



9月6日，我邀請了我的美國媽媽和好朋友 Jenny 一起從克利夫蘭開車去了 100 分鐘路程的私人花園 Schnormeier Gardens。之前我與主人 Ted Schnormeier 先生通過兩封郵件和兩次通話,向他表達採訪他的意願。起初他拒絕採訪,當我告訴他 9 月 6 日是我來美國 29 年，這位非常低調的 Ted Schnormeier 先生答應了在 9 月 6 日接受我的採訪,以滿足我的抵美 29 年周年紀念的願望。

Schnormeier Gardens 是我哥倫布朋友 Amy Ho 和李志敏兩位告訴我的。這傢私人公園每年只開三天,都在六月份,恰逢 Amy 的生日,她已經連續去了 5 年。愛美的 Amy 每次去都會拍許多照片,她告訴我那個地方就像天堂一樣美麗。

那天天氣時而出現太陽,當我開進花園的時候,Jenny 一下興奮起來,她一邊說,一邊不由自主地錄像,這是世外桃源啊!比我想象的還要漂亮。一旁的媽媽天生喜愛大自然,問我是怎么找到這個地方的，門怎么開着?82 歲的媽媽被環境感染了快樂起來了...我說這是私人公園,主人家住在里面,一定是主人看到我們的車了，我遠遠地看到主人走下樓梯,85 歲的 Ted Schnormeier 先生,比我想象的還要年輕,穿着整齊,他的一雙鋥亮的皮鞋讓我想起小時候父親對我說過:看一個男人的品味要看他穿的皮鞋,Schnormeier 先生,他一定是一位高品位的人。

我們在他家樓梯口看到中國的兵馬俑石像,Ted 告訴我們:這是從中國郵寄來的,不容易打理,冬天不能放在外面的。Ted 1995 年和太太去了中國 28 天,走遍中國大江南北,尤其其他們喜歡杭州的花園,Ted 的太太智慧聰明能文能武,我們與 Ted 相處的 3 個小時,體驗最深的就是 Ted 對他的太太感情之深和深情懷念。

1996 年 Ted 與 Ann 從 Cuyahoga Falls 搬到這裡，那里一無所有,那時的 Ted 已經 60 歲。他還告訴我們,他們去過 100 多個國家,所有的美好都在他們的記憶里。他們受到已故建築設計大師 Frank Lloyd Wright 的影響,設計了自己的私宅。Ted 告訴我為什麼不找設計師,因為設計師設是實現他們自己的構想,而不是 Ted 和 Ann 的理念。我在 Ted 的家里從每一間房間

的玻璃窗看外面,每個看過去都像一幅油畫,我能體會到他們夫婦用他們全身心和愛心打造他們天堂般的家園。

Ted 十分懷念太太 Ann,他還告訴我們他的當教授的女兒是如此的堅強,在失去母親後的 26 周又失去了先生。我們一進門時就看到兩個精緻的鐵銅器般的和我人差不多高的花瓶,里面裝着他的 Ann 和他女婿的骨灰,在 Ted 心里,Ann 還有女婿從來就沒有離開過他。

Ted 和 Ann 打造 25 年的花園，在 10 年前已經獻給了 Schnormeier 的基金會，他們要讓更多人去享受這天堂般的花園,這里有 9 個花園:包括中國花園,日本花園,里面有雕塑和荷花,還有人工打造的 24 小時不停的潺潺流水,有石頭風景區,還有茶屋，每一個花園設計都能感受到 Ted 和 Ann 的溫馨和細膩。

親愛的讀者,如果您想來參觀這裡,請您在明年 5 月上網報名參觀這座以“平、和、易”(Peace, Harmony, Serenity)為名的建築，他用的是古代的哲學思想,Ted 分享他的生活和經驗,和諧與寧靜,Ted 和 Ann 他們的思想就是: 世界上的美麗是屬於大家的。在 Schnormeier 花園里，你還可以欣賞到無數種類的樹,你還能看到在聖經里提到的樹。現在已經延遲一個月的參



朋友緊握你的手
繁星流動與您同路
從不相識到彼此相知
學會真摯真誠欣賞他人
才能明白智慧經得起風暴
人生如夢有了朋友路才寬廣
生命裏因為有你我才沒有寂寞
生活裏因為我有你你才有我才快樂



9月6日是我來美國29年,在美國經歷風風雨雨,品嘗甜酸苦辣。人生的旅程就是一道風景,常常遇見有緣人,鼓勵支持達加何運,我感恩29年來我擁有的一切。

We receive what we give May we love what we receive



觀時間。

Ted 讓我們度過了難忘的一天，今天是我在美國生活學習 29 年,有幸採訪擁有 75 英畝的私家花園 Ted Schnormeier 花園，85 歲的 Ted 能量滿滿,近 3 小時的講解和帶我們觀看。我得知 Ted 父親出生在美國,母親 14 歲從德國到美國,沒有上過學,直接通過高中考試,當了開刀助理護士,父母恩愛,Ted 是龍鳳胎,他的雙胞胎妹妹現在還在愛荷華。 Schnormeier 這一家人都不通尋常，再加上 Ted 的愛妻，他倆半個世紀自始至終相愛相伴,最神奇的是我在美麗的花園里拍照,我發現兩張照片,就是在 Ted 和 Ann 他們夫婦雕像前,遠處的光從天而降,還帶紫色彩虹.....

我們依依不捨準備離開花園,Ted 叫我停車,我在他的池塘里,看到了这么大的金魚,我突然意識到,我們幾乎忘記現在在疫情特別時期,我們是擁抱相互告別的，也許就是 Jenny 說的:我們是在世外桃源，我感恩 29 年來我擁有的一切。

伊利華報



紀念來美二十九周年訪花園如游仙境

was fulfilled. Christa had enjoyed her teaching career in English. Now she is retired.

