



HOLLY SOCIETY JOURNAL

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HOLLY SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

The Holly Society of America, Inc., founded in 1947, is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization of individuals interested in learning about the genus *Ilex*. Through Society publications, lectures, meetings, and visits to holly collections, information is provided for skilled growers as well as novices. Local or regional groups of holly enthusiasts are encouraged to establish chapters under the National Society.

The Holly Society funds research and serves as the International Registration Authority for cultivated *Ilex*, having been so appointed in 1958 by the International Commission for Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union of Biological Sciences.

Members receive two issues of the *Holly Society Journal* and at least three issues of the *Holly Letter* a year. Annual dues are as follows: Regular Membership (Individual or Joint to one address, domestic or foreign): Standard, \$30.00; Sustaining, \$60.00; Sponsoring, \$120.00. Life Membership: Individual, \$600.00. Commercial or Institutional Membership: Standard, \$60.00; Sustaining, \$120.00.

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Front and Back Covers: *Ilex aquifolium* 'Evangeline' from the Elmore Holly Collection, the University of Tennessee Arboretum, Oak Ridge, TN. Photos by Charlie Jernigan, Oak Ridge, TN. Graphics by Jim Cannon, Seamus Design, seamusdesign.com.

HOLLY SOCIETY JOURNAL
VOLUME 29 NUMBER 2 2011

Holly Arboreta 2010 Annual Reports	3
Arboretum Bokrijk	3
Arboretum des Près des Culands Conservatoire National D’Ilex.....	4
Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest	5
Blue Ridge Community College.....	6
Callaway Gardens	6
Chollipo Arboretum	7
Clark-Landsbaum Deming Park Holly Arboretum	8
The Dawes Arboretum	10
Missouri Botanical Gardens	13
The Morris Arboretum	13
Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park.....	15
The Polly Hill Arboretum	15
The Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College	17
University of Tennessee Arboretum	19
U.S. National Arboretum	20
Washington Park Arboretum	21
International Ilex Cultivar Registrations	23
<i>Michael R. Pontti</i>	
Reminder: Holly-of-the-Year Poster	29
<i>Emily Jernigan</i>	
In Memoriam	29
Welcome, New Trustees	29
Annual Meeting 2011	29
Holly Haven.....	31
<i>Dan Dewey</i>	
Treasurer’s Report, March 31, 2011	34
<i>Dennis Superczynski</i>	
Holly Society Journal Volume 29 - 2011 Index.....	35
HSA Annual Meeting Sites	36



Ilex × koehneana 'Martha Berry' in the Elmore Holly Collection at the University of Tennessee Arboretum, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
Photo by Charlie Jernigan.

HOLLY ARBORETA 2010 ANNUAL REPORTS

Holly Society Official Holly Arboreta and Experimental Test Centers are public or semipublic institutions that educate plant lovers in the use of holly in the landscape and comply with HSA guidelines. These institutions maintain properly labeled holly collections and accurate accession records that include valid name, source, date and size (or age) when received, location, and other relevant information. Official Arboreta and Test Centers must submit annual reports to the Society in order to stay active. These reports include pertinent weather data, additions or deletions to the collection, notes on holly performance, and general information on holly collections and projects involving them. Test Centers must also report the status of ongoing research involving holly. Following are the Official Holly Arboreta and Experimental Test Center reports for 2010. Inventory lists for some arboreta may be found on the HSA website, <http://www.hollysocam.org>.

ARBORETUM BOKRIJK

3600 Genk (Limburg) Belgium (Hardiness Zone 7b)

Our region had another abnormal winter, this time with more snow than we've had since 1963. Many plants that were killed in the severe winter of 2008–2009 had re-sprouted in the late summer of 2010, but they weren't hardened off enough so they were killed to the ground.

The temperature wasn't as low as in the previous winter but there was a longer period of day and night frost. The snow was an advantage in that the ground did not freeze solid. A drawback was that the snow cover was so heavy that we lost some interesting plants such as a nearly fifty-year-old *Pinus densiflora* 'Umbraculifera' and a holly of the same age, a huge and beautiful shrub of *Ilex bitoritsensis*.

In June a very dry spell did the most damage, killing many younger plants. We had intensively watered them, but in an arboretum of more than 36 acres it's not always easy to water all the newly planted plants.

We have no new holly additions. We are especially in search of species of wild origin or seeds collected in the wild, which is always a problem since rarely can we find wild-collected *Ilex* seeds on seed lists.

In November, I was in Taiwan on Mount Hehuan (10,500 feet/3200 m) and for the first time I saw *I. bitoritsensis* growing in the wild. It was in subalpine vegetation with *Abies kawakamii*, *Berberis morrisonensis*,

Rosa sericea var. *morrisonensis*, *Sorbus randaiensis* and *Rhododendron pseudochrysanthum*, *Juniperus squamata* var. *morrisonensis* and, nearly everywhere, the bamboo *Yushania niitakayamensis*. *Ilex bioritsensis* is the same plant that was previously identified as *I. pernyi* var. *veitchii*.

On Mount Morrison (3000 m/1.9 miles), also called Mount Yü or Mount Hsin-kao, I saw another holly that I think was *I. hayataiana* but it had no seeds. Perhaps in the future the Taiwanese Forestry Research Institute will collect seeds of their high mountain holly species. They have an excellent specimen of *I. seminum*; I think it may be one of the best in the world. We have many plants from this list, and the Welsh nursery, Crûg Farm, also has interesting wild-collected plants from Taiwan. Unfortunately, not any of them are hollies!

Jef Van Meulder, Curator, Plant Collections

ARBORETUM DES PRÈS DES CULANDS CONSERVATOIRE NATIONAL D'ILEX

La Nivelle- 45130 Meung Sur Loire, France (Hardiness Zone 7)

In 2010 we had 5 cm (2 inches) of snow in January; February was cold, down to -11°C (12°F); March was humid. In summer we had several days which were over 35°C (95°F). October was cold, and we had 25 cm (10 inches) of snow in November. December had temperatures down to -6 and -11°C (21 and 12°F) with 5 cm (2 inches) of snow.

Pollination was average and we had good fruit production. Unfortunately, the fruit quickly disappeared because the arboretum's numerous birds are very fond of the berries.

We added three hollies to our collection:

I. arnhemensis subsp. *fernandii*

I. × attenuata 'Abdridge'

I. 'Silver Dollar'

We had difficulties with *I. opaca*, which grows poorly in this country.

We want to enrich our *Ilex* collection and continue to observe its development in our climate. We would like to contact American nurseries that could provide us with cuttings.

The following Holly-of-the-Year specimens have shown some these characteristics:

<i>I. crenata</i> ‘Sky Pencil’:	Slow development
<i>I. × koehneana</i> ‘Lassie’:	Beautiful foliage
<i>I. opaca</i> ‘Satyr Hill’:	Little growth
<i>I. × attenuata</i> ‘Sunny Foster’:	Beautiful shoots, nice color
<i>I.</i> ‘Scepter’:	Lovely foliage, fruitful, good foliage

Pierre Paris, Conservateur

BERNHEIM ARBORETUM AND RESEARCH FOREST Clermont, KY (USDA Hardiness Zone 6a)

Yet another year has passed at Bernheim as we continue to grow, change and conform to the seasons and the challenges they bring. Our weather was as unpredictable as usual, or at least, unusually predictable. It seems that the current pattern of high temperatures and minimal moisture has become the norm in the past several years. Rainfall was less than 3 inches (8 cm) combined for the months of August, September, and October. Although we continue to irrigate the collections as much as we are able, they have still been affected by the lack of summer rainfall over the last four years. Fortunately, the *Ilex* collection has continued to do well under these stressful conditions.

We continue to correctively prune the trees that were damaged by the 2009 ice storm. Many of the *I. opaca* lost their main leaders in this storm and need to be retrained to this habit. This will be an ongoing process for several years. Although Bernheim likes to present its specimens in a natural form, it has become necessary to strategically and carefully prune some of the lower limbs off of the trees along the path that winds through the American Hollies. Originally planted in a 24 × 24 foot (7.3 × 7.3 m) grid pattern for ease of display and study, some of the trees will require thoughtful reshaping as they have grown larger through the years. The bed of *Ilex* hybrids that was removed last year has been replaced with a *Buxus* planting that will be for evaluation purposes.

Berry set throughout the collection was heavy this year on the *I. opaca*, but the deciduous cultivars dropped much of their fruit before ripening due to dry conditions. Light snows fell in November and again at Christmas, creating fantastic photo opportunities. Growth in the collection was average among all species.

