

## Shearwater Grounds and Landscape Report November 2005

**Tree Inspection.** I accompanied Tyler Balderson of Bartlett Tree Experts on an inspection tour of Shearwater trees on 11/8/05. His observations/recommendations are summarized below:

- The large oak trees at Bldg. 15/16 and the single oak at Building \_ should be mulched to a diameter of 5-6 feet. They are presently not mulched at all.
- They should be fertilized every couple of years with a deep injection.
- The columnar maples are a case of the wrong tree for the application here. They tend to split down the middle and are surface rooted so that they steal nutrients from grass or plants nearby, and they are prone to be blown over in a windstorm. Like the sycamores, another case of poor landscape planning based on the original landscape plan for the property.
- He suggested that the pine trees at Bldg 7/8 be replaced by large holly plants, a good suggestion in my view.
- The oak tree at Bldg 1 needs to be re-spiked.
- The Leyland Cypress trees alongside the pool should be topped and the sides sheared.

I intend to accomplish as many of these recommendations as possible during a one day visit by the Bartlett crew this fall/winter.

**Fall Plans Status.** The following items listed under Fall Plans in the October report were completed:

- The aged junipers on either side of the entrance were removed. The beds have not yet been replanted. Expect to accomplish this before the next report.
- The lirioppe bed on the water side of Bldg. 13 has been extended and is a big improvement.
- The aged junipers at Bldg. 15 entrance were removed. Replacements are a combination of relocated plants and the addition of several new lower/slower growing plants.

**Pine and Large Decaying Tree Across from Bldg 4.** The pine tree discussed at the last meeting was cut down by the neighbor across the fence. I had Andino remove the debris when he had the chipper here with the understanding that the neighbor would reimburse him. The large decaying tree is a hazard to the neighbor and to Bldg 4 and automobiles parked nearby were it to fall. Bartlett advised me that he inspected the tree at the owner's request some three years ago and strongly recommended that the tree be removed. No action was taken by the owner. At the Board meeting in September, Jim Behrens indicated that the survey shows the pine tree is on Shearwater property. I asked for a copy of the survey and have heard nothing. The large decaying tree is further up the incline toward the neighbors home. I am assuming that it is on his property until such time as someone proves otherwise. Bartlett suggested that we have our insurance company advise the neighbor that the tree is deemed to have a high potential to do damage to Shearwater property should it go down, and request that he take immediate action to eliminate the risk. We should do this once there is proof that the tree is on his property.