

# Seasons at Ciener

A Newsletter  
for Friends of



[www.cienerbotalanicalgarden.org](http://www.cienerbotalanicalgarden.org)

October 2019



**John Whisnant**  
*Executive Director*

## A View from the Garden...

As I stop to write this article, I noticed that fall, or autumn, as we once called it officially started on Monday, September 23. What a beautiful season in the Piedmont Carolinas.

When I was in second grade I wrote a poem entitled "Theme in Autumn". As you might imagine, it was filled with childhood images of pumpkins and changing leaves and fields and cooler days. It was complete with crayon illustration, done on the finest piece of notebook paper around. How simple our pleasures were in those long ago days.

Now, as we approach another autumn, I am grateful for those days of my youth and the simplicity and security that surrounded me. I loved the crisp coolness of the changing season, relished the colorful October days and counted down to Halloween and Thanksgiving. The child in me still lives on in the first chilled morning and frosty evening. As we transition here at the Garden, all manner of fall activities commence.

Plans are in the works to break ground on a new garden area that will feature our 'Dancing Cranes' sculpture. The sculpture is by artist Lloyd LeBlanc and is the generous gift of Greensboro philanthropist Joe Bryan Jr. The Deal Foundation is our lead donor for the area that will feature a Rill and Reflecting Pool as the cranes new home. Adrienne has planned to use various fragrant many night blooming pollinator plants in the adjoining planting beds. Additionally, a proper stairway entrance will welcome visitors onto the Event Lawn for a alternative view of the sculpture. Fundraising efforts are underway with a project goal of \$250,000.

As you will see later in this newsletter, many opportunities abound to connect with the Garden. Please note your calendars and make plans to attend. The Wyatt and Dolores LeFever Garden Gift Shop will be filled with new and interesting treasures to tempt you as you begin your holiday shopping. Stop in to see what's new and remember to visit often for new arrivals as Christmas approaches.

In this season of harvest and bounty and thanksgiving, we also want to express our gratitude to our many donors and supporters. Your generous support ensures the success of the Garden and helps to maintain its beauty. Thank you to all our donors, members, corporate partners, foundation grantors, volunteers, ambassadors and friends. Please continue to connect with us often as we strive to inspire and enlighten you.

I hope autumn finds the kid in you and fills you with warm memories of a bygone time. Take a moment to enjoy the colorful beauty of the season, savor the crisp coolness and drink in the richness of the earth settling down to rest.



215 South Main Street  
Kernersville, NC 27284

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## Calendar of Upcoming Events...

**Toni Hays**  
Programs Officer

*More information about our upcoming events including how to register to attend, can be found on our Garden Events page on our website, [www.cienerbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.cienerbotanicalgarden.org)*

## Fall Plant Sale . . .



**Saturday, October 5, 2019, 8:00 am-12:00 pm**

*PJCBG Members' Pre-Plant Sale Thursday, October 3, 2019, 4:30 pm-6:00 pm*

Come and find something perfect for your garden! We will have plants for sun and shade, selected trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials. A list of plants will be posted on our website prior to the sale. Proceeds benefit the future development of the Garden.

## Curated Tour of the Garden . . .



*Led by Adrienne Roethling, PJCBG Director of Curation & Mission Delivery and Josh Williams, PJCBG Garden Manager*

**Saturday, October 5, 2019, 1:00 pm-2:00 pm**

Stay around for the Curated Tour beginning at 1:00pm.

Josh and Adrienne will show off the newly installed Japanese Garden and Woodland Garden Vignettes.



## ***A beach-party version of Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare***

*Presented by The Shared Radiance Theatre*

**Saturday, October 5, 2019, 4:00 pm-6:00 pm**

Come join Shared Radiance Players as we travel through the beautiful Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden and lead the audience on a beach themed Twelfth Night, sure to make you feel the ocean breezes. This delightful combination of Shakespeare, beach music

and Garden is sure to lighten your mood and warm your heart. We will begin inside with refreshments and move into the Garden as the story unfolds. For more information, email [sherri@sharedradiance.org](mailto:sherri@sharedradiance.org) or call 336-601-1768 and to purchase tickets, visit <http://www.sharedradiance.org/tickets.html>.



## ***"A Walk to Paradise Garden"***

A musical fundraiser for the Garden

Presented by Salem Community Orchestra

Featuring the music of Strauss, Joplin, Vivaldi

**Sunday, October 6, 2019, 3:00 pm-4:30 pm**

**Tickets \$15** – Limited Seating – at [www.cienerbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.cienerbotanicalgarden.org) or 336-996-7888.