Additional accessions this year were: *I.* ‘Conin’ Robin™; *I.* ‘Magland’ Oakland™; *I. verticillata* ‘Sparkleberry’; *I. crenata* ‘Mistress’; *I. crenata* ‘Hoogendorn’; and *I. crenata* ‘Green Lustre’. There were only two deaccessions from the collection: *I. opaca* ‘Diane’ and *I.* ‘Mesog’ China Girl®.

We are excited about the 2011 year and upcoming events such as Bloomfest on May 21, which is our annual spring plant sale and celebration of all things gardening. The Smart Gardens and Landscapes series will also begin this year and will contain hands on classes on various aspects of gardening including sessions such as composting, edible ornamental gardens, water-saving vegetable gardening, small fruits, container gardening, the fall garden, organic gardening, no lawn landscaping, using natives and many more interesting topics. Please take time to check us out at www.bernheim.org for a listing of all upcoming events, memberships, and opportunities to enjoy nature.

Eric Garris, Curator, Hubbuch Holly Collection

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Flat Rock, NC (USDA Hardiness Zone 7)

The weather was normal here in 2010. Our hollies performed well and fruiting was good. We had some scale.

There weren’t any additions or deletions to our collection.

We had no special events or information about our collection this season and no research projects.

We have no Holly-of-the-Year on which to report.

David Tabor, BRCC Grounds Supervisor

CALLAWAY GARDENS

Pine Mountain, GA (USDA Hardiness Zone 7b)

In 2010 our rainfall amounts and temperatures were within the norm for our area.

There were no significant changes to our holly collection.

We have no current research projects nor promotions and presentations, but we are currently propagating *I. cornuta* ‘D’Or’ and *I. cornuta* ‘O’Spring’.

We have two Holly-of-the-Year plants, *I. crenata* ‘Sky Pencil’, and both are doing well.

Kathy Crye, Horticulture Department

CHOLLIPO ARBORETUM

Republic of Korea (Zone 7-8)

The weather in 2010 was variable. Annual maximum temperature was 35°C (95°F) on July 20 and the minimum temperature was -10°C (14°F) on January 8. Both temperatures were similar to last year, but the precipitation was 2020.5 mm (79.5 inches). This is nearly 2.4 times higher than in 2009. The greatest precipitation per hour recorded was 56.5 mm (2.2 inches) on July 24. For the first time in the past 20 years the Arboretum was a large pond of flood water.

In the early morning of September 2, the powerful Typhoon Kompasu went through our arboretum. Its central barometric pressure was 975 mb and the highest wind speed in Chollipo was 29.6 km/h (80.5 mph). The storm left a lot of damage to the Tae'an and Seosan where the arboretum is located. In Chollipo Arboretum 496 trees were destroyed. Of these trees, 96 were more than 30 years old and averaged 10 m (32.8 feet) in height. Fortunately, however, we have not yet found any damage to the hollies.

The Director of Chollipo Arboretum, Bosik Lee, died of cancer on October 22, 2010. He was the former minister of the Korean Forest Service and had served in Chollipo Arboretum since January 2009. He decided that our Arboretum would be open to the public beginning in 2009. The total number of visitors to the Arboretum in 2010 was about 164,000. Currently, the director position is vacant. The botanist Eunbok Lee, Ph.D., was installed as chairman of The Chollipo Arboretum Foundation. He directs practical business.

We recorded the following new plants from seeds:

I. leucoclada (Kyoto Botanic Garden / Japan)

I. pedunculosa (Kyoto Botanic Garden / Japan)

I. sugerokii (Kyoto Botanic Garden / Japan)

I. pedunculosa var. *pedunculosa* (University Botanic Garden
of Utrecht / The Netherlands)

I. × meserveae (National Botanic Garden of Latvia / Latvia)

Cuttings were taken for propagation from the following:

<i>I.</i> ‘Elegance’	<i>I. glabra</i> ‘Nana’
<i>I.</i> ‘Nellie R. Stevens’	<i>I. opaca</i> ‘Golden Knight’ (<i>M</i>)
<i>I. aquifolium</i> ‘Crispa Aureopicta’	<i>I. opaca</i> ‘Kloster Berry’ (<i>F</i>)
<i>I. aquifolium</i> ‘Gold Burst’	<i>I. × altaclerensis</i> ‘Purple Shaft’
<i>I. crenata</i> ‘Golden Gem’	<i>I. × koehneana</i> ‘Chestnut Leaf’
<i>I. fargesii</i>	<i>I. × wandoensis</i>
<i>I. glabra</i> ‘Gold Mine’	

The following hollies died:

<i>I. aquifolium</i> ‘Argentea Marginata’
<i>I. aquifolium</i> ‘Golden Van Tol’
<i>I. aquifolium</i> ‘Scotica’
<i>I. cassine</i> ‘Rosmarinifolia’
<i>I. myrtifolia</i> (2)
<i>I. opaca</i> ‘Vera’

The following hollies looked especially nice in 2010:

<i>I.</i> ‘Apollo’	<i>I. decidua</i> ‘Red Cascade’
<i>I.</i> ‘Nellie R. Stevens’	<i>I. laevigata</i>
<i>I. cornuta</i>	<i>I. × wandoensis</i>
<i>I. cornuta</i> ‘Dwarf Burford’	

We did not relocate any hollies in 2010.

Many hollies produced superb fruits last year. Of course, many birds enjoyed the fruits in the Arboretum, too.

Chang-ho Chio

CLARK-LANDSBAUM DEMING PARK HOLLY ARBORETUM

Terre Haute, Indiana (USDA Hardiness Zone 5b)

There was a moderate drought from January through April, and the temperature was below normal through March. From April through October the temperature was above normal. August was the second driest in thirty years and the dry spell continued through October. The hollies were stressed going into winter. In December the temperature was 6.6°F (3.7°C) below normal. There were 36.86 inches (0.94 m) of annual rain-

fall. Normal is 41.36 inches (1 m). The 20 inches (0.51 m) of snow for 2010 was about average.

Hollies added to the Arboretum this year include six *I. opacas*: a yellow-berried 'America Jules Gold'; a tall, cylindrical 'Cheerful'; 'Hendricks'; 'Jack Koenig'; 'McGrew Church Cemetery'; and 'Mount Vernon', a cutting from a holly planted by George Washington. A local nursery gave us 4 red holly hybrids in 2005. Two cultivars did very well in the Arboretum (*I.* 'Conin' Robin™ and *I.* 'Conaf' Oakleaf™). When the Southern Living Plant Collection learned that some of the red hollies were doing well in zone 5B, they sent us Robin™ and 'Magland' Oakland™ hollies in three-gallon containers to see how they would do in the Arboretum. Oakland™ has replaced Oakleaf. The new hollies were planted in three different locations. Four *I. crenata* were removed: 'Alan Seay' (1) and 'Green Thumb' (3).

The Friends of the Arboretum (FOTA) continues to maintain and improve the Arboretum in Deming Park. We will celebrate our twentieth anniversary in 2012 and are planning several activities for this event. Funds to support our organization are raised by the sale of holly wreaths at Christmas, logo clothing, holly plants, and other projects. Grants and donations are also very helpful in funding our 501(c)(3) organization.

We continue to speak to various groups and give tours of the Arboretum. This includes church organizations, garden clubs, civic groups and schools. Lectures and tours are conducted for Master Gardeners and Ivy Tech students.

Since 2003, FOTA has planted 144 hollies throughout the community. These are located at five local colleges, public schools, public buildings, churches, city parks, and at the entrance to the City of Terre Haute. It is part of our attempt to promote the use of holly throughout the city.

The Arboretum now contains over 400 plants, 12 species of *Ilex* and over 200 cultivars. There are Holly-of-the-Year program specimens here. Two 'Satyr Hill' planted in 1998 in a wet area are just surviving. 'Sky Pencil' was planted in 2000 and is very attractive. 'Lassie' was planted in 2003 and started slowly, but has had berries the last two years. 'Sunny Foster' was planted in 1996 and was protected during the winter for several years. It now dies back each winter. One 'Lewis', planted in 2000, died the first year; another rooted cutting, planted in 2006 and grown in a nursery, is now 40 inches (1 m) tall and will be planted in the Arboretum this spring.

