



MAGNOLIA

Newsletter of the
Southern Garden
History Society

"The Laurel Tree of Carolina"
from Mark Catesby, 1731
(MAGNOLIA GRANDIFLORA)

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SOUTHERN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY

Old Salem, Inc.
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Montgomery, Alabama

V. 3, no. 2 (Autumn, 1986)

FROM THE EDITOR....

A lean fall issue promises greater things to come: among important decisions made by the Board at our fall, 1986, meeting at Charlotte was one to appoint an assistant editor to help with the gathering of news and information on landscape and garden history and restoration activities in our 14 states and the District of Columbia.

In addition, 15 state editors will be responsible for reporting events, publications, exhibits, meetings, discoveries, and any other item of interest to our membership in their states.

This work force of 17 or more persons should provide us with a meaty news bulletin every quarter of every year.

If you have interest in serving, let us know. And we are happy to receive submissions from any member at any time.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

are specifically needed and solicited for the winter, 1987, issue. Our deadline for receiving these is February 15.

BY-LAWS

The by-laws of Southern Garden History Society were drafted by Flora Ann Bynum and formally adopted at the first meeting of the Society's Board of Directors, on May 6, 1982, at Old Salem, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

After five years of activity, the board has seen the need to propose some minor changes to the membership for a vote at the next annual meeting, in Charlottesville, Virginia, next June.

They are as follows:

Article II (Purposes), sec. 2

Present words: Publication of annual transactions related to this study [of the history of landscapes, gardening, and horticulture]

Proposed new words: Publication of a quarterly bulletin, Magnolia;

Article IV (Officers, Board of Directors, Executive Committee)sec. 2

Present words: A board of directors of twelve members of the society shall be elected at the annual meeting. Their term of office shall be two years, but individual members may be re-elected for a two-year term.

Proposed addition: The editor of Magnolia shall serve as an ex-officio member of the board of directors.

Article IV, sec. 4 (Other Committees)

Present words: The president shall appoint a nominating committee and other committees as he finds necessary.

Proposed new words (omit he finds): The president shall appoint a nominating committee and other committees as necessary.

Article VI (Meetings)

Present words (first sentence only): The society shall hold an annual meeting of members in April of each year at a time and place to be determined by the executive committee....

Proposed change: The society shall hold an annual meeting of members in spring of each year....

The board requests that members take note of these proposed changes and be prepared to vote on them at our next annual business meeting, on Friday, June 12, 1987.

ANNUAL MEETING

We will have much more than by-laws to think about at Charlottesville next June. Members will soon receive announcement of this, our fifth, annual meeting, organized by board member Peter Hatch, Gardens Superintendent at Monticello.

Because the Monticello staff and their colleagues in research and design have so much to tell us about Thomas Jefferson and his home, this meeting will begin at mid-day on Friday, June 12, rather than on Friday evening, as has been customary at our previous meetings. It will extend through Saturday, and an optional tour on Sunday will enable members to see other historic sites and gardens in the area.

A \$1500 contribution from the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation will offset many costs, and staff members at Monticello and other speakers will not receive fees for their presentations. This generosity will enable the Society to keep registration costs reasonable, so that many can afford to attend.

We are predicting that many members will want to attend, and for that reason the board reminds you that this is an annual meeting for Southern Garden History Society members and their families. Persons who want to attend but are not members of the Society are welcome to join it at any time. (Annual dues remain \$15 a year.) Members are urged to register promptly, for the meeting will be limited to 125 persons.

BOARD MEETING AT CHARLOTTE

Much of the business conducted by the SGHS board at its meeting on October 25, 1986, at Charlotte, North Carolina, has been mentioned in other items of this issue. Not mentioned elsewhere are the care and effort of our immediate past president and host, John Flowers, who made that meeting a wonderful pleasure for the board. After our lengthy Saturday morning business meeting, we enjoyed lunch at Wing Haven, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Clarkson, and followed the pleasure of meeting the hosts with a rainy visit to the Wing Haven gardens and to the nearby garden of the late Elizabeth Lawrence (now owned by Mrs. Mary Linderman Wilson, who graciously shared it with us). We were entertained that evening by Mr. Flowers in his home.