## Fall Lunch and Learn Lectures . . .



### ***“The Bird Garden – Build It and They Will Come”***

*by Cristina Larson, Vice-President Guilford Horticulture Society  
and Owner Guilford Garden Center*

**Thursday, October 10, 2019, 12:00 pm-1:00 pm**

Learn how to bring more birds up close, providing the natural food and shelter they need to thrive, both as adults and in the nest. Beautiful and functional native plants that supply the protein to enhance survivability of baby birds should be on

every gardener's list. Design your back yard (and front!) with beautifully lush trees, shrubs, and perennials that set the mood and supply the goods. Some native plants will be available for purchase.



### ***“Ask a Garden Expert”***

*by Toby Bost, Horticulturist, Retired Forsyth County Extension Agent, Author  
and PJCBG Volunteer*

**Thursday, November 14, 2019, 12:00 pm-1:00 pm**

Join Toby for a “round-table discussion” about all things and anything gardening. Bring your questions, problems, photos, cuttings, soil samples, etc. and he will help guide you through your gardening journey

Lunch and Learn Lectures are FREE to Members of PJCBG or \$2 donation for non-members.

Registration is required. Register online or call 336-996-7888. Bring your lunch. The Garden will provide drinks.

*Lunch and Learn is part of our Chip Callaway Lecture Series*



### **Holiday Hours at the Garden . . .**

The Offices and Gift Shop will be CLOSED on **Thursday, November 28th** and **Friday, November 29th** in observance of Thanksgiving; **Tuesday, December 24th** and **Wednesday, December 25th** in observance of Christmas and **Wednesday, January 1st** for New Year's Day. The Garden will

remain OPEN daily from dawn until dusk. Enjoy your Holidays and stop by the Garden for a visit!



### **Gift Shop Holiday Hours . . .**

It's the most wonderful time of the year! The Dolores and Wyatt LeFever Garden Gift Shop is stocked with unique gifts for that special someone on your list! The Gift Shop is open **Monday through Friday 10:00 am-4:00 pm**. Our December Saturday hours will be **December 7th, 10:00 am-2:00 pm; December 14th, 10:00 am-2:00 pm** and **December 21st, 10:00 am-2:00 pm**. Visit us during our Saturday hours and enjoy a cup of hot cider and get into the festive spirit of the season!



—Main Street—

*Neighborhood Tour*

*of Homes, Historic Landmarks,  
& Interesting Places*

*December 15, 2019 2:00-5:00pm*

### **Main Street Neighborhood Tour . . .**

**December 15, 2019, 2:00 pm-5:00 pm**

Tickets (\$15 in advance, \$20 the day of the tour) available October 15th at Main Street United Methodist Church.

Performances by Heart of the Triad Choral Group will be held in Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden's Ballroom. Light refreshments will be served.





## Harvesting the Seeds

**Adrienne R. Roethling**

*Director of Curation & Mission Delivery*

It's that time of year where we can look at so many things to do with our gardens. As hot and dry as it's been, I'm ready to compost the summer vegetables and seasonal annual plants and more, so ready to put the gardens to bed. Not the case just yet and the typical maintenance continues, weeding, watering, cutting seed stalks from plants to reduce unwanted dispersal and more. This time of year brings one of my favorite tasks; it is a great time to collect, clean, store or scatter seeds.

Have you ever thought about saving seeds of your favorite tomato? With home gardening on the rise, many varieties are readily available through the purchase of plants or seeds. Think of how easy it could be to save your own seeds. Though, if growing more than one variety within proximity to each other, cross pollination could occur giving you unknown results. If tomatoes have been growing with great distances from one to another, simply save a fruit specifically for the seeds. Extract the seeds and place them on a napkin for a few days to let the juices and flesh ferment the seeds. This fermentation helps with the seed germination process later on. Once the seeds have dried, the seed and dry napkin can be folded up, placed in a sealed plastic baggie and stored in the bottom drawers of the refrigerator.

I also like to save annual plant species like the two forms of tropical milkweed, *Asclepias curassavica* and *Gomphocarpus physocarpus*. These pose a challenge since the seeds are attached to silky hairs, but I save them because I don't get a lot of return if seeds disperse to the ground on their own. It's best to store the seeds and sow them in pots in the late winter to transplant to the garden once frost has passed. This is also an opportunity to share seeds and extra plants via the spring plant sale, wink, wink. Some years, you fall in love with certain annual plants but the feeling of not knowing if you'll find it again could arise. Outstanding performers this summer were the *Gomphrena* or globe amaranth, and the *Emilia coccinea* or tassel flower. I've already started collecting seeds which will be placed in a brown paper bag to dry, sorted in the coming weeks, divided into little baggies which will then be taken to the annual seed swap, shared with many groups throughout the winter and will be for sale in the gift shop at the first of the year. Be sure to look for the 9th annual Seed Swap at Old Salem next January or February in time for National Seed Swap Day.