Robert Artis, Friends of the Arboretum

THE DAWES ARBORETUM

Newark, Ohio (USDA Hardiness Zone 5b)

The year 2010 was marked by cool but not excessively cold winter temperatures, and our lowest recorded temperature occurred on February 8 ($-4.4^{\circ}\text{F}/-20.2^{\circ}\text{C}$). Heavy snows fell early in 2010, followed by freezing rain that resulted in a long and persistent ice-encrusted snow cover that lasted into March. This was particularly stressful to broadleaf evergreens whose branches were severely bent over and sometimes pinned to the ground under the weight of ice and snow. A number of young and medium-aged American hollies suffered stem damage and broken leaders. Since this species is noted for its recalcitrance to form a central leader (leading to its unpopularity with many nurserymen), it will be interesting to observe how much success we will have in reestablishing leaders on these damaged specimens. Moreover, American hollies have a higher than normal tendency to activate dormant lateral meristems and initiate vigorous, upright, water sprout growth once the terminal growing point has been compromised. This will require repeated follow-up pruning to remove these vigorous shoots to maintain an open and well-branched canopy.

The summer of 2010 was unusually hot and dry and we recorded over 14 days on which the mercury climbed to 90°F (32.2°C) or warmer. The hottest day occurred on September 2 ($92^{\circ}\text{F}/33^{\circ}\text{C}$), but temperatures over 90°F (32.2°C) were recorded as late as September 24. Summer precipitation totaled 7.85 inches (20 cm) but precipitation totals for the year measured only 29.85 inches (75.8 cm) or approximately 7 inches (17.8 cm) below average. Fortunately, the main component of our holly collection, American holly, tolerated this combination of heat and drought amazingly well, adding to the body of evidence that this species is quite deserving of its drought tolerant reputation.

A number of specimens were added to the Arboretum's holly collection in 2010, including some rather marginally hardy taxa. This includes two specimens of wild-collected sweet gallberry (*I. coriacea*) that were planted in the spring as well as two plants of Shiro-fukurin Japanese holly (*I. crenata* 'Shiro-fukurin'). The former species is very much akin to inkberry (*I. glabra*), and both are common in the Coastal Plain of the southeastern United States. The latter holly is an attractive variegated selection of Japanese holly but is considered hardy only to USDA Zone 6b. One plant of Nordic™ inkberry (*I. glabra* 'Chamzin') and several cultivars of American holly (*I. opaca* 'Cardinal', 'Christmas Snow',

'Dunn No. 2', 'France', 'Osa', 'St. Mary' and 'Weston') were also added to the collection. The planting of 'Christmas Snow' American holly, one of two variegated forms of the species, marks our second attempt to grow this attractive plant. Several years ago we lost a specimen to apparent winter injury, but I suspect the real cause of its demise was lack of vigor due to its proximity to black walnut. The last of the list, Weston American holly, is a male selection from Weston Nurseries, Hopkinton, Massachusetts. Its leaves are particularly spiny and more narrow than those of the species.

Other evergreen hollies added to the collection include Castle Wall™ Meserve holly (*I. × meserveae* 'Heckenstar'), a golden foliaged selection of Japanese holly (*I. crenata* 'Golden Heller'), and an interesting interspecies hybrid between possumhaw and American holly (*I. decidua* × *I. opaca*) that we grew from cuttings obtained from Bernheim Forest Arboretum and Research, Clermont, Kentucky. I first observed a plant of this cross during our 2005 annual meeting in Louisville, although I knew beforehand that cross pollination was possible between these two species. In most respects this plant appears to be much like that of an ordinary American holly except for the much reduced leaf spines, slightly finer textured stems and a more down-swept branching habit. These characteristics are evident in other American hollies, most notably 'Chief Paduke'. I have long surmised that perhaps this highly venerated cultivar might be the result of this same interspecific cross.

In the fall of 2010 we added several deciduous hollies to the collection, the most exciting of which is a yellow-fruited selection of possumhaw called 'Byers Golden'. This also marks our second attempt to grow this plant. I propagated our first specimen from semi-hardwood cuttings sent to us from John Bon Hartline of Anna, Illinois, who originally found and named this cultivar. However, just as it began to show promise, it wilted and died almost overnight. Because 'Byer's Golden' possumhaw is exceedingly difficult to propagate, it remains quite rare in commerce, and we are indeed indebted to Bob Hopkins of Louisville, Kentucky, for his generosity in donating a plant for our collection. Two other possumhaw selections, *I. decidua* 'Benton' and 'Hunter', were also added this past fall. Benton possumhaw also originated with John Bon Hartline and appears to be a typical red-fruited selection. 'Hunter', on the other hand, has been an exceptional plant at Bernheim for many years and bears copious crops of red fruit. Lastly, one cultivar of common winterberry, *I. verticillata* 'Mary Jo', was planted at the lower end of Holly Hill, and I hope it will

perform in the field as well as it has in our nursery. 'Mary Jo' has so far been a compact plant with larger than average red fruit, and I compare it favorably with 'Stop Light' winterberry (*I. verticillata* 'Stop Light').

"What is undone can be done but what is done cannot be undone."

-- Arthur Schopenhauer, 1854

Several specimens in our collection, unfortunately, lapsed into the category of *done* and were subsequently removed from our collections. A good percentage of these removals were Japanese hollies which were knocked out from the one-two combination of deer browse and winter injury. Three out of four specimens of *I. crenata* (Watanabeana Group), the last plant each of *I. crenata* 'Glass', 'Noble Upright', and an unnamed variegated selection, fell into this category. Two other winter casualties included *I. × aquipernyi* 'Meschick' and *I. coriacea*, but other specimens survive.

There are ironic instances where plants are removed because they grow too well and consequently impede the growth of other plants. Three 10 feet (3 m) tall Blue Maid™ Meserve hollies (*I. × meserveae* 'Mesid') had layered profusely and were painstakingly dug out after exceeding their acceptable boundaries.

Poor growth and continued dieback determined the fate of two out of three plants of the hybrid winterberry *I.* 'Hopewell Myte', and one specimen each of Japanese winterberry (*I. serrata*) and common winterberry (*I. verticillata*). The remaining removals included several American holly selections: *I. opaca* 'Jersey Knight', 'Lake City', 'Parade', 'Simpson No. 2', and 'Wheeler No. 50'. 'Lake City', 'Simpson #2' and 'Wheeler #50' were the last of their types at The Dawes Arboretum. The decline of Simpson No. 2 American holly was somewhat unfortunate because it displayed the best fruit and form of those we bought from Simpson Nursery of Vincennes, Indiana, some twenty-two years ago.

In conclusion, I nominate, without reservation, 'Marsh Mutation' American holly (*I. opaca* 'Marsh Mutation') for the holly showing the most bizarre and unique form. Our specimen of this broom-like oddity has an upright, egg-shaped crown with dense tufts of growth at the apex and again near the base. In between exists a reasonably bare stem producing thin shoots of clustered leaves. More than once I have shown this holly to visiting plantsmen, after which they retort, invariably, "Weird."

Richard A. Larson, Nursery Manager

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDENS
St. Louis, Missouri (USDA Hardiness Zone 6b)

The weather for 2010 was wet and hot. Spring was wet, but temperatures stayed cool. Summer was hot and while we had above normal rainfall, it was a dry summer because most if the rain came in heavy storms. This dryness lasted into the fall, with October being very dry. We had very heavy berry set and berry color was very good in the fall. Berries lasted throughout the winter. The collection has not added or lost plants this year.

Walter Behrendt, Senior Horticulturist

THE MORRIS ARBORETUM
Philadelphia, PA (Hardiness Zone 6)

2010 was a year of weather extremes. The most significant event in the winter was a record snowfall, with a total of 54.6 inches (1.39 m) in January and February. In comparison, July and August were very hot and dry. For a 30 day stretch from late July through late August, we had 13 days with high temperatures of 90°F (32.2°C) or more, and less than 1 inch (2.5 cm) of total rainfall. The heavy snowfall did considerable damage to our hollies, but the drought did not affect the health of our holly collection. As always, I was impressed by the resilient quality of the hollies.

As of December 31, 2010, we have 168 taxa of *Ilex* planted in our collection. (Complete list available on the HSA website.)

In 2010, we planted nine plants of six taxa, four of which were new (*) to our collection:

* <i>I. × koehneana</i> 'Chieftain'	<i>I. verticillata</i> 'Southern Gentleman'
* <i>I. × koehneana</i> 'Ruby'	
* <i>I. opaca</i> 'Orlando Pride'	<i>I. verticillata</i> 'Winter Red' (2)
* <i>I. pedunculosa</i> 'Steven's Male'	

We lost 19 plants from our collection during 2010 - eight taxa, two taxa lost (*) from our collection):

<i>I. × attenuata</i> 'Savannah'	<i>I. opaca</i> (2)
<i>I. crenata</i> 'Snowflake'	<i>I. verticillata</i> 'Red Sprite'
* <i>I. glabra</i> 'Gold Mine'	<i>I. verticillata</i> 'Scarlett O'Hara'
* <i>I.</i> 'Little Della'	<i>I. verticillata</i> 'Winter Red' (4)

One other taxon was lost when *I. × wandoensis* was re-identified as *I. cornuta*.

