



APPLEFORD

The Apple Seed

APPLEFORD'S NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2023



Photo of Appleford by: Haley Richter Photography

Dating back to the time of William Penn, Appleford began as a humble stone farmhouse and grew to be one of the Main Line's most beautiful estates. Over the course of more than 300 years, the Villanova



Anabel Parsons

property passed through the hands of many colorful owners, including a series of gentlemen farmers, a tanner, a surgeon, and even one claiming to be a Polish duke. In 1926, Philadelphians Anabel and Lewis Parsons bought Appleford as their weekend country home and in the decades that followed, transformed it into a grand estate, filling the house with treasures from

their travels around the world. To expand and restore the house, they hired the noted Colonial Revival architect Richardson Brognard Okie. At the same time, landscape architect Thomas Sears carved out the formal gardens, pathways, and pond with waterfall, surrounded by a 24-acre arboretum and bird sanctuary. In 1973, Anabel Parsons died and bequeathed Appleford, along with all of its antiques and artwork, to Lower Merion Township. But the Township was reluctant



Anabel Parsons and son

to take over the maintenance of the property, and its future appeared uncertain until a group of concerned neighbors and friends stepped forward to volunteer their help.

Working together, the Appleford Committee and Lower Merion forged a unique partnership that has lasted for 50 years. The Township owns the property, while the volunteers at



Anabel and Lewis Parsons

Appleford support and maintain the house and grounds with the help of rental income instead of using taxpayer dollars. This year, as we celebrate our Golden Anniversary, the Appleford Committee invites you to join us in our mission to preserve this beautiful example of Pennsylvania farmhouse architecture and the open space that surrounds it. Take a peek at our calendar, attend an event, or come take a tour to learn more about this special piece of the Main Line's storied past.

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A Message from the President

Dear Appleford Family and Friends,

I hope you are well and giving thought to spring and all the beauty she brings each year.

Appleford is buzzing with activity as we prepare for another season of special events and memorable weddings. Our trees are being pruned, and garden beds cleaned and defined for a new season of wonder with blooming colors. As you walk the grounds, enjoy the majesty of 500 daffodil bulbs planted a few years back along the drive - what a treat!

We are excitedly planning our calendar of events in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Appleford Committee. In March, historian Jeff Groff gave a talk on Notable Women of the Main Line, featuring our benefactor, Mrs. Anabel Parsons, who generously bequeathed her home to Lower Merion Township. Other upcoming calendar highlights include an Arbor Day celebration in April, our Spring Open House in early May, and then we will kick off summer with our annual Summer Solstice Party in June. A calendar with specific dates and times is highlighted in this newsletter and updates will be posted to the Appleford website www.applefordestate.com throughout the year.

As part of our anniversary celebration, we will be sharing photos of Appleford through the years on our social media outlets. If you had a wedding or other event at Appleford and would care to share any photos, please send them to rsvpapplefordcommittee@gmail.com. We hope that you will follow us on Instagram @applefordestate or Appleford on Facebook to join in the fun.

We are tremendously grateful to our loyal Friends of Appleford and ask you to please consider joining them at events and through your donations. Your generous support allows us to maintain the house and gardens at the highest possible level for the benefit of the local community. I hope you will enjoy this newsletter and share it with friends and family to inspire them to connect with Appleford as well.

Thank you in advance for your loyal support and dedication to our mission. And please join me in wishing the Appleford Committee a Happy 50th Anniversary.

Cheers!

Lyn Marinchak

President, The Appleford Committee



The Appleford Committee

Lyn Marinchak, *President*

Bruce Belzak

Becky Best

Betsy Hastings Block

Susan P. Bloom

Nancy Bruechert

Carol M. Bryan

Carol Carlson

Wynrhys E. Coghlan

Patricia R. Cosgrave

Lorraine Y. DeSimone

Samantha Wolfe Ehlinger

Pamela S. Fish

Marion Laffey Fox

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Bernadette W. Holroyde

Karen Nagel Kamp

Christine V. Kanter

Patricia Kolff

Christine Kuhinka

Anja Levitties

Bruce N. Long

Leonard F. Magargee, Jr.