Seeds that were saved early waiting to be scattered were the poppies and larkspur. Typically, seeds would have been dispersed



by mother nature, in this case, seeds will be scattered in other parts of the garden. Stalks of seeds have been sitting upside down in brown paper bags and kept in a dark, cool place for the summer. Now that fall is near, early spring flowers are best scattered now in preparation for a spectacular season.



We love sharing seeds of hardy perennials and bulb species too. *Lilium henry* is a favorite with its pumpkin orange flowers held upside down on 5-6 foot tall stalks. Petals recurve while pollinators get excited for food. *Lilium formosanum* can get out of hand as stalks produce thousands of viable seeds. Therefore, remove seed stalks before pods split but place the pods in a brown paper bag so that the contained pods split, disperse with the seeds collected at the bottom of the bag.

Don't forget to label your seeds when collecting. Begin getting your supplies ready, brown paper bags allow seeds to disperse and collect, napkins

dry seeds faster when there's evidence of juice or flesh then, plastic bags or even pill bottles are sufficient for seed storage. A paper envelope is not as this will allow air to come through or excess moisture to escape. It is always best to place seeds in the refrigerator and not the freezer. Seeds can be stored up to ten years as long as the light and temperatures remain the same. Lastly, a lot of debris can find their way when seeds dehisce, a hand-held strainer comes in handy. Pour the seeds in the strainer to sift out the debris and allow the seeds to fall through the mesh to collect.







## The Dolores and Wyatt LeFever Garden Gift Shop

**Kim Babyak**

*Garden Shop Manager*

Ah, Fall! The air is crisp, the leaves are beautiful, but not here! It will come soon enough and as much as I hate to see summer leave, the change in weather will be welcome.

Speaking of change, the Gift Shop has undergone a few of its own. Adrienne Roethling has spread her creative talents over to the Gift Shop! She arranged all our new fall merchandise and it looks fantastic!



What better way to announce fall and welcome guests than with a grapevine owl wreath on your front door? The wreath has autumn leaves tucked in the vine with miniature pumpkins. It can stay all the way to Thanksgiving!



We have some gorgeous throw pillows with matching serving trays. The artwork on the trays is so pretty, featuring pumpkins or a cute pick-up truck full of apples. Our galvanized pumpkin shaped platters would brighten up the table when filled with candy or fruit. A whimsical galvanized metal owl can watch over the goodies!

We have discovered PricklePoppy purses! Say that 5 times quickly! We found Mary Warman through the artisan fair held here at the Garden. She handcrafts purses, bags, and wallets and they are gorgeous! We started by bringing in some zipper bags and wristlets. We hope to bring her full-size purses to the Gift Shop soon. She does meticulous work and chooses beautiful fabric and material for each bag.



In addition to her beautiful greeting cards, Nancy Seay has brought her stunning photography to scarves! And, the plants and flowers on the scarves are pictures taken from our Garden!! Each scarf is a work of art and will enhance any wardrobe. Please come in to see this exceptionally special piece of Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden on a scarf!

As always, there is so much more in the Gift Shop than there is room to write about it. There is something unique for you or someone special.

The Gift Shop will be open during our Plant Sale on October 5. We are having a "Patio Terrace Sale" with big mark-downs on selected

merchandise! Come check it out!

We will be open Saturday, December 7, 14, and 21 from 10 AM until 2 PM. On Sunday, December 15 the Gift Shop will be open 2 PM until 5 PM in conjunction with Main Street Methodist Church's Main Street Neighborhood Tour. There will be music and refreshments in our ballroom. This is in addition to our normal weekday hours of 10 AM until 4 PM.

We look forward to seeing everyone, there is always something new to see or do at Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden!



The Dolores and Wyatt LeFever Garden Gift Shop is full of unique and special gifts and treats! Come visit our beautiful Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden and then stop in the Gift Shop, you never know what you may find!

**Contact Kim Babyak at 336.996.7888 or [Kbabyak@pjcbg.org](mailto:Kbabyak@pjcbg.org)**



[www.cienerbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.cienerbotanicalgarden.org)

# Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden Volunteer(s) of the Season



*Trish Sprague*

Oh, how we love our Volunteers! It takes many hands to help a garden grow and our Volunteers share their talents, enthusiasm and energy to many different areas within the daily and seasonal functions of the Garden, enjoying the beauty of nature, while playing important roles from horticulture to special events and educational tours. Our Volunteers generously give their gift of time and are the heart of Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden. We like to recognize one volunteer each season whom we feel has done an outstanding job.



