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## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As autumn arrives in northwestern Pennsylvania, the growing season comes to its end and I am once again delighted extend you a well-deserved 'thank you.' I thank you because it is you who, through your careful consideration, keen interest and generous support, have made this season the Gardens' best yet. You might ask, 'what exactly does "best yet" mean?' Allow me to recount your accomplishments! In 2010, the Gardens served more community members through a broader range of products, programs and services than ever before. In fact, attendance at the Gardens during the 2010 season swelled to approximately 7,000 visitors. To lend this number some perspective, consider that in 2005, when the Gardens was much smaller in terms of its operational capacity and its cultural identity within the community was just beginning to take shape, we saw a then-respectable 1,000 visitors. Whether you were enjoying the Edinboro Art & Music Festival, one of the many wonderful educational programs, the 5th Annual Harvest Festival, or simply an hour of peace and tranquility courtesy of the County YMCA's Summer Yoga/Meditation/Pilates series, a record number of you enjoyed the burgeoning cultural asset that is Goodell Gardens & Homestead.

In addition to increases in the quality and quantity of cultural events and programs offered at the Gardens, as well as the many community connec-

tions and collaborations made, the Gardens itself went through a number of positive changes in 2010. Infrastructural improvements ran the gamut from simple tweaks allowing for more efficient landscape maintenance to large-scale alterations that not only enhanced aesthetics but also our ability to accommodate more and better events and programs. A quaint new arbor now graces the entrance to the Heritage Garden, an architectural piece that harkens back to the original Goodell family gardens of the 1920s. Other Heritage Garden improvements included the installation of a stone-laid patio entrance to Carrie's Cabin, the augmentation and expansion of the McDaniel Wildewood Garden, and a complete re-design of lawn spaces and pathways. The Event Lawn and Barn project continued its progress with sugar maples planted to line the circular drive and full electrical service and lighting installed in the performance barn.

The planned improvements for 2011 will center on new landscaping within the proposed Events Lawn and Garden, including additional tree plantings and an extension of the Pollinator Garden to encompass the Performance Barn and its immediate surrounds. The function of the Pollinator Demonstration Garden will thus expand to become an integral part of our educational mission. The planting plan also calls for native wildflower

and grass border areas that altogether will allow the Gardens to offer higher-quality educational programming in the subject areas of environmental conservation and 'best-practices' land stewardship with respect to ecology, horticulture and agriculture. Such developments also represent a logical and fiscally-practicable extension of the Gardens' current programming, while being consistent with our mission and master plan.

With your help, the Gardens has successfully and incrementally increased operational capacity, programming, and site improvements at a prudent and sustainable rate, all while becoming an exemplar of the regional cultural asset it set out to be. With your help, Goodell Gardens is becoming an integral fixture in the fabric of the community. Again, and on behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, members, volunteers and the community, I sincerely thank you for your part in producing yet another season of solid growth at Goodell Gardens & Homestead.

Dana A. Atwood  
Executive Director

## 2010 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS HIT HIGH MARK

The awareness of Goodell Gardens as a destination for horticultural education, as well as beauty, has brought out record numbers of visitors both young and old to the Gardens this season.

By partnering with well-established community organizations such as the YMCA and the Girl Scouts, Goodell Education Coordinator, Heather Zimmerman planned and presented programs to 250 children in 2010.

The Eastside YMCA and the County YMCA accounted for 180 children, who came in bus loads from their Kids Camp summer program to Goodell Gardens in August. Kids from pre-school to 5th grade participated in role-playing lessons on butterfly metamorphosis and honeybee pollination. They also played the seed germination game and planted Milkweed seeds in recycled paper pots. Education Volunteers, Marianne Horne and Maria Blakeslee were indispensable in presenting lessons and crowd control.