Several hollies are noteworthy this year because of fruit-set and/or foliage quality, their rarity, or because of cold-hardiness. These include:

I. aquifolium – very good leaf quality

I. ‘Dapat’ (Miss Patricia™) – highly lustrous foliage

I. ‘Edward J. Stevens’ – excellent form and leaf quality

I. × koehneana ‘Ajax’ – excellent form and leaf quality

I. × koehneana ‘Hohman’ – excellent form and leaf quality

I. × koehneana ‘Lassie’ – denser branching structure than other cultivars on site

I. latifolia – male; excellent form and leaf color

I. ‘Rutzan’ (Red Beauty®) – dense shape and slow growth, good for landscape use

We are currently working with the Scott Arboretum on propagating *I. opaca* ‘Mrs. Santa’, which was planted at the Morris Arboretum in 1950. Our plant may have to be removed because of a construction project but we are trying to propagate it before its removal.

In October we donated a large number of assorted hollies to the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society’s Fall Garden Festival. These plants are distributed to the members of PHS.

Hollies-of-the-Year:

I. ‘Sky Pencil’ – We have one plant; but it does not look good due to poor siting.

I. × koehneana ‘Lassie’ – We have one plant with a very nice structure with dense lower branching and good fruit set.

I. verticillata ‘Maryland Beauty’ – two plants; good shape and densely branched structure, excellent fruit set but these are eaten early by the birds.

I. verticillata ‘Red Sprite’ – several mass plantings; good growth; fruits well, but stripped early in season by birds

Anthony Aiello, Curator and Director of Horticulture and
Elinor I. Goff, Plant Recorder

PLANTING FIELDS ARBORETUM STATE HISTORIC PARK

Oyster Bay, NY (USDA Hardiness Zone 7a)

This past spring and summer we had below average rainfall and above average temperatures that included drought conditions. The winter was harsh with below average temperatures (approximately 3°F/-16°C) and heavy snowfall.

Our holly collection has performed well, with average fruit production despite the harsh weather conditions. However, it may affect the plant growth and fruit production for 2011.

We added many dwarf hollies that were planted in our conifer garden. The 2010 Holly of the Year, *Ilex verticillata* 'Red Sprite', has been performing very well in our gardens.

This year Planting Fields will be hosting the Annual Holly Society of America Conference in October.

Additions made in 2010 to our collection:

<i>Ilex serrata</i> (3)	<i>I. crenata</i> 'Dwarf Pagoda' (3)
<i>I.</i> 'Mary Nell' (1)	<i>I. crenata</i> 'Green Dragon' (3)
<i>I. verticillata</i> 'Berry Heavy' (1)	<i>I. crenata</i> 'Jersey Gem' (3)
<i>I.</i> 'Jersey Male' (3)	<i>I. crenata</i> 'Ivory Tower' (3)
<i>I.</i> 'Rock Garden' (3)	<i>I. verticillata</i> 'Afterglow' (1)
<i>I.</i> '391' (3)	<i>I. × meserveae</i> 'Honey Maid' (1)
<i>I.</i> 'Jersey Sprite' (3)	

Deletions:

I. aquifolium 'Angustifolia'
I. crenata 'Jersey Pinnacle'
I. pedunculosa

Ken Provenzano, Curator

THE POLLY HILL ARBORETUM

West Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts

(USDA Hardiness Zone 7a)

At the writing of this report in early 2011, the living collection at the Polly Hill Arboretum includes 103 *Ilex* taxa represented by 194 individual plants. The observations and data on which this report is based were collected by Thomas E. Clark, Collections & Grounds Manager, and Nancy Weaver, Volunteer Coordinator & Plant Recorder.

The weather during 2010 can be characterized as having been generally warmer and wetter than average. The lowest temperature recorded was 9°F (−12.8°C) on January 30, and the highest temperature recorded was 94°F (34.4°C) on July 7. Total precipitation was 10.36 inches (26.31 cm) above the annual average of 45.82 inches (116.38 cm). March, September, and October were distinctly wetter than average and April and May were distinctly drier. The latter provided the Arboretum and the entire Island with an atypically pleasant spring! Table 1 details the 2010 weather.

Table 1. Temperature and precipitation summaries for 2010¹

Month	Monthly	Departure	Monthly	Departure
	mean temperature	from norm	precipitation	from norm
January	30.0°F (−1.1°C)	−0.3°F (−0.2°C)	3.11" (10.92 cm)	0.18" (0.46 cm)
February	32.6°F (0.3°C)	2.6°F (1.4°C)	4.30" (4.83 cm)	−2.22" (−5.64 cm)
March	43.6°F (6.4°C)	7.1°F (3°C)	8.65" (21.97 cm)	4.62" (11.73 cm)
April	50.8°F (10.4°C)	6.0°F (3.3°C)	1.58" (4.01 cm)	−2.70" (−6.86 cm)
May	59.5°F (15.3°C)	5.6°F (3.1°C)	3.21" (8.15 cm)	−1.04" (−2.64 cm)
June	67.9°F (20.0°C)	4.7°F (2.6°C)	3.32" (8.43 cm)	0.67" (1.70 cm)
July	75.5°F (24.2°C)	6.0°F (3.3°C)	3.24" (8.23 cm)	0.61" (1.55 cm)
August	71.7°F (22.0°C)	2.2°F (1.2°C)	4.49" (11.40 cm)	0.06" (0.15 cm)
September	67.5°F (19.7°C)	4.5°F (2.5°C)	8.47" (21.51 cm)	4.91" (12.47 cm)
October	56.4°F (13.6°C)	2.1°F (1.2°C)	7.74" (19.66 cm)	4.35" (11.05 cm)
November	46.0°F (7.8°C)	1.4°F (0.8°C)	4.63" (11.76 cm)	0.23" (0.58 cm)
December	33.2°F (0.7°C)	−1.0°F (0.6°C)	3.44" (8.74 cm)	−0.97" (−2.46 cm)
2010 Total			56.18" (142.70 cm)	10.36" (26.31 cm)

¹Weather data was recorded by Mark Alan Lovewell in Edgartown, Massachusetts

Two new taxa of *Ilex* were accessioned in 2010: *I. colchica* as a plant and *I. coriacea* as wild-collected seed. Of the nine individual *Ilex* plants deaccessioned from the collection, only one, ‘William Cowgill’, is no longer represented in the collection. The removal of these plants is part of a collection-wide effort to alleviate overcrowding, improve the overall health and aesthetic value of the living collection, and to provide space for the further diversification of the holly collection and the living collection in general.

Ilex generally performed quite well in 2010. Several clones of *I. opaca* (‘Barnard Luce’*, ‘Martha’s Vineyard’*, ‘St. Mary’ and f. *xanthocarpa*) were highly rated for general performance and heavy fruit set. *I. ‘Pernella’**, *I. × altaclerensis* ‘NYBG No. 2’ and *I. aquifolium* ‘Evangeline’ also performed exceptionally well in 2010. Although they set little fruit in 2010, the Arboretum’s two stalwart specimens of *I. × altaclerensis* ‘Camelliifolia’ are exceptionally valuable for their lustrous,

deep green foliage. *I. verticillata* ‘Earlibright’* and ‘Winter Gold’ performed very well in 2010, providing stunning displays of fruit. Damage caused by holly berry midge (*Asphondylia ilicicola*) was prominent on several clones of American holly including specimens of ‘Miss Helen’, ‘Greenhill’ and ‘Barnard Luce’. In a few cases, 100% of fruits were affected, essentially eliminating the aesthetic value of the fruit display. At least two types of scale (soft brown and cottony) were widespread on several genera in the Arboretum, including *Ilex* (primarily evergreen taxa), *Magnolia*, *Cornus* and *Camellia*. No plants seemed to suffer directly and dramatically, but in several instances the growth of sooty mold on the “honeydew” excreted by scale was a visual detraction.

* Indicates Polly Hill selections.

There are currently no official holly related research projects underway at Polly Hill Arboretum.

The 2010 HSA Holly of the Year, *I. verticillata* ‘Red Sprite’, is represented in the Polly Hill Arboretum collection by three specimens growing together in a less than ideal site in a partly shaded and rather dry site. The plants are rather weak and lack vigor, but I feel this is symptomatic of the conditions in which they are cultivated rather than a defect of this otherwise fine, compact clone.