Our Volunteer for the Season is returning for an encore summer performance! We miss seeing our Volunteer

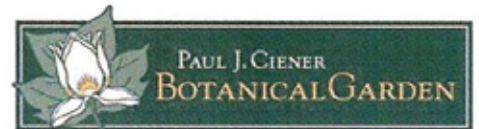
much during the fall and spring but during the summer our Volunteer spends a great deal of time working in the Garden and also with the Guild (check out her painted rocks in our Gift Shop). Our Volunteer is a teacher so during the summer, instead of working with students, she gets to work with plants. Plants need nurturing too and the Garden has come to be her special "recess" from school.

Our Volunteer for the Season is Trish Sprague! Please join us in thanking her for all of her hard work and support of the Garden. As a small token of the Garden's appreciation, Trish will receive a gift certificate to a restaurant here in downtown Kernersville to enjoy!

## Membership...

Memberships help the Garden provide valuable educational opportunities to adults and children and also help in our development of new garden spaces as we continue to grow. Individual/Household memberships are just \$50 per year. Join or renew your membership for a chance to win our Plant of the Month. Congratulations to Judy Slone, winner of our September Plant of the Month, *Aechmea gamosepala*-matchstick bromeliad.

Some member benefits include: A subscription to Seasons at Ciener – the Garden's Quarterly newsletter; one-year's subscription to Better Homes and Gardens or Martha Stewart Living compliments of American Public Gardens Association; 10 % discount at the Garden's Plant Sales and Members Only Pre-Plant Sale and 10% discount at the Garden's Gift Shop; free admission to the Garden's Lunch and Learn and Summer Thursday Lectures; preferred registration to outings for Friends of the Garden; discounts to over 300 gardens nationwide through the American Horticultural Society.



Membership Card for

*Your Name Here*

Valid Until

*For One (1) Year*





## The Donor's Corner . . .

**Angie Huffman**

*Development Associate*

Working at the Garden in the Development department, I have found to be very rewarding. I am fortunate to meet and work with many of our supportive donors. Last summer, we started a giving designation program with our local corporations, asking them to become a Community Corporate Partner.

The funds received from our Community Corporate Partners supports:

- Continued expansion of our many garden areas. Sharing horticulture and gardening and communicating the importance of plants and how various plants are used for growing and harvesting healthy food.
- Broadening our Elementary Education program which addresses the importance of healthy eating to over 500 elementary children annually. From our Kitchen Garden, we have provided over 3,500 pounds of vegetables which are donated to local community cafés, Church soup kitchens and the Salvation Army helping over 4,500 residents have access to healthy food.
- Hosting our Lecture Series' utilizing local and national professional Gardeners who will share their expertise to aid garden enthusiast and the community.

Community Corporate Partners:

Ace Solutions, Inc.

AK Commercial Realty, Inc.

C & C Facility Services

EME Industrial Service, LLC

Hayworth-Miller Funeral Home

Hutchins Painting

Kim N. Scott, CPA

The Reuben Rink Company

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Arbor Ridge of Kernersville

Keller Williams Realty

Farmers Feed and Seed

Hopkins Road Animal Hospital

Kernersville, Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram

LJB – Jewell Engineering

Triangle Visions Optometry

Tops & Trends, Inc.

Thank you again, we remain grateful that you have partnered with the Garden. With your support, we can continue providing a variety of programs for those in and around our community. For those of you living in or around Kernersville, please remember these businesses when shopping.

If you are visiting the Garden this fall, please stop by and introduce yourself as I would love to meet and visit a bit with our Garden friends.



**American  
Red Cross**

## Paul Ciener Blood Drive . . .

**Monday, October 21, 2019, 2:30 pm-7:00 pm**

For an appointment, call Toni Hays at 336-996-7888 or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) to make an appointment online and use Sponsor Code: Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden. Give blood to help save lives!







## Staff

**John Whisnant**

*Executive Director*

**Toni Hays**

*Programs Officer*

**Angie Huffman**

*Development Associate*

**Lynn Adams**

*Facility Rental Coordinator*

**Lisa Dunlap**

*Facility Rental Coordinator*

**Kim Babyak**

*Garden Gift Shop Manager*

**Adrienne Roethling**

*Director of Curation and  
Mission Delivery*

**Josh Williams**

*Garden Manager*

**Mainor Melgar**

*Gardener*

## Board of Directors

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*President & Treasurer*

**Gregory M. Ciener**

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**Duane Long**

**Joellen Parks**

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