

Beatrix Farrand Society  
Vice President's Report  
October 2013

I held an initial meeting with Isabel Mancinelli and Carolyn Hollenbeck, Landscape Committee Chairs, to review the current state of the landscape and to develop our approach for 2014:

- Isabel and Carolyn will develop, with Tom McIntyre and Kathy Van Gorder, a month by month plan for the maintenance of gardens and landscape beginning in April and ending with closing the gardens in the fall.
- Isabel, Carolyn and I will meet monthly with Tom and Kathy to review progress and set goals for the upcoming month and resolve any issues identified.
- I will also make site visits weekly or bi-weekly throughout the season to inspect the gardens and overall landscape to ensure we are on plan.

Staying with the landscape:

- A final spraying of the bittersweet, near the Wild Garden, has been completed.
- Tom has cut back the Sorberia outside the new bathroom to improve air flow around the window. While there he uncovered an Akebia, it's vines growing behind the clapboards. The plan is to fully remove the plant and propagate it in the holding garden for future use as it appears to be part of the original plant in the Terrace Garden.
- Tom has also cut back plants outside Mrs. Farrand's bathroom to improve air flow there.
- Volunteers have been weeding in the holding garden to assist in getting it ready for the end of the season. Carolyn will peruse engaging the BHGC to help us periodically throughout the 2014 season.
- Tom has reevaluated his original plan for the drainage ditch and determined he can't do it for the original price. He's discussed an alternative approach with Dick Mace. The plan needs a review with Sam Coplan to ensure it will improve the drainage behind the shed as envisioned.
- It's my assessment that we need an annual consultation with an arborist to discuss management and maintenance of trees, particularly the Cherry behind the barn and the Stewardia and Hawthorne by the shed.

I held an initial meeting with Dick Mace to discuss a mold issue brought to our attention by Emily and Jim Fuchs. Dick and I also discussed a number of the things to be done at the end of the season to ensure we had a common understanding.

Dick dealt with the mold issue promptly by cleaning the windows in the two bathrooms to remove the mold. We will inspect it regularly to insure it is truly controlled. There are two elements to a long term solution: the restoration of the building which will eliminate water entering the building from the exterior and a means of dehumidifying the Farrand Wing to maintain a relatively constant humidity level throughout the year. Dick will discuss our need with an associate at Bangor Pipe and Supply that he worked with to meet a similar need at ANP. More to follow on that topic.

Dick, Carl Kelly (formerly grounds manager at Thuya Gardens) and I examined the verge board in the Entrance Garden to determine if it could be stored in the same manner as those in The Terrace Garden. It is in fact nailed in place and not removable at this time without damage to the fence. We will revisit making the verge board removable when we undertake the rehabilitation of the Entrance Garden and fence.

I held a meeting with Marti Harmon and Carolyn to learn more about the Library and Marti's role as librarian and archivist. I plan to follow up with Marti again to have an additional discussion about paring down the collection of periodicals, caring for our rare book collection and completing the archiving project. During our visit, Marti stated she did not plan to complete the project but was preparing it for turnover to another archivist.

Dave Hollenbeck  
Vice President