Thomas E. Clark, Collections & Grounds Manager

THE JAMES FRORER HOLLY COLLECTION OF THE SCOTT ARBORETUM OF SWARTHMORE COLLEGE

Swarthmore, Pennsylvania (USDA Hardiness Zone 6b)

Donated in 1974, the James R. Frorer Holly Collection was a gift of James R. Frorer, an avid collector of *Ilex* and a Swarthmore College alumnus. Frorer provided the resources for moving the collection, and established an endowment fund to aid with upkeep and maintenance. The Scott Arboretum has been designated a National Holly Arboretum by the Holly Society of America. The extensive collection is also recognized by the North American Plant Collection Consortium (NAPCC).

The collection sits on a south-facing slope overlooking the Crum Creek with bountiful sunlight and air flow. These winds can cause winter desiccation and the exposure leads to foliar bleaching. The collection is maintained by the Scott Arboretum’s horticulture crew, curatorial office, and volunteers.

Weather in 2010 was characterized by prolonged periods of drought during the summer months and persistent snow cover during the winter. The lowest temperature recorded was -4°F (-20°C) in January 2011, and 102°F (38.9°C) was the record high, set in July 2010.

This year's highest rated hollies (on a scale of 1-10) are:

<i>I. × altaclerensis</i> 'Cherryberry'	<i>I. × koehneana</i> 'Chieftain'
<i>I. aquifolium</i> 'Bacciflava'	<i>I. opaca</i> 'Felten's Special'
<i>I.</i> 'Calina'	<i>I. opaca</i> 'St. Mary'
<i>I. cornuta</i> 'Burford Dwarf'	<i>I. pedunculosa</i> 'Steven's Male'
<i>I. cornuta</i> 'Casey's Dwarf'	
<i>I. × koehneana</i> 'Ajax'	

This year's lowest rated hollies (on a scale of 1-10) are:

<i>I. × altaclerensis</i> 'Green Maid'	<i>I. × meserveae</i>
<i>I. aquifolium</i> 'Petite'	<i>I. opaca</i> 'Gunby'
<i>I. × attenuata</i> 'Foster #2'	<i>I. opaca</i> 'Slim Jim'
<i>I. × attenuata</i> 'Sunny Foster'	<i>I. sugerokii</i> var.
<i>I. crenata</i> var. <i>paludosa</i>	<i>brevipedunculata</i>
<i>I. fargesii × ciliospinosa</i>	

Deletions of *Ilex* since our last report:

- I. crenata* (3)
- I. crenata* (yellow fruit) (1)
- I. crenata* 'Oleafera' (2)
- I. crenata* 'Red Lion' (1)
- I. glabra* 'Ivory Queen'
- I. × meserveae* 'Blue Girl'

Our Holly-of-the-Year specimens:

2003: *I. opaca* 'Satyr Hill'. Ranked 8/10 with overall nice shape and a few sparse pockets. There was some winter or sun burn on the southwestern side.

2005: *I. koehneana* 'Lassie'. Ranked a 7/10. Other *× koehneana* cultivars like 'Ajax', 'Chieftain', and 'San Jose' earned overall higher rankings.

2006: *I. × attenuata* 'Sunny Foster'. One of our lowest ranking hollies, 3/10. Problems were numerous with few positive attributes.

2007: *I. aquifolium* 'Lewis'. Rated 7/10. Mounded full shape with moderate tip dieback.

2008: *I. verticillata* ‘Maryland Beauty’ and 2010, *I. verticillata* ‘Red Sprite’ are grown at the Scott Arboretum; however, neither cultivar is currently growing in the Frorer Holly Collection. Few *verticillata* are grown in the Holly Collection due to competition and increasingly shaded conditions. Generally, *I. verticillata* perform very well and are planted throughout the Scott Arboretum. The cultivar ‘Winter Red’ tends to be the most bountiful in terms of fruit production.

Josh Coceano, Scott intern

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE ARBORETUM

Oak Ridge, TN (USDA Hardiness Zone 7a-6b)

The weather in 2010 was kind to the UT Arboretum. If there is ever a normal year, 2010 was the year that was the homogenization of all the others. I think the weather folks would call it average, but we call it good and uneventful!

Hollies thrive well in a normal year in USDA hardiness zone 7a/6b. We had an abundance of flowers, resulting in a glorious crop of berries. Without experiencing any extremes in rainfall and temperatures, the hollies had a reprieve from the weather and seem to express their true nature of growth, form, color, and phenology.

Of major significance in the Elmore Holly Collection was the completion of the stone entrance feature that was begun in 2009. In my last report I noted, “The column has three plaques: one dedicating the collection to the memory of Harold ‘Mr. Holly’ Elmore; one naming the collection the ‘Harold Elmore Holly Collection’; and one from the Holly Society of America that identifies our holly collection as an ‘Official Holly Arboretum.’ This feature is flanked by a row of ‘Beehive’ hollies and companion daffodils.”

The dedication of the new feature was also a special occasion. The Holly Society of America held its 2010 Annual Meeting in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. On November 11, 2010, the HSA participants joined members of the UT Arboretum Society in an unveiling and dedication of the Holly Garden Entrance. This was a noteworthy occasion, and you can read more about it at: <http://forestry.tennessee.edu/arbnews.htm>.

We are developing a new section of the Elmore Holly Collection to display “Tennessee Hollies,” cultivars that were developed in Tennessee. To date, this section contains ‘Memphis Bell’, ‘James Swan’,

‘Patrick Smith’, ‘Bessie Smith’, ‘Ginny Bruner’, ‘Emily Bruner’, and ‘Arthur Bruner’, with more Tennessee hollies on the way.

Richard M. Evans, Center Director, UT Forest Resources Center & Arboretum



Ilex (cornuta ‘Burfordii’ × latifolia) ‘Patrick Smith’ in the Elmore Holly Collection at the University of Tennessee Arboretum, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Photo by Charlie Jernigan.

U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM

Washington, DC (USDA Hardiness Zone 7b)

The temperatures during the first two months of the year were the coldest recorded since the early 1980s. In mid-February, 42 inches (1.1 m) of snow was recorded at the arboretum. Most of that snow fell during two blizzards which were six days apart. The snow from these blizzards caused damage primarily to the *Ilex opacas*. After the cold and snow of January and February, we didn’t have a frost during the spring months. This was the first spring that I can recall without a frost in late March or early April. During the spring months, the precipitation was inconsistent and the temperatures quickly warmed. April was our driest month with only 1.69 inches (4.3 cm) of precipitation recorded. That is less than half of our average rainfall. After the record cold of the winter, our summer months proved to be the hottest summer on record. During the months of June through September, 54 days were above 90°F (32.2°C), with three

days over 100°F (37.8°C). The minimum temperatures were also high with lows generally around 75°F (23.9°C). Fall was relatively mild with below average moisture except for a storm that produced approximately 4.5 inches (11.4 cm) of rain in one day. December started out relatively mild, but by the second week of the month, the temperatures plummeted and it stayed cold throughout the month.

We focused on adding several unrepresented cultivars of *I. verticillata* to the collection. The deciduous hollies do well in our collection and add contrast to our evergreen species. We propagated USNA *Ilex* introductions that are currently represented by only one plant on the grounds to assure that we have original germplasm from our introductions. *I. cassine* var. *bryanii* looked particularly nice this past year. It had a good fruit set during the fall.

The 2010 Holly of the Year, *I. verticillata* ‘Red Sprite’ is represented by multiple plants at the arboretum. Most of our plants have been consistent with berry production, but it is not our best *verticillata* for fruit set. It has responded well to rejuvenation pruning which is beneficial for smaller landscapes.

Carole Bordelon Supervisory Horticulturist

WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOTANIC GARDENS
Seattle, WA (USDA Hardiness Zone 8 b)

Rainfall for the past autumn was relatively typical: from October through December, the Arboretum gauge recorded total rainfall of 18.81 inches (47.8 cm) or 126% of average. Through the end of the year, there were 10 nights when low temperatures dropped below freezing, with a seasonal low of 13°F (−10.6°C) on November 24. Fall was characterized by mild low temperatures before the period leading up to the freeze. The freezing temperatures were accompanied by a 4–6 inch (10–15 cm) snowfall, and this likely ameliorated the impact of the cold. As of this writing, the *Ilex* Collection suffered no breakage from snow loading nor freeze damage resulting from the fall weather.

Heat intensity during the summer months was less than usual for the Puget Sound area. A total of 11 days during the months of June, July and August had a high temperature \geq 80°F (26.7°C), and consecutive seasonal highs of 90°F (32.2°C) were recorded on August 13, 14 and 15.