IN PRINT

"Elizabeth Lawrence's Garden", a brief reminiscence by William Lanier Hunt, has appeared in A Bulletin of American Garden History, V. I, no. 3 (Fall, 1986), a quarterly publication available for \$7 a year from P.O. Box 397A, New York, New York 10024. Mr. Hunt mentions that the Duke University Press will publish Elizabeth Lawrence's last writing, Gardening for Love, in spring, 1987; Duke has republished Lawrence's The Little Bulbs.

IN PRINT, continued....

George R. Stritikus, a very active county agent in Montgomery County, Alabama, and an active member of Southern Garden History Society, has recently compiled three useful lists for Alabama gardeners, and for others whose climate and traditions may be similar:

1. "Alabama Landscapes" is a general guide for reconstruction of a landscape around a period home. It lists its sources and will therefore be helpful to those who want to pursue more thorough research of a particular site.

2. "List of Recommended Period Plant Materials for Alabama Gardens", an 8-page list organized by time periods from the earliest period of settlement to World War II, is a useful accompaniment to the guide mentioned in #1. It too is extensively annotated.

3. "Roses in Alabama Gardens" lists roses by type and gives its research sources also. This list has proved quite useful to the editor as she has worked through a long journal of a northwest Arkansas plantsman who listed many plants by variety name only.

All three of these typewritten information sources are available by request from Mr. Stritikus at the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service, Montgomery County Office, Bldg. 2, 456 Court St., Montgomery, AL 36196.

William C. Welch of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, and Pamela Puryear, a freelance writer, have published "Old Traditions Spring To Life In Cottage Gardens" in Texas Gardener for March/April 1986. The article is illustrated with photos, and a plant list is provided. [Ed's note: among the rich resources of the Woodburn Collection at the Cherokee Garden Library in Atlanta, Georgia, is Walter Elder, The Cottage Garden of America, containing practical directions for the culture of flowers, fruits, and vegetables; the nature and improvement of soils, manures, and their application, wounds, diseases, and cures; monthly calendar, insects, botany, etc. This is a 2nd edition, revised and improved, and was published in Philadelphia in 1850. This book and others of its time and type can be useful to present-day gardeners.]

Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton, a member of Southern Garden History Society and of the Rappahannock Valley Garden Club in Virginia, has provided information about SGHS to garden club members in Virginia in the most recent (Nov.-Dec., 1986) issue of The Garden Club of Virginia Journal.

LANDSCAPE RECORDS CATALOG

The National Endowment for the Arts and the New York State Council on the Arts have awarded major grants to a project developed by the American Garden History Program at Wave Hill.

Entitled Catalog of Landscape Records in America, and modeled on the successful COPAR (Cooperative for the Preservation of Architectural Records), the project seeks to identify, locate, and disseminate information about all documents for American landscapes. Its success will depend upon cooperation of institutions, organizations, practitioners, scholars, and students who wish to promote scholarship and stimulate public interest in the nation's landscape.

At the request of Catha Grace Rambusch and Leslie R. Close, co-directors of the Catalog project, the board of directors of Southern Garden History Society has endorsed the Catalog and become a member of its advisory council, and urges members to aid the project in any appropriate way:

Catalog of Landscape Records in America
Wave Hill
675 W. 252 Street
Bronx, New York 10471
tel. (212) 549-3200

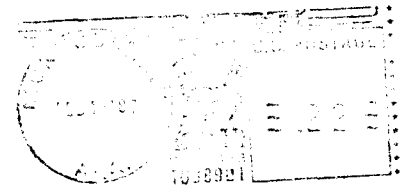
FOR YOUR CALENDAR

SGHS Annual Meeting for 1987: Charlottesville, Virginia,
June 12 through 14.
See report in this issue.

Sixth conference on Restoring Southern Gardens and Landscapes,
Old Salem, Winston-Salem, North Carolina,
October 29-31, 1987. (The fall board meeting of
SGHS is held in alternate years in conjunction
with this outstanding conference.)

SGHS Annual Meeting for 1988: early May, Nashville, Tennessee.
Exact dates will be set at the 1987 meeting at
Charlottesville.

SGHS Annual Meeting for 1989: Savannah, Georgia. The invitation
to meet at Savannah was accepted by the board at
its fall meeting (See news of other board
decisions elsewhere in this issue).



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