Binney McCague

Colleen Holt McCauley

Mary Kate Miller

John H. Rice

Kimberly Rosen

Eileen Kelly Sandifer

Carroll McConnell Shields

Michele C. Spence

Margot Sullivan

Alicia Templeton

Mary Vaira

Sustaining Members

Sally Castle

Cathy Decker

Lori M. Fell

Beth C. Hare

Kristin Hays

Libby Hill

Marylyn S. Jeffers

Lee McIlvaine Manonian

Joanna Phelan

Daniel Brainard Slack

Helen Weary

Julie Williams

Geraldine Zipf

Lisa McBride - *Director*

of Marketing and Events

Sofia & John McGinty

Resident Managers



APPLEFORD
COMMITTEE

Celebrating 50 years as a committee

Come join in the celebrations for the Appleford Committee's 50th Anniversary! It is a wonderful year to become a member with a few additional events in the planning.

Summer Solstice, our annual garden party fundraiser, where our exclusive Appleford caterers donate a lush display of tastings, will be held on Thursday, June 22, 2023.

Appleford Holiday Party

Our Holiday Party is one of the most beloved traditions at Appleford. It was held on the evening of the first Friday of December 2022. It is a cherished party for Friends of Appleford who receive an invitation from the Appleford Committee in appreciation of their financial support.

From the approach to the property through the gates to the outside entrance of the house, lush greens abounded.

Every sense is heightened once you enter the home, from the piano playing in the music room to the bursts of color adorning the front hall and throughout. There is a warmth that is unmatched once you experience the welcoming display of holiday decorations and see friends and neighbors.

Seedling and Sage, our new caterer, generously donated the food this year. They had a magnificent carving station and a dining room table full of tempting

hors d'oeuvres and side dishes. The desserts were donated by the Appleford Committee. Linda Child, the talented pianist of the night, kindly donated her time and her festive music created the most memorable holiday spirit filling the home.

A Silent Auction is also part of the tradition. This year it was highlighted by "Painter for the Day" donated by Nolan Painting, a dinner for 10 donated by Seedling and Sage, a New Years basket and 6 other popular items.



Calendar of Events 2023

Created to preserve one of the Main Line's historic treasures, the Appleford Committee is celebrating its Golden Anniversary with a series of exciting special events.

APR
28

9:00 am
Arbor Day Celebration

MAY
10

5:00 - 8:00 pm
Spring Open House

JUN
22

6:00 - 9:00 pm
Summer Solstice Party

DEC
7

6:30 - 9:00 pm
Appleford Holiday Party

DEC
13

5:00 - 7:00 pm
Winter Open House

Please save the dates!

Stay tuned for more details by invitation, in the Apple Seed newsletters, and at www.applefordestate.com throughout the year.

Thank you for your generous support!

The Appleford Committee extends its gratitude to the following individuals and families who made a contribution to Appleford between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022.

Benefactors (\$1,000 and above)

Mr. Bruce Long and Mr. Mark Todaro
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Miller
* Charlotte C. Weber and Virginia E. Moens

Patrons (\$500-\$999)

Mr. Bruce C. Belzak
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Bloom
Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Bloom
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Buck
* Linda Child
Mrs. Edward C. Dearden
Dr. and Mrs. James E. Fish
Mr. and Mrs. S. M. V. Hamilton, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Hardon
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Harrington
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Heintz
Mrs. Christine V. Kanter
Dr. and Mrs. Jacob Kolff
Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Robb, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Stonberg
Mr. and Mrs. Philip A. Sullivan
Ms. Alicia Templeton and Howard Donahue
* Mr. and Mrs. Peter Thompson
Mrs. Helen S. Weary
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Wiber
Mrs. Thomas A. Williams

Supporters (\$300-\$499)

Mr. Fred L. Bissinger, Jr.
Mrs. Patricia R. Cosgrave
Mr. and Mrs. John D. Cunningham
Mr. and Mrs. Frank DeSimone

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Enslin
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Fell
Ms. Beth C. Hare
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Kamp
* Ann Strohacker and John Knetschmor
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Madeja
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard F. Magargee, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Simon Manonian
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Powell
Ms. Barbara W. Rawls
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Brainard Slack
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Vaira
Mrs. Ethel Benson Wister

Friends (\$150-\$299)

Mr. and Mrs. Luke Block
Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Bruechert
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bryan
Ms. Carol M. Bryan
* Ms. Carol Carlson
Mr. and Mrs. John Clendenning, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Clower
Mrs. Wynrhys E. Coghlan
* Dr. and Mrs. Michael Cohen
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Coleman
* Matthew Cornelius
Mrs. Craig Cullen
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Decker
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Mr. and Mrs. John Donaldson
Mr. and Mrs. John Ehlinger
Mr. James Franklin and Mr. Brett Samuels
* Ashley and Steve Ganz
Ms. Judi Garst

