember gathering seeds from the terrace in February, 2006. Soon numerous seedlings were sprouting in the greenhouse. They grew quickly, reaching with their long, vigorous tendrils. In about fourteen years, our seedlings should produce their first flowers. As we plan for the future of our courtyard, we establish the next generation near an inner set of columns. There, we intend to replicate the opposite twining of the parent plants.

Grafting is more challenging, but offers several advantages. This technique shortens the interminable gap between germination and maturity by attaching a piece of mature plant to the rootstock of a seedling. The resulting clone preserves the original plant's ability to bloom as well as maintaining identical characteristics. Joining severed plant parts to each other takes skill, experience, precision fit, and proper timing. We attempt to preserve our gorgeous specimens by grafting mature branches onto some of the seedlings in our cold frame. I line up the cambium layers and nervously hope for callus tissue to form.

Gardens must be regularly updated to avoid devastating transformation as key features simultaneously reach the end of their life spans. Periodic introduction of young plants is essential to the longevity of the garden as a whole. How can we best preserve the feel of this historic garden? Sentimental attachment, historical value, and horticultural excellence influence our vision for the future.

— Laura Roberts, Garden Manager

SAVE THE DATE!

Spring Celebraton for Families

Join the staff and volunteers of Van Vleck House & Gardens as the season of spring begins to unfold. Activity stations and displays focusing on "greening" your home garden will include composting, seed starting, native plants, wildlife habitats, and much more. What better way to celebrate Earth Day's 40th Birthday than with your family in the exquisite gardens of Van Vleck, reconnecting with the natural world.

Date: Saturday, April 17 Time: 1 to 3 p.m.

Fee: \$15 per family early registration/\$20 per family registration day of

special 20% discount for Friends of Van Vleck



I know! I know! Kindergarten and first grade students from Ann St. School in Newark attend the Nature Connections Field Trips at Van Vleck Gardens.

Children's Education Offerings

Garden Discoveries Pre-Kindergarten Classes

Garden Discoveries classes are designed to inspire children to explore the natural world around them. Since each child learns in a different way, every class examines one topic through stories, outdoor exploration, and hands-on activities and specimens. Classes are held twice a month, and each class has individual registration. Parents, grandparents, or caregivers must accompany each child. Dress for the weather-classes are held rain or shine.

Dates and Topics:

April 7	Animal Find
April 21	Treasures from Trash
May 5	Plant Pals
May 19	Flower Find
June 2	Insect Safari
June 16	Wiggly Worms

Time: 1:15 to 2 p.m.

Age: 3 to 5 years

Fee: \$7 per child for Friends
\$12 per child for others

Backyard Birders Club

Looking for ways to unplug your child and encourage outdoor exploration this spring? Join experienced birder Deborah DeSalvo as she brings an after-school Beginner Birding Series to the Van Vleck Gardens. This series will be offered in groups of three on Wednesday afternoons. Each class will include a lesson, a guided hike, and a bird-related game or activity.

Dates: April 7, 14, 28
May 5, 12, 19
June 2, 9, 16

Time: 4 to 4:45 p.m.

Age: Grades 3 to 5

Fee: \$30 per month for Friends
\$36 for others (3 classes)

SAVE THIS DATE TOO!

Sunset SENSEations Friday, July 23, 2010

Spend a summer evening with your family in the beautiful gardens of Van Vleck as you learn about the nocturnal world and the importance of keeping our environment clean and healthy.

A New Year for Nature Connections Field Trip Program

Once again this spring students from Ann St. School in Newark will be visiting Van Vleck House & Gardens for hands-on, interactive field trips to the wonderful world of plants. Each class will be guided by trained docents through various activity stations sited among the gardens and greenhouse of Van Vleck. Exploring science in the outdoors is not only an exciting and fun way to learn, but it will enhance concepts discussed in the classroom through experiential learning. This program is made possible with generous support from the Turrell Fund and the Bloomingdales' Fund. If you are interested in participating as a volunteer guide for this program, please contact Michelle Wiessner at education@vanvleck.org or call 973-744-0837.

Adult Education Opportunities: Something for Everyone

Horticultural & Environmental

Organic Lawn Care for the Homeowner

David Daehnke, The Gardening Guru, will help us discover the secrets of having a beautifully green, organic lawn that is safe for your family and pets. Learn how to properly fertilize your grass and conquer weeds and insects.