Summer rainfall is typically low in this modified Mediterranean climate. For 2010, summer rainfall was slightly above normal, with 3.46 inches (8.9 cm) or 102% of average for the months of June, July and August.

Following the furious activity of 2009, the *Ilex* Collection has seen little change in 2010. Through the year, relocated specimens have been monitored and provided extra care to ensure their establishment. No new plants were added to the collection and only four plants were removed due to a drainage problem in the Eurasian Clade portion of the new collection display area. This drainage issue was not detected before collection relocation and the botanic garden staff are currently exploring alternatives to resolve the problem. The sixteen very large specimens that were retained in the Pacific Connections Entry Gardens, mostly *I. opaca* and *I. purpurea*, have shown no signs of stress from the nearby construction and are responding well to their improved growing conditions. Submitted with this report are several current photographs of the very large specimens that were retained in the Pacific Connections Entry Gardens.

Randall Hitchin, Living Collection Manager & Registrar



Ilex [(*cornuta* 'Burfordii' x *latifolia*) 'Bessie Smith'.
Photo by Mike Pontti.

INTERNATIONAL *ILEX* CULTIVAR REGISTRATIONS
Michael R. Pontti

1-11 *Ilex opaca* 'Sir Landon' Male
Registered: January 20, 2011
Daniel C. Turner
6905 Mink Hollow Road
Highland, Maryland 20777

This selection originated as a chance seedling at Patuxent Valley Nurseries about 1998. Selected and named by Mr. Daniel Castle Turner in 2010, the cultivar is growing on the northeast corner of his property and is estimated to be about twelve years old. 'Sir Landon' has been named for Mr. Turner's grandson, Landon Southard.

The collected seedling is now a large evergreen tree, 3.7 m (12 feet) tall with a horizontal branching habit, a conical shape and a spread of 2.5 m (8 feet).

Leaves of 'Sir Landon' are simple, coriaceous and glabrous, with an ovate-elliptic shape and spinose margins, with up to five spines on each side. The leaf apex is acuminate, with a rounded base and petioles 7 mm (¼ inch) long. Leaves are large, 8.2 cm (3 ⅛ inches) by 5.5 cm (2 ⅛ inches) wide, dark olive green, Green Group 136A above and Green Group 138B on the underside as illustrated on the Royal Horticulture Society Colour Chart, 1995.

'Sir Landon' has very abundant staminate flowers with four petals and stamens each. They are borne in abundant cymose-compound to single flowers in leaf axils on the previous season's wood.

Plants have been propagated at McLean Nurseries in Baltimore, Maryland, and at Appalachian Nursery in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. It is currently being produced for sale at Patuxent Valley Nurseries. This selection has larger, darker leaves than *Ilex opaca* 'Jersey Knight' with very abundant staminate flowers. It develops into a dense, conical tree. Hardiness is rated at zone 6a on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map of 1990.

Voucher specimens are on deposit in the herbarium of the U.S. National Arboretum (NA), Washington, D.C. 20002.

2-11 *Ilex opaca* 'Volunteer Orange'

Female

Registered: February 25, 2011

Ms. Fran Scheidt

7028 Kinzalow Drive

Knoxville, Tennessee 37909

This cultivar originated as a chance seedling found in the wild by Mr. Charles Harris, Sr., of Lenoir City, Tennessee on the farm owned by a Mr. Hall. In 1964 Mr. Harris moved the tree from the forest to his property in Loudon County, just below the junction of Highways 70 and 11, on Route 11 near Lenoir City. In 1990, Mr. Harold Elmore and Ms. Fran Scheidt viewed the tree at the Harris farm and estimated it to be 7.6–9.1 m (25–30 feet) tall and having substantial clusters of good-sized orange berries. The original tree was never fertilized in the twenty-five years since it was transplanted from the forest. Mr. Elmore fertilized it in subsequent visits. When Mr. Elmore inspected the tree in 1990, he also took cuttings and later named the selection *Ilex opaca* 'Volunteer Orange'. Rooted cuttings were potted up to larger sizes and later distributed to family and friends, including to Mr. Ben Alford of Stony Point, Tennessee and Mr. Alan Pruitt, son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Superczynski. One was planted in the Elmore Holly Collection at the University of Tennessee Arboretum. Cuttings of the Alford holly were also made available to Mr. Mike Stansberry of Beaver Creek Nursery in Knoxville.

The evergreen tree, nearly 9.1 m (30 feet) in 1990, has a conical shape and a horizontal branching habit. The leaves are elliptic up to 10 cm (4 inches) long by 4.5 cm (1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches) wide, flat in cross section, keeled, with four to six small spines on the leaf margins, some leaves almost entire. Leaf color is green, Green Group 137 B as illustrated on the Royal Horticulture Society Colour Chart, 1995. Fruits are globose, orange, Orange Group 25A, up to 9 mm ($\frac{5}{16}$ inch) in diameter, with pedicels to 5 mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ inch).

Plants have been grown by Beaver Creek Nursery in Knoxville, Tennessee. The selection was based on the dark green elliptical foliage, with orange fruit. Hardiness is rated at zone 5 on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map of 1990.

Voucher specimens are on deposit in the herbarium of the U. S. National Arboretum (NA), Washington, D.C. 20002.



Ilex opaca 'Volunteer Orange' in the Elmore Holly Collection at the University of Tennessee Arboretum, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Photo by Rachel Cobb.

3-11 *Ilex opaca* 'Charlie's Angel'

Female

Registered: February 28, 2011

Charles R. Anderson

11801 Greenspring Avenue

Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

This cultivar originated as a chance seedling found in a field adjacent to a garden in Annapolis, Maryland, by Mr. Charles R. Anderson. In 1961 Mr. Anderson moved the plant to his property in Owings Mills, Maryland, and has observed the tree over the last 50 years.

The evergreen tree, now nearly 55 years old, has grown into a large conical specimen, nearly 10.7 m (35 feet) tall with a spread of 4.6 m (15 feet) and a horizontal branching habit. The largest leaves are typical for the species, simple, coriaceous, glabrous, 7 cm (2 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches) long by 5.5 cm (2 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches) wide, ovate in outline, with an acuminate leaf tip and a rounded base. Leaf margins are spinose, with up to five small spines to 3 mm ($\frac{1}{8}$ inch) per side and a petiole to 7 mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch). Aver-

age yearly growth has been measured at nearly 1.9 dm (7 ½ inches). Leaf color is dark green, Green Group 139A as illustrated on the Royal Horticulture Society Colour Chart, 1995. Fruits are globose, red, Red Group 44A, up to 8 mm (⁵/₁₆ inch) in diameter with pedicels to 7 mm (¹/₄ inch).

Plants have been grown by McLean Nurseries, 9000 Satyr Hill Road in Baltimore, Maryland, and sold to HSA members at several Annual Meeting auctions and at Chesapeake Chapter functions. ‘Charlie’s Angel’ is also available through Heartwood Nursery, 8759 Hickory Road, Felton, Pennsylvania (mailing address: P.O. Box 519, Stewartstown, Pennsylvania, 17363). The selection was based on the dark green foliage, with leaves wider than normal for the species and fruit being very heavy, consistent and quite attractive against the foliage. Hardiness is rated at zone 5 through zone 9 on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map of 1990.

Voucher specimens are on deposit in the herbarium of the U. S. National Arboretum (NA), Washington, D.C. 20002.

4-11 *Ilex (cornuta × pernyi)* ‘Hugger’ Male
Registered: May 9, 2011
Charles R. Anderson
11801 Greenspring Avenue
Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

The origin of this clone is unknown, but it is thought to be a putative chance hybrid seedling of *Ilex cornuta* × *pernyi*. The unusual seedling was discovered about 1999 in a 4 inch space between two garden fences, thus “hugging” both fences, at 11801 Greenspring Avenue, Owings Mills, Maryland, home to Mr. Charles R. Anderson. The seedling was then selected and moved to the garden in 2000 and subsequently named and introduced by Mr. Anderson in April 2011.

The collected seedling is now a small evergreen tree, twelve years old, 2.7 m (9 feet) tall with a horizontal branching habit and a conical shape with a spread of 1.4 m (4 ½ feet).