In October, fifty Girl Scouts came to Goodell to earn their “Plants” and “Outdoor Creativity” badges. The Brownies learned about the Native American Three Sisters, planting corn, beans and squash; then toured the Heritage Garden. Junior Girl Scouts used the natural beauty of the Gardens in autumn to create poetry, artwork, and spring blooms by planting bulbs. Other educational programs offered this year revolved around the Pollinator Garden, emphasizing the importance of bees and butterflies for pollination of flowers and food crops and the importance of native plants to help these insects survive.

Another partnership that brought in an intergenerational audience of children, parents and grandparents was the “Tuesdays with Lori” children’s sing-a-long program led by Lori Burke, local musician and folk-singer.

For 45 minutes over 8 weeks, Lori sang and taught familiar folk tunes to 25 – 30 children and their accompanying “grown-up,” who often stayed afterwards for a picnic lunch in the Gardens.

Our partnership with the

County YMCA also brought in visitors for reasons of health and wellness, taking advantage of the natural, calming beauty of the Gardens for the holistic classes of Meditation, Yoga, and Pilates. These classes were possible because Michele Lee Curtze, Jean Fera, and Mary Dugan stepped outside the gym and into the natural environment to teach. The classes began at the summer Solstice and ran through August, with an average number of 10 students per class, with many returning each week.

Our “Tea Time Talks” adult educational programs offered a little bit of something for all interests, leading to a record attendance number of 200 people for the 2010 season. For the first time the “Talks” began early in May with “A Mad Hatter’s Herbal Tea Party” catered by Nick’s Place with tea samples and discussion by Judy Berger from Chicory Hill Herbs in Erie. With vegetable gardening on the rise

all across the U.S., the talk on “Square Foot Gardening” by Master Gardener, Heather Zimmerman was very well attended. The interest in agricultural topics continued with a presentation by Bob Sonnenberg from the Erie Whole Foods Coop on “Faces of the New Farm” about the organic farming movement.

During June and July garden design was the emphasis, looking at gardening from two different perspectives. Brett Maloney offered “Designing with Color” from an artistic point of view. Greg Kedzierski from Ernst Conservation Seeds discussed design using “Native plants for Pollinators and Wildlife”, choosing plants from a habitat point of view.

As the season ended, “Tea Time Talks” brought in two well known gardening experts who brought along

their most recent books to sell and sign. Rick Mikula’s dynamic presentation, “Everything you ever wanted to know about Butterflies” brought a huge response from butterfly enthusiasts and flower gardeners. He also signed his book, “The Family Butterfly Book” for many of his local Master Gardener friends. Finally,

Goodell Gardens got a radio plug on KDKA, Pittsburgh from Doug Oster on his program, “The Organic Gardener.” He came to Goodell to talk about his newest book, “Tomatoes, Garlic, Basil” and the heart-felt stories behind why we garden.

Thanks to all our members who supported our “Tea Time Talks” programs this summer for either the educational value or for the delicious tea and scones from Edinboro Lakeside Bagel and Deli.



*Heather Zimmerman explains how to use a grid for Square Foot Gardening.*



*Pittsburgh’s Organic Gardening Guru, Doug Oster*

## 5TH ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL CAPS OFF 2010 SEASON

Once again, Goodell Gardens celebrated the end of our event season with the Homegrown Harvest Festival. This year's festival was held on Sunday, September 19th and was the best attended yet, with over 700 people enjoying crafts, food, music and a Farmers Market.

The Festival's Farmers Market included almost all of our weekly farmers market vendors and their produce, baked goods, plants, and maple products. In addition other vendors sold artisan cheese, pumpkins and squash, herbal products, cut flowers, and honey.

Live music was provided through-



out the Festival by the Muleskins, Eliza Bert, Picks and Hammers and Strings

Attached. The Craft Market vendors offered pottery, woodcarvings, jewelry, art quilt items, pressed flower art and



homemade beauty products. Children's activities, such as gourd decoration and bean bag toss games, kept the little ones happy while their parents enjoyed Wooden Nickel Buffalo Farm's famous Buffalo chili (which was sold out by the end of the day!).