Date: Wednesday, March 31
Time: 7 to 9 pm
Fee: \$12 per class for Friends
\$15 for others

Contact the Adult School of Montclair for payment and registration:

www.adultschool.org.

Dividing Perennials

Join Laura Roberts, Garden Manager of Van Vleck House & Gardens, for a hands-on workshop in perennial division. Learn how easy it is to make more plants from the ones you already have, to share with friends or help expand your own garden. Each participant will leave with divisions of various plants from the Van Vleck property.

Date: Thursday, April 8
Time: 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Fee: \$12 per class for Friends
\$15 for others

Contact the Adult School of Montclair for payment and registration:

www.adultschool.org.

Basic Birding for Adults

Experienced birder Deborah DeSalvo will discuss the basics of bird watching and lead us in a guided birding hike through the gardens of Van Vleck. Learn about field marks, songs, and behaviors of birds, and maybe even begin your birding life list.

Date: Saturday, April 10
Time: 9:00 to 10:30 am
Fee: \$12 per class for Friends
\$15 for others

Basic Rhododendron Care

Your rhododendrons have bloomed...now what? Take a walk with Laura Roberts, Garden Manager, as we discuss basic care of rhododendrons. Laura will cover pruning and maintenance as well as common pests and diseases associated with these magnificent plants.

Date: Wednesday, June 9
Time: 6:30 to 9:00 pm
Fee: \$12 per class for Friends
\$15 for others

House Plant Clinic

Revitalize your problematic house plants. Join Laura Roberts, Garden Manager of Van Vleck House & Gardens, for a brief discussion and hands-on workshop exploring basic house plant care. Each participant can bring up to 2 plants to the workshop.

Date: Thursday, June 17
Time: 6:30 to 8:00 pm
Fee: \$12 per class for Friends
\$15 for others

Special Interest

There are many different ways to experience all that Van Vleck House & Gardens has to offer. Not only do our exquisite gardens serve as a resource for horticultural knowledge, but also as a natural sanctuary for enhancing the body, mind, and soul.

Monday Morning Yoga with Jillian Pransky

Begin each week with an inspiring yoga class taught by Jillian Pransky in the most magnificent environment: the living room of the Van Vleck House overlooking the garden. Classes are open to all levels and blend slow-flow vinyasa with mindful alignment for a deep workout inside and out. Special attention and modifications are offered to each student while emphasizing alignment, awareness of breath, and building preliminary tone and flexibility while safely opening the body. Jillian provides each student with the guidance needed to develop a safe and beneficial yoga practice both on the mat and out in life. *Please bring your own mat!*

Dates: Mondays, April 5 through June 7 (no class on May 31)
Time: 9:30 to 10:45 am
Fee: \$18 per class for Friends
\$20 for others
5-class pass: \$80 for Friends
\$90 for others
10-class pass: \$150 for Friends
\$170 for others

Tea and a Tour

Treat yourself to an afternoon at the Van Vleck Gardens! Join members of the VVH&G staff for a cup of tea on the terrace behind the house, overlooking the beautiful courtyard garden. Then stroll the grounds with Garden Manager Laura Roberts for an informal tour of the gardens.

Tea on the Terrace will be offered on the second Tuesday of each month through September, beginning April 13, from 1 to 2:30 pm, in fair weather only. Reservations are required, and we suggest a donation of \$5 per person. Please call the Van Vleck office at 973-744-4752 for reservations or information.

Dates for Tea on the Terrace:
April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13,
August 10, September 14.

Spring Emerging

Fall in love with watercolor when you join one of Montclair's premier artists, Sharon Pitts, for Sunday-afternoon instruction in the garden. Classes will be held rain or shine.

Dates: 4 Sundays, April 11 through May 2
Time: 1 to 3 pm
Fee: \$100 for Friends
\$120 for others (4 classes)

Flowers and Light

Join area photographer Andy Cohen in our first and very own photography club as you explore the beauty of flowers and form in the garden. Open to beginners and experienced photographers. All equipment platforms welcomed. Class will meet rain or shine.