Mr. and Mrs. James Gately
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Gillespie
Dr. and Mrs. Greg Harper
Mrs. Kristin Hays
Mrs. Libby Hill
Dr. and Mrs. Christopher Holroyde
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen W. Holt
* Liz and Tim Huston
* Ms. Emely Karandy
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Keating
Mrs. D. Scott Kelley
Mr. and Mrs. William Kenny
Mr. and Mrs. Justin P. Klein
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Ms. Lee Ann Kress
Ms. Christine Kuhinka
Mr. and Mrs. Judson Laverell
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Levitties
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lidz
Mr. Steven Lindner
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Marchetto
Dr. and Mrs. Roger Marinchak
Lisa and Brian McBride
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony K. McCague
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Mr. and Mrs. Paul M. Mecray III
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Morgan
Mrs. Amanda Barnes Muckle
* Mr. and Mrs. George Parsons
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Phelan
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Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence S. Reichlin
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Rice

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Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Shaver
Mr. and Mrs. David Shields
Happy and Sam Shipley
Dr. and Mrs. David H. Spence
* Mr. and Mrs. William D. Sprague
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Thacher
Janice Gault and Jim Vander
Mr. and Mrs. Sankey Williams
Leslie Miller and Richard Worley
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence R. Zipf

Donors (\$75-149)

Dr. Shilpa Rao & Dr. Sahil Banka
Mr. Gorel Bengtson
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Brookins
Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Collings
Ms. Susan Geyelin
Mr. and Mrs. Martyn Greenacre
Ms. Margaret S. Havens
Lia Calhoun and Michael Homans
Mrs. Judy Macgregor
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peterson
Mr. and Mrs. Marc Rayfield
Ms. Harriet Sullivan
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Unruh

Gifts under \$75

Ms. Jean K. Wolf

* New Friends in 2022

Appleford Events

As the Appleford Committee celebrates 50 years, we can't help but be thankful for all of the bridal couples who have been married at Appleford over the years. I'm always thrilled when a couple returns for a visit with their children or grandchildren to show them where they were married. In June of 2020 I met Kate and Ian who were my first booking for 2022. I couldn't believe they were booking two years out, but soon found out why. Kate's parents, Jennifer and Dan were married at Appleford in May of 1993 and for sentimental reasons, it meant the world to Kate to get married where her parents were married. As luck would have it,

Kate and Ian were blessed with a beautiful May Saturday and had a fabulous time full of special memories. They even invited many of the same people who attended her parents' wedding. When I asked Kate's mom, Jennifer, what she remembers about her wedding almost 30 years ago and what she thought about her daughter getting married at Appleford she said, "What struck us the most was the sense of coming full circle. Dan and I began our "official" life together at Appleford surrounded by friends and family. Both of us have often said that our wedding day was one of the most fun days we've ever had -- and it felt really special to see Kate and Ian begin their marriage at the same place and in

the same way. While there have been some changes (for the better!) at Appleford over the last 30 years, the constancy of the beautiful grounds and wonderful amenities make it a lovely place to create enduring memories and launch a new couple on the adventure of marriage. In truth, we hope that Kate's younger sisters decide to follow the same path!"

We would like to thank Jennifer and Dan, Kate and Ian, and all of our wonderful couples who have given us so many great memories over the years. We look forward to you visiting and creating more full-circle moments!

- Lisa McBride



Dan Jalboot & Jennifer Peterson



Katherine Jalboot & Ian Herrighty



Photos by: Amaris Photography

Kate & Ian's Wedding Photo

Appleford Gardens



We all know the adage, "When one door closes, another door opens." This is exactly what happened when we sadly had one of our important trees removed last December. A mighty oak in the boxwood garden had been diseased for years and pruning was no longer an option. John B. Ward & Co. did a superb job of removing the tree without any damage to the gardens. Although we mourn the loss of a very old tree, the aftermath is the new "open door" to the Memorial Garden. The entry to this delightful pocket-garden had always been hidden by

the oak tree. In fact, I think many visitors didn't know it existed! The brick walled garden is the Jean Sheperd Putnam Memorial Garden; honoring one of the founding members of the Appleford Committee. Jean was an avid gardener, interior designer, and active committee member. Another plaque gives thanks to Louis Hood for making this garden a reality. Louis was also a gardener and past president of The Appleford Committee.



APPLEFORD

COMMITTEE

Appleford
770 Mt. Moro Rd.
Villanova, PA 19085

Save *the* Date!

Summer Solstice at Appleford

Thursday, June 22, 2023
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Support Appleford with an annual donation today using our QR code
and we hope to see you at our events throughout the year!