The little bit of on and off rain didn't seem to dampen the spirits of visitors, many of whom simply put up their umbrellas and continued to enjoy the vendors and entertainment.

We are looking forward to making the 6th Annual Festival even bigger and better.

## OUR THANKS GO TO...

...the following volunteers who gave so generously of their time and talents during the 2010 season: Sue Scarlett, Mary Ann Horne, Boots Shaffer, Linda Stull, The SEED Club and AmeriCorps of Edinboro University, General McLane High School Experience Academy students, Hermitage House, Penn State Master Gardeners, Crawford County: Pat Lace, Chris Gregg, Cindy Soltys and Sue Breckenridge, Erie County: Margaret Corbin, Kathy Hauser, Cindy Pelkowski, Jean Urash, Jen Davis, Marty Irwin and Maria Blakeslee. The Gardens would also like to thank Honeycutt Nursery for plant donations. Also, thanks to Eclectic Eceteras Coffee House, Fred Parker, Hiedi Strausser, The County YMCA, Lori Burke, The PHMC, The Gillespie Foundation, Arts Erie and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.



## VISA GIVING GATEWAY ALLOWS FOR NEW ONLINE DONATION OPTION

It's hard to ignore the role that the Internet increasingly plays in our everyday lives. To many it has become an indispensable way to reach out to others, stay informed and get involved. Over the last few years, we have used our web page, e-newsletter and now Facebook page to keep our supporters up-to-date with all things Goodell. We are now happy to add to this mix an online donation option via The Visa Giving Gateway, a web portal made available by Visa and powered by Blackbaud, a leading provider of software and services designed specifically for nonprofits, which allows donors to

an easy a secure donation to their favorite charities.

For many small nonprofits, this one included, the costs associated with being able to accept donations via credit card are prohibitive. The Visa Giving Gateway allows us to accept donations with only a minimal amount subtracted to cover the administrative fees associated with credit card processing.

The Visa Giving Gateway allows donors to make donations with the "ease, convenience and security of using their Visa cards." There are no minimum or maximum donation amounts, donors have the option to remain

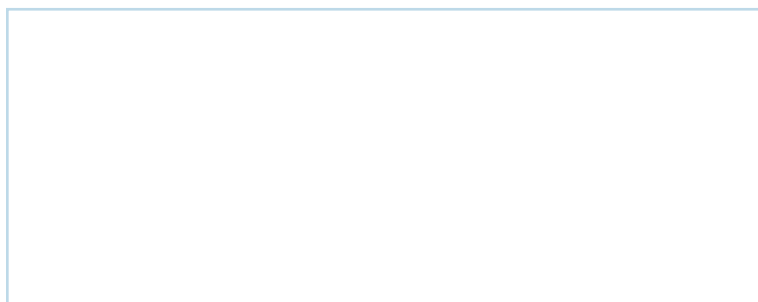
anonymous, and donations can also be made in memory of someone special. The money donated through Visa Giving Gateway is used for the general operation of an organization and cannot be designated for a specific purpose.

Just look for the Visa Giving Gateway "Donate Now" button on the Home Page of the Goodell Gardens web site ([www.goodellgardens.org](http://www.goodellgardens.org)). There you will also find a link to a FAQ page where you can learn more about the Visa Giving program.

# GOODELL GARDENS & HOMESTEAD



221 Waterford Street  
P.O. Box 156  
Edinboro PA 16412



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Dana Atwood <i>Director</i>	
Julie Manno <i>Administrative Assistant</i>	Heather Zimmerman <i>Education Program Coord.</i>
Delia Wojtecki <i>Gardener</i>	Brooke Harrison <i>Landscape Manager</i>

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221 Waterford Street  
P.O. Box 156  
Edinboro PA 16412

814-734-6699

[ggh\\_info@velocity.net](mailto:ggh_info@velocity.net)  
[www.goodellgardens.org](http://www.goodellgardens.org)

## **HOURS**

**Wednesday - Sunday**  
**11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**  
**May - October**