Dates: 5 Saturdays; call us for dates at 973-744-4752
Time: 10 am to 12 noon
Fee: \$100 for Friends
\$120 for others (5 classes)

The Morning Garden

Join Catherine Kinkade in a hands-on meditative class en plein air to catch the morning light in the beautiful gardens of Van Vleck throughout the month of June. This series is open to artists at all levels, and those who like to start the day quietly. Catherine Kinkade is an accomplished landscape painter and a Master Pastelist of the Pastel Society of America. Her work has been exhibited all over the world. Please call 973-744-4752 for more information on this series.



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Wellness in the Garden

Saturday, June 5, 2010

A full-day retreat offering yoga, meditation, and more



Morning in Van Vleck Gardens inspired Susan Marx's vivid pastel en plein air.

Save the Dates

Spring Celebration
Saturday, April 17
1 to 3 pm

2010 Spring
Plant Sale
Saturday, May 1
9am to 4pm
Rain or shine

Plant Sale
Preview Party
Friday, April 30
6 to 9pm

Plant Sale
Garden Boutique
Friday, April 30
Saturday, May 1

Cats in the Garden
Sunday, June 6
12 noon to 3 pm

Roses to Rock Gardens
Friday, June 11
Saturday, June 12
11 am to 4 pm
Rain or shine

Sunset SENSE-ations
Friday, July 23
6:30 to 8:30 pm

Thank You for All You Do

This year's annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch in December was a great success. The highlight of the morning was a captivating presentation on the history of the house and gardens by Bill Treene. A good time was had by all — tasty food, great company, and interesting conversation.

Thank you to those who generously volunteered their time at Van Vleck in 2009. Your time and commitment are greatly appreciated to help keep Van Vleck vital and operating. We look forward to seeing everyone at our spring Volunteer gathering, where we will meet outside in the garden. Details to follow. If you are interested in volunteering this spring, please see the Volunteer section on the Van Vleck website or call Shea Malloy at 973 680-0230.



The Van Vleck Gardens reflect winter's quiet splendor.

From Roses to Rock Gardens Annual Garden Tour June 11 and 12

Save the Date! Van Vleck's annual From Roses to Rock Gardens tour will take place on Friday and Saturday, June 11 and 12. We expect to have at least 7 lovely local Montclair gardens, featuring a variety sure to please master gardeners and weekend warriors alike. Although many of the gardens have already been selected, we are still welcoming recommendations for this (or next!) year's tour. Please send your suggestions to either of our co-chairs for this event, Pat Leonard (patriciahleonard@gmail.com) or Karen Whitehaus (kwhitehaus@peoplepc.com).

New to the tour this year will be a morning coffee reception and lecture at the Van Vleck House on *both* Friday and Saturday. Our featured speaker will provide descriptions of the "things to look for" in the gardens on the tour as well as an informative talk on do-it-yourself gardening tips and planning. Weather cooperating, we will also provide guided tours of the Van Vleck gardens, at times posted throughout Friday and Saturday. These tours will be led by Van Vleck's head gardener, Laura Roberts.

We are working on other additions this year, such as a reserved box lunch and tea

on the veranda, an art show, and another try to get enough takers for a bus tour to the gardens. Please check the website (www.vanvleck.org) for updates of these offerings.

In order to make the tour accessible to as many as possible, we are holding our general admission prices to our last year's rates, along with special pricing for multiple ticket purchases or for those who "get their hands dirty" at the Van Vleck Plant Sale!

- \$30 General Admission Ticket — buy 3, get the 4th free!
- \$25 "Friends of the Van Vleck House & Gardens" Ticket — buy 3, get the 4th free!
- \$75 Patron Ticket (name listed in program if received by Friday, May 22)
- Spend \$150 at the May 1st Van Vleck Plant Sale and get one free ticket with the purchase of a General Admission Ticket

So come one and all, enjoy a day of beauty and fellowship, get some ideas for your own garden, and appreciate someone else's ruined manicure!

WEED WARRIORS PREPARE TO ATTACK!

Last spring a group of fearless garden volunteers banded together to combat the enemy of every garden: WEEDS. Covering approximately 3 acres, Van Vleck Gardens needs all the help it can get to conquer these invasive pests, and last year's Weed Warriors came to the rescue, cleaning up the property for the Spring Plant Sale and keeping the weed population nearly invisible for the summer and fall.

Weed Warriors, it's time to regroup! New recruits are welcome! No special gardening knowledge is required. Your fellow Weed Warriors can advise you on whether it is or isn't a weed, and Garden Manager Laura Roberts is always nearby to dispel any confusion with her expertise.