Leaves of ‘Hugger’ are simple, glossy, coriaceous, glabrous and of heavy substance. The largest leaves are 3.8 cm (1 ½ inches) long by 2.5 cm (1 inch) wide and are quadrate (somewhat square in outline). The leaves have at least four small marginal spines, two or more on each side and a similarly small mucronate tip spine of 2 mm (⁵/₁₆ inch) with a

rounded to nearly subcordate leaf base and small petioles to 3 mm ($\frac{1}{8}$ inch). Leaf margins are entire between the small spines and the leaves tend to grow convex in side view and repand in top view. Leaf color is dark olive green, Green Group 136 A above and Green Group 138 B on the underside of the leaf as illustrated on the Royal Horticulture Society Colour Chart, 1995.

‘Hugger’ has abundant staminate flowers, with four petals and four stamens each, which are borne in dense fasciculate clusters in the leaf axils on previous season’s wood.

Plants have been grown since 2009 at McLean Nurseries at 9000 Satyr Hill Road in Baltimore, Maryland, and were provided to members of the Holly Society of America as a hardiness test plant at the 2009 Annual Meeting at Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts.

The selection was based on small dark green, squarish leaves and very abundant staminate flowers. Hardiness is rated at zone 6 on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map of 1990.

Voucher specimens are on deposit in the herbarium of the U.S. National Arboretum (NA), Washington, D.C. 20002.

5-11 *Ilex opaca* ‘Big Al’

Male

Registered: May 20, 2011

Sue Massey

7417 Dorsey Court

Crestwood, Kentucky 40014

This selection originated as a chance seedling that Ms. Sue Massey discovered, selected and transplanted as a 1-year seedling from her yard in Louisville, Kentucky, to its present location in Crestwood, Kentucky, in 1986. The seedling was especially noteworthy in that it was never damaged by extreme cold and freezing winds, and was equally outstanding as a massive pollinator. In 2010 Ms. Massey named it ‘Big Al’ on behalf of her recently deceased father.

The collected seedling is now a large evergreen tree, twenty-five years old, 9.1 m (30 feet) tall with a spread of 4.6 m (15 feet). It has a horizontal branching habit and a conical shape.

Leaves of ‘Big Al’ are simple, coriaceous, glabrous, with an ovate-elliptic shape and margins that are spinose and sinuate. Bases are cuneate with petioles 8 mm ($\frac{5}{16}$ inch) long. Leaves have marginal spines that

number 5 to 6 per side, with an aristate leaf tip and appear convex in side view. Leaf color is dark olive green, Green Group 137A above and Green Group 139C on the underside as illustrated on the Royal Horticulture Society Colour Chart, 1995.

'Big Al' has very abundant creamy white staminate flowers, with the male inflorescences being cymose, with both simple and compound cymes.

Mr. Jules Klein and Mr. Michael Boice began propagating the selection in 2007 on behalf of Ms. Massey. The rooted cuttings consistently take on a strong central leader and branch out well. The first males were sold in the fall of 2009 to Mr. Randy Sizemore of Laurel Nursery in Crestwood, Kentucky. The selection is based on the heavy production of staminate flowers, the ability of the selection to endure freezing temperatures and strong winds without burn to the foliage, and cuttings that retain the parental characteristics over three years of propagation, with a strong, upright growth habit. Hardiness is rated at zone 5 on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map of 1990.

Voucher specimens are on deposit in the herbarium of the U. S. National Arboretum (NA), Washington, D.C. 20002.



I. x attenuata 'Sunny Foster' in the Elmore Holly Collection at the University of Tennessee Arboretum, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Photo by Rachel Cobb.

REMINDER: HOLLY-OF-THE-YEAR POSTER

Emily Jernigan

Every holly lover needs one of the attractive posters created by Bill Cannon featuring the 2003-2012 Hollies-of-the-Year. The full-color, 11 × 17 inch (28 × 43 cm) poster has a photograph of each holly and sells for \$15, including domestic postage. Buy the poster from our website, www.hollysocam.org, using PayPal, or send a check for \$15 to Holly Society of America, P.O. Box 803, 309 Buck Street, Millville, NJ 08332-0803. Either way, Bill will mail you the poster and all the proceeds will help support the Holly Society. Get one for yourself, and share them as gifts with friends, too.

IN MEMORIAM

We remember with fondness and extend our sympathies to the families of the following people. Hollies, and membership in the Holly Society of America, were important in their lives. More extensive remembrances may be published in a future Holly Letter.

Tim Dillard, Cleveland, TN

John Milton Giordano, M.D., Eight Mile, AL

Margaret (Margie) A. Norton, Barnsboro, NJ

Robert Popham, Greenwich, NJ

Edward H. Richardson, M.D., Ruxton/Baltimore, MD

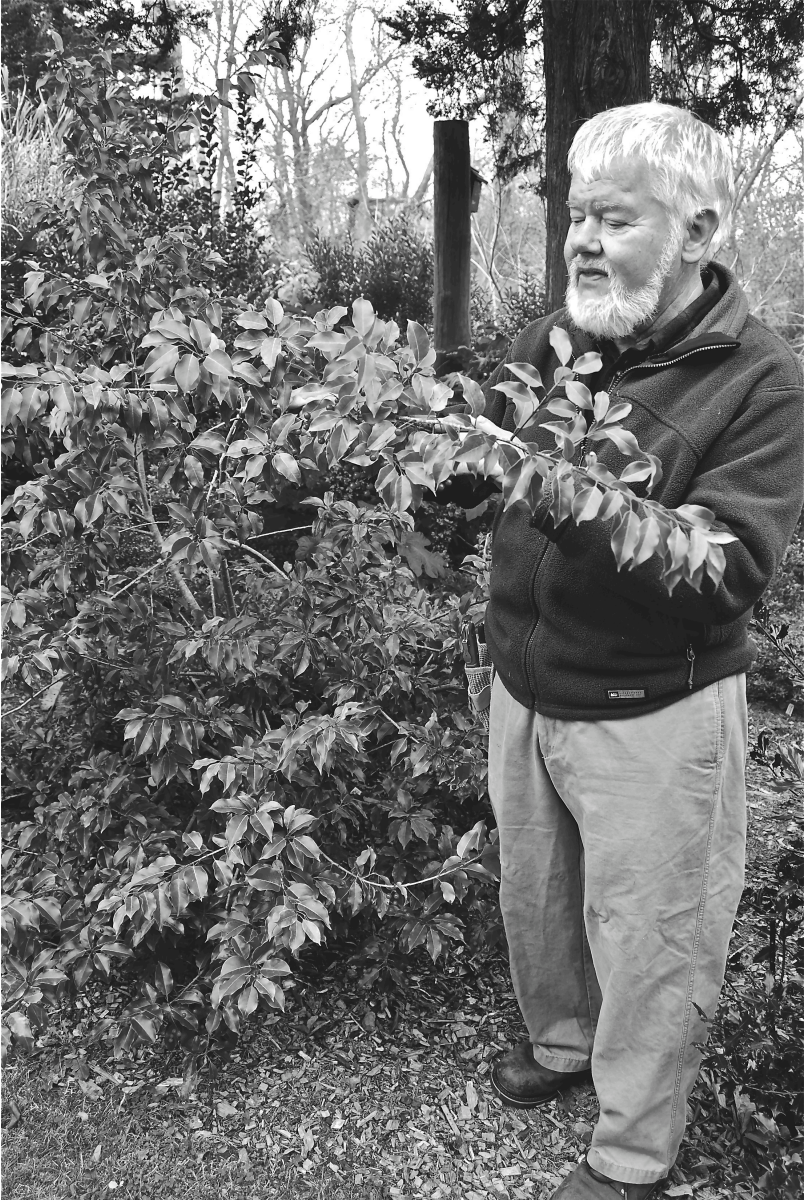
William Jere Tancig, Vidalia, GA

WELCOME, NEW TRUSTEES

The Holly Society of America welcomed three new Trustees this year. They are Mrs. Nancy Bernhardt, Meida, Pennsylvania; Mr. Carmen A. Gianforte, Georgetown, Tennessee; and Mrs. Cathy A. Rosellini, Baltimore, Maryland.

ANNUAL MEETING 2011

Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park in Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York, is the site of this year's meeting. From October 20-23 the Holly Society will meet for entertaining and educational activities, good food, camaraderie, and informal conversation with other holly enthusiasts. If you miss this year's meeting, be sure to sign up for the 2012 meeting from October 25-28 in Richmond, Virginia.



Bill Cannon at his Holly Haven farm on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.
Photo by Dan Dewey, *Cape Cod Home Magazine*, Winter 2010.
Cape Cod Life Publications, capecodlife.com.

HOLLY HAVEN

Dan Dewey

Article reprinted with permission of Cape Cod Life Publications, Mashpee, MA, www.capecodlife.com and Dewey Gardens, www.deweygardens.com. This article appeared in the Winter 2010 issue of *Cape Cod Home* magazine.