The group gathers on Wednesday mornings at 9:15 for coffee in the kitchen, then moves out to the gardens around 9:30 for a couple of hours of weeding and camaraderie. Because we have so many visitors during the summer, we want our gardens looking their finest. If you want to help, even occasionally, please call Laura Roberts, Garden Manager, at 973-902-5722, or contact Lissa Barrett at 973-618-9777 or at lssbrtt@hotmail.com.

Thanks to all the Warriors who vanquished our weeds last season: Heather Alevars, Lissa Barrett, Gail Connolly, Joyce Cupoli, Judith Earley, Carla Egbert, Rosella Ferguson, Ellen LaBarbera, Fran Martin, Lori O'Connor, Lynn Ritchkoff, Vivian Semeraro, Kathy Wessling, and Vivienne Wingfield.



Van Vleck volunteers gathered on the terrace outside the living room after enjoying brunch together at Van Vleck House in December.



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S WINDOW

I'm sitting here in my office, mid-February, looking out on a garden that is all about the winter wonderland. Three snowfalls in the last week have coated everything in a heavy confection of white. Nature is like a bride, dressed up and ready for her vows. Of course, by the time you read this it will be April, and the burgeoning spring will be upon us. Happily we will be fielding daily calls from prospective visitors wanting to know if the wisteria in the courtyard is in bloom.

The wisteria was planted by Howard Van Vleck back in 1939, with the intention of providing shade for the upstairs bedrooms. Two plants, one trained to grow clockwise and one counterclockwise, scale the enormous limestone pillars that support the second-floor balcony. Now, more than 70 years old, the vines are nothing less than grand, their massive flowing trunks an evocative statement about the marriage of nature and architecture. In the springtime, when the grape-like clusters of purple flowers bloom and the yellow and orange trumpets of Howard's signature rhododendrons are out, this garden is nothing less than breathless.

I wonder if Howard ever imagined how grand his wisteria vines would become. Do you think he knew that they would draw hundreds of visitors each year? That artists and photographers would spend hours trying to capture their essence? A simple act, with a practical intention, became a gift that endures over 70 years later.

Makes you wonder about your own legacy. Are you doing something today that will instill breathlessness in 2080? Hmm, pretty powerful stuff. Guess that's what becomes of having this spectacular distraction just outside my door. Come by and visit soon, and don't forget to stop by when you do. Last door on the terrace, my door is always open.

— *Jonne McCarron, Executive Director*

Thanks to
Peter Paul Landscaping
for maintaining the turf
at Van Vleck Gardens.
Your generosity
is appreciated!



Watercolor courtesy of Sharon Pitts.

Van Vleck House
is open year-round
for event rentals
to non-profit
organizations.
973-744-4752

Thanks to
René Lahiere
of Orange Valley
Tree Experts
for work done at
Van Vleck Gardens.
Your generosity
is appreciated!

Friends of Van Vleck Wisteria Membership Debuts in July 2010

The Van Vleck House & Gardens is a project of the Montclair Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to supporting non-profits in our community. The care and maintenance of the house and grounds is made possible through grants, fundraisers, rental income, and — most importantly — contributions from Friends and donors. Annual Friends memberships are available at levels from \$50 to \$1,000. Friends receive our newsletter, invitations to Friends-only events, and a 20% discount on most educational offerings. A membership card also entitles all of our Friends to free or reduced admission to gardens across the country that participate in the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admission Program.

We are pleased to premier a new level of giving — the Wisteria — starting July 1. For an annual contribution of \$2,500, the Wisteria benefits will include two tickets to each of our signature events: Deck the Halls, the Spring Plant Sale Preview Party, and the Roses to Rock Garden Tour. To honor these sustaining donors, all Wisteria contributors will be named in our newsletter and all event programs.

No matter what level you choose, your support makes a meaningful contribution and includes you in a circle of like-minded individuals who value open spaces and garden pleasures. We welcome you to become a Friend and enjoy your own piece of the Van Vleck magic!

— *Andie Bertsche and
Emer Featherstone
Co-Chairs, Friends of Van Vleck*

Calendar of Blooms

April

Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)
Magnolias:
–Star magnolia (*M. stellata*)
–Japanese magnolia
(*M. x soulangeana*)
Deciduous rhododendrons:
–Royal azalea (*R. schleppenbachii*)
–Pinkshell azalea "White Find"
(*R. vaseyi*)
–Keisk rhododendron (*R. keiskei*)
Early evergreen azaleas

May

Evergreen azaleas
Evergreen rhododendrons:
(several hybrids on property)
Carolina rhododendron
(*R. carolinianum*)
Deciduous rhododendrons
–Flame azalea (*R. calendulaceum*)
Mountain silverbell (*Halesia monticola*)
Viburnums:
–Koreanspice viburnum (*V. catesii*)
–Doublefile viburnum (*V. plicatum*
var. tomentosum)

–Leatherleaf viburnum
(*V. rhytidophyllum*)

Wisteria:

–Chinese wisteria (*W. sinensis*)
–Japanese wisteria (*W. floribunda*)

June

Late evergreen azaleas
Late evergreen rhododendrons
Daylilies (*Hermerocallis*)
Kousa dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)
Southern magnolia (*M. grandiflora*)
Mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*)
Tropical container plantings

Deck the Halls 2009 Holiday Wonderland Is a Big Hit

In what has become a much-anticipated start to the holiday season, Deck the Halls 2009, held November 19-21, enticed almost 400 visitors to Van Vleck House & Gardens and, improving on last year's impressive results, raised almost \$44,000 toward support of its community programs.

This ninth annual three-day seasonal showcase and silent auction featured holiday centerpieces, trees, and mantel and sconce decorations creatively fashioned by local artists and designers. Couched within the festive presentations were golf outings, Broadway show tickets, vacation homes, jewelry, and a host of other coveted objects for silent bidding. In addition, a holiday boutique by The Garden Cottage of Fairfield provided an assortment of home goods for instant holiday retail gratification.

Deck the Halls included visiting hours on Friday and Saturday in addition to two evening events. These open house hours offered a rare opportunity for the public to tour the first floor of the Van Vleck House, and over 100 visitors took advantage of it.

The community was invited to attend a pre-opening event, the *Happy Hour Fun-Raiser*, on Thursday, November 19. On Saturday morning, over 55 families took part in *Morning with Santa*. Children visited with Santa and were photographed by Richard Titus, a Montclair-based professional photographer. The pictures were available online for parents to view the week after the event. Santa's elves escorted guests down the driveway from the house to the Education Center for a choice of crafts.

The merriment culminated on Saturday evening with a *Winter Wonderland* cocktail party, highlighted by the silent auction. Popular auction items-including a "Starlight Holiday" wreath by The Banyan Tree, "Sugar and Spice" designed by Gretchen Prater and Kris Bromley, a wine-and-appetizer party donated by Amanti Vino and CulinaAriane, "NYC Escape" featuring two nights at the Carlyle, VIP tickets to The Colbert Report, a basket of makeup from Bobbi Brown, along with

many other enticing items-motivated bidders and thrilled the winners. VVH&G Board of Management and Deck the Halls Chair Lissa Barrett enthused, "The auction items were terrific. We got a Radio Flyer Wagon with a Gund bear for our granddaughter donated by Marcia DeOteris and BabysPerfectGift.com. It's adorable. I also admired the David Yurman bracelet procured by Joanne Langbein." Auction Chair Gail Connolly had a hard time picking her favorites. "We are so fortunate to have such generous donors," she said. The Princeton Tigertones, Princeton University's all-male a cappella group, provided entertainment.

The event attracted seasoned volunteers as well as some new to Van Vleck House & Gardens. Shea Malloy, Volunteer Chair, noted, "The volunteers were so generous of their time, and we are so thankful for that. We couldn't do it without them. We were happy to see some new faces, as well as many of our long-time volunteers."