Bill Cannon knows everything about holly. This well-known holiday symbol is actually one of the most diverse and intriguing members of the plant kingdom. Over the last 30 years, Cannon has managed to cultivate over 300 varieties of holly at his Brewster residence, and in the process has become known as Cape Cod's Holly Man.

Cannon's interest in plants began at an early age. His father was both a florist and a horticulturalist, who planted the beginnings of the expansive holly collection on Route 6A decades ago. The holly that Cannon's father planted still flourishes today, including dozens of imported and native varieties of all shapes and sizes with berries in a rainbow of colors. In addition to the hollies, there are extensive boxwood plantings throughout the one-acre parcel and a number of specimens such as a stately *Franklinia* tree, several vibrant *Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Crippsii', and even an impressive 75-foot-tall (22.9 m) redwood tree. These plantings are surrounded by an unbelievable diversity of holly (*Ilex*) covering the entire backyard of the property.

With the exception of more than 50 native hollies, the majority of *Ilex* varieties from around the world were thought for years to be too tender to survive Cape Cod winters and, as a result, were seen rarely in landscape plantings. Cannon has chosen plants that are native to the mid-Atlantic as well as America's southeast and grown them successfully here on the Cape for use in both residential and commercial installations.

Cannon has propagated three of his own hollies: 'Gretchen'—named after his granddaughter and mother; 'Purple Frost'; and 'Kelsey's Delight', all of which are registered with the Holly Society of America. Cannon's personal interest in *Ilex* has opened many doors over the years. He served as president of the Holly Society of America from 2007 to 2008 and is a longtime member of that organization and the esteemed Boston Horticultural Club, the oldest such club in the United States. Known as one of the most exclusive horticultural clubs in the country, members include some of the biggest names in New England's green industry such as Paul Mahoney of Mahoney's Garden Centers and Wayne Mezzit of Weston Nurseries in Hopkinton.

Cannon, a graduate of the Stockbridge School at University of Massachusetts Amherst, is grateful that his father sent him to the well-regarded horticultural school. A soft spoken, cheerful man with a warm smile, Cannon says of his father, “People say I have a green thumb, but compared to him, I’m an amateur—he could root anything.” Tour groups, including local garden clubs, enjoy Cannon’s stories as he wanders down garden paths, bending low to pick up a tiny holly, pointing out sharp thorns on an ancient 15th century variety, exclaiming over the bright beauty of a golden Japanese holly.

In the greenhouse his father built, Cannon tends to delicate holly cuttings when he is not outside in the elements caring for his treasured plantings, pampering such varieties as *I. verticillata* ‘Winter Gold’, a spectacular holly with an abundance of peach-hued fruit in the fall and winter. In addition to cultivating, planting, and caring for the astonishing array of holly, Cannon has developed a niche market on the Cape for holiday wreath-making and seasonal green decorations. He shares helpful hints for using boxwood and holly to create wreaths that can last for months with proper care, explaining that the wreaths need to be outdoors, but should be kept out of full sun. He notes that holly wreaths require more care and misting than the boxwood designs.

Cannon constructs his wreaths, which are sold to florists and other customers during the holiday season, with a double wire ring. “I mound the ring up with wet sphagnum moss and then put in the holly,” he says, noting that the moss will, “...triple the life of the wreath.” Walking through garden paths gleaming with multicolored hollies and then wandering through the greenhouse full of vivid plants, Cannon is full of enthusiasm. It is evident that his thousands of plants provide him with great purpose—and pleasure. He tells intriguing



I. Verticillata ‘Winter Gold’ at Holly Haven. Photo by Dan Dewey, *Cape Cod Home Magazine*, Winter 2010.

stories about his plants, some of which came from friends. However, the majority of the hollies were planted by this horticulturalist's skillful hands.

When he is asked what other plants suit his fancy, Cannon gives a wry smile and says, "I can't say no to a plant." His passion for the entire plant world is evident, but it is clear that holly has won him over, some 300-plus times.

Bill Cannon's holly farm is located at 2081 Main Street, Brewster. To contact him, call (508) 896-3740 or email ilexbc@verizon.net.

Dan Dewey is the owner of Dewey Gardens, a landscape design, maintenance, and construction company located in Centerville.



English Variegated Holly (*Ilex aquifolium* 'Aurea Marginata') at Holly Haven.
Photo by Dan Dewey, *Cape Cod Home Magazine*, Winter 2010.

TREASURER'S REPORT, MARCH 31, 2011

Dennis Superczynski

The fiscal year beginning April 1, 2010, began with a net worth of \$84,798 as reported at the June 2010 Interim Meeting. Net income for the year totaled \$7,619, and a \$100 check cancelled from 2009 leaves an adjusted net worth balance of \$92,517 on March 31, 2011. Revenue for the year totaled \$39,942, offset with expenses of \$32,323 resulting in the profit for the year.

Highlights for the year include:

The Annual Meeting and auction revenue was \$21,914, with expenses of \$14,092. This results in a favorable net income of \$7,822 that is favorable to the budget by \$4,322.

Interest income from Trust Fund investments totaled \$3,193 and appreciation* on Trust Fund assets totaled \$5,249. Deposits were made into the operating funds for interest earned on Treasury Notes in the Research Trust Fund for \$1,850. Ending Trust Fund assets were \$82,680 as of March 31, 2011, \$6,592 greater than the beginning balance of \$76,088

New and renewing memberships totaled \$7,195, \$565 less than the previous year and \$805 below budget.

Trust fund donations received during the year totaled \$1,585, an increase from 2010 of \$754.

A Pay Pal feature has been added to the Holly Society website, allowing members to register for the Annual Meeting, pay annual dues, and purchase HSA items via the Holly Society internet website.

Holly Journals Volume 28, Numbers 1 and 2, were published for \$2,475.

*Note: Beginning 2010, appreciation on trust funds is being reported. This reflects the market value of CDs and US Treasury Notes as of closing date, March 31, 2011.

HOLLY SOCIETY JOURNAL
VOLUME 29 - 2011 INDEX

Annual Meeting 2010	29(1):28
Holly Society of America Awards	29(1):28
Winners of the 2009 Holly Sprig Contest	29(1):30
2010 Test Hollies	29(1):33
2010 Non-Test Annual Meeting Plants	29(1):34
Longwood Gardens Hollies	29(1):34
Proceedings	29(1):35
Holly Society of America, Inc. Financial Reports	29(1):39
2009 Annual Meeting Sponsors	29(1):40
Meeting Participants	29(1):41
Annual Meeting and Tours - 2010	29(1):18
<i>Dennis Superczynski</i>	
Annual Meeting 2011	29(2):29
Elmore Holly Collection Entrance Dedication Keynote Address.....	29(1):23
<i>Fran Scheidt</i>	
French Connection Tour, 2009.....	29(1): 10
<i>Dennis Superczynski</i>	
The Gene Eisenbeiss 2010 Holly of the Year	29(1):27
<i>Dr. James Resch</i>	
Holly Arboreta 2010 Annual Reports	
Arboretum Bokrijk.....	29(2):3
Arboretum des Près des Culands Conservatoire	
National D’ <i>Ilex</i>	29(2):4
Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest	29(2):5
Blue Ridge Community College	29(2):6
Callaway Gardens	29(2):6
Chollipo Arboretum	29(2):7
Clark-Landsbaum Deming Park Holly Arboretum	29(2):8
The Dawes Arboretum	29(2):10
Missouri Botanical Gardens	29(2):13
The Morris Arboretum	29(2):13
Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park	29(2):15
The Polly Hill Arboretum	29(2):15
The Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College	29(2):17
University of Tennessee Arboretum	29(2):19
U.S. National Arboretum	29(2):20

Washington Park Arboretum29(2):21

Holly Haven.....29(2):31
Dan Dewey

Holly of the Year: A History29 (1):14
Bill Cannon

Holly of the Year Poster Available29(1):17
Emily Jernigan

Holly Society Journal Volume 29, 2011, Index29(2):35

HSA Annual Meeting Sites29(1):43, 29(2):36

In Memoriam29(2):29

International *Ilex* Cultivar Registrations29(2):23
Michael R, Pontti

Preparing for a Holly Sprig Contest29(1):3
Charles Anderson

Reminder: Holly-of-the-Year Poster29(2):29

Treasurer’s Report, March 31, 201029(2):34
Dennis Superczynski

Welcome, New Trustees29(2):29

❖ HSA ANNUAL MEETING SITES ❖

64TH MEETING
LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK
October 20-23, 2011

65TH MEETING
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
October 24-28, 2012