Deck the Halls Thanks

Benefactors

Jim and Lissa Barrett
Co and Andie Bertsche
Hartley and Brenda Bingham
Carl and Ellen Culbreth
Emer Featherstone
Leslie Krauter
Steven and Beth Milke
Jerry and Marisabel Raymond
Roy and Marianne Smith
Bill and Judy Turner

Patrons

Aubin Ames
Robert Butler
Susan Cole
Gail Connolly
James and Joan Crowther
Michael and Lois Deenihan
Deirdre Featherstone-Madden
Anni McCarthy
William Treene
John and Kathy Wessling

Donors

Accents with Flowers
Amanti Vino
Anderson's Flowers
Ashley's Soccer Camp
A Voce Restaurant
Nancy Aufiero Garden Design
Bangz Salon
The Banyan Tree
Barbara Eclectic
Lissa and Jim Barrett
Bartlett's Greenhouses and Florist
Carmen and Yogi Berra
Andie and Co Bertsche
Best Friend Photography
Big Apple Circus
Michelle Billette Design

Terri Breen
Kris Bromley
Bobbi Brown
Bobbi Brown Studio
Brookside Garden Center
Barbara Cacoulidis of Rosewood Hotels
Phil Cantor Photography
Cedar Grove Garden Center
Jamie Chase
The Chocolate Path
J. Clores Flowers and Gifts
Claudia's Creative Catering
Evie and Stephen Colbert
Color Story Home
Gail Connolly
Crookhorn's Menswear
CulinaAriane
Mary and Michael Dana
Marcia and Peter DeOteris
Barry DiBernardo, M.D.
Molli Dowd
Jeanine Downie, M.D.
Evolution Health & Fitness
Doug Ewertsen
Emer and Deirdre Featherstone
Featherstone Design Jewelry Collection
Charlie Ferrara
The Garden Cottage
Debbie Glasbrenner
Eileen Goldmeier,
www.BabysPerfectGift.com
Frederic Goodman Jewelers
The Hair Studio
Clare Hofmann, Melinda and John Hofmann
Home Sweet Montclair
Laura Hurley
Ellen LaBarbera
Betty Lamborn
Landmarc
Joanne Langbein
Carol Pezzuti Lenehan

Mary Ann and Cliff Lindholm
Mary Beth and Michael Loughran
Andrea McDonagh
Metropolitan Plant Exchange
Steven Mohn Furniture and Design
Debbie Moran
The Museum of Arts and Design
Pam and Brendan Nedzi
The New Jersey Devils
MT O'Neill
Eileen Painter
Panera Bread Company, Montclair
Piazza della SOLE
Pleasantdale Nursery
PNC Bank
Gretchen Prater
Michelle Quinn
Rabbit Rabbit
Marisabel Raymond
Raymond's
Sandwich Theory
Saplings, www.usasaplings.com
Peggy and Len Santoro
Jennifer Scheffler/ YOUUnique Yoga and Fitness
Amy South
Marianne Smith
Standard Printing
John Stathis
Sweet Home Montclair
Titus Photographics
Toast
Tory Janes
Tourneau
William Treene
Lydia and Robb Turner
Margo and Frank Walter
Kathy and John Wessling
JoAnn Weisel
Wild Bird Center
David Yurman Jewelry

2009 Deck the Halls Album



Going, Going, Going, GONE GREEN! Electronic or Paper? We Need to Know!

Starting with the Summer 2010 issue, the VVH&G newsletter will be sent electronically to all our Friends UNLESS you let us know you want to continue receiving a paper copy in the mail. *Please complete the tear-off below and send it by July 1, 2010, if you wish to receive the newsletter by mail.* You may also call us at 973-744-4752 or visit us at www.vanvleck.org.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically but have not yet sent us your e-mail address, please contact us at <http://vanvleck.org/Subscribe.htm>. By doing so, you will help us save a significant amount of money in printing and postage costs, money that can better be used for new plants and garden maintenance. In addition, we will be able to provide you with links to our website, where you will find more photos, information, and registration forms.

Thanks for helping Van Vleck go “green.” We hope you continue to enjoy reading about the gardens and all our activities.



I would like to receive a print copy of the Van Vleck newsletter delivered by U.S. mail.

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Van Vleck House & Gardens
21 Van Vleck Street
Montclair NJ 07042

Mission Statement

Van Vleck House & Gardens is dedicated to preserving for public enrichment the spirit and beauty of this late 19th and early 20th century house and gardens. Continuing the Van Vleck family's commitment to the community and to horticultural excellence, the house serves as a center for non-profit organizations and the gardens are open to the public for display, education and research.

Van Vleck House & Gardens is owned by The Montclair Foundation and operated by a committee of the Foundation, the Van Vleck Board of Management.

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Van Vleck House & Gardens is proud to be a Preservation Project of the Garden Conservancy, an organization dedicated to preserving America's exceptional gardens.



HOUSE & GARDENS

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