The Schnormeier Gardens. I had never heard of the place before. Now I can attest that it is to be counted among the best-kept-secrets in America – a heavenly retreat from the hustle-bustle of daily life.In our two-hour trip from Cleveland to the Schnormeier Gardens, Ying, Christa and I had chit-chatted. At the moment we passed through the gate, my breath was taken away by the unearthly beautiful scenery. My first sight was dominated by the Schnormeier’s private house, resting on a gentle rolling hill. The exterior roof of orangish-colored steel arrested my eyes. A sour car cameandered through, peering out of the left window, I was captivated by the sight of a green serene lake dotted by waterlilies, featuring the red Chinese bridge and reflections of the sky, clouds, and trees along the banks. Upon our approach to the house, Ted Schnormeier stepped down from exterior stairs to welcome us.

Later on, we learned the Schnormeier Gardens are only open to the public during the month of June. The Schnormeier private home is not open for public viewing. How prestigious an opportunity I enjoyed to explore the Schnormeier private house! All because Ying had opened the Schnormeier book! The house was designed by Ted and Ann Schnormeier. Ted credited Frank Lloyd Wright’s Fallingwater as inspiration. Ann was a talented artist, particularly fond of Japanese art. We accessed the first floor. Every corner had Ann’s photo, radiant with her smiling face. Ann passed away

three years ago. Whenever Ted mentioned Ann’s name, his tone became softer, with voice lingering, full of respect and adoration. Ted’s career was in the window and door manufacturing business. His father was a builder and his mother was a nurse. Both were German descendants. Distinguished to my eyes, all materials – exterior and interior – were carefully, tastefully, and meaningfully selected. Commercial Copper finished the standing seem steel roof. The glass walls are not only modern aesthetic attractions, they also embody the mission of built-to-last. Brazilian Cherry and Madras black granite from India paired perfectly together to form the texture and color of the interior floor. The interior ceiling is arched with the three-inch by six-inch wide tongue-and-groove white fir panels, boasting seven coats of hand-rubbed finish. Ted proudly showed us Ann’s expansive open kitchen featuring ruby-hued over-sized cabinets and state-of-the-art accoutrements. The kitchen looks out onto a Japanese garden. No doubt that Ann was a fan of “Sukiya Living” – a philosophy that reveres the garden as part of the total living environment.

In 1995, Ted and Ann toured China for 28 days. That’s the only time Ted visited China. Today, Ted returned the warm hospitality he received in China twenty-five years ago to Ying and me. He guided us in his golf cart through his 75 acres and nine themed Gardens: Japanese, Chinese Cup, Waterfalls, Stream, Serenity, Woodland, Hosta, Quarry, and Meadow. Throughout these Gardens, I can see that Ted and Ann integrated Feng Shui into their designs

now deceased wife. The couple also traveled to over one hundred countries during their married lifetime, where they gathered inspiration and connections for needed building materials.

Ted and his wife Ann, with their two children, David and Kimberly, moved from Iowa to Knox County, Ohio, in the summer of 1966, where they purchased their current home and 3 acres of land at 8542 Layman Road, directly across the street, what was to become the spectacular Japanese style Asian Garden on 55 acres of meticulously manicured grounds. An immediate focal



point through the gate is the largest lake dotted with water lilies and stocked with large colorful coys, which create a whirlwind of orange and white at feeding time late afternoon.

Once free in retirement and from child rearing, the Schnormeier couple began designing and building the gardens in 1996 to include well maintained lawns, ten lakes, a variety of focal point garden areas with pagodas, rock displays, bright orange

bridges and seven waterfalls. Husband and wife also singlehandedly built a meandering stone wall that winds through the property as is customary in New England. But the focal point has to be their



Frank Lloyd Wright Falling Water inspired home. It is a beauty of hand-selected materials and furnishings from all over the world, designed entirely by husband and wife according to their creative thinking and liking.

The art in the gardens, consisting of monumental boulders and rocks, unique trees, metal sculptures, pagodas and ground covers, was acquired over a period of 10 years, starting in 1995. It is intended to play a secondary role to the gardens themselves as jewels and focal points of interest. Scattered throughout the grounds we saw metallic deer, blue herons, wolves, and other wildlife, now distinct, all blending into the landscape, even one immense buddha. The grounds meander through ravines, across brooks, past waterfalls through a jungle of trees, a hedge of bamboo, even a buckeye, native to Ohio. It’s so peaceful and serene.

Mr. Schnormeier has established a foundation to manage this Asian inspired Garden after his death, a gift to the people of Ohio and other visitors, all free of charge. But, as one Open House has already revealed, the popularity of this unique attraction, cannot handle uncontrolled crowds. The grounds will be open to the public during the month of June by on-line appointment only, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in small groups to the gardens only, not his private home.

Submitted by Christa Acker

SCHNORMEIER ASIAN GARDENS IN GAMBIER, OHIO, NEAR COLUMBUS



今天是我來美國二十九周年紀念,我邀請我和她的美國媽媽一起去了一個世外桃源的地方~ Schnormeier 的花園。85 歲的主人 Ted Schnormeier 親自引領我們參觀了他和妻子 Ann 設計建造的私宅和環繞的九個不同主題的花園。Ted 介紹了他和 Ann 的設計靈感來自于 Frank Lloyd Wright 的與自然融為一體“Falling Water”的建築設計,和來自日本、中國、印度的“平、和、易” Peace, Harmony, Serenity 的建築哲學。我特意三擊鑼鼓~ 祛邪、祈福、謝恩! 2020 年每個人最需要的就是“平、和、易”! 雖然 Ted 妻子已去世三年,但是在花園中,處處感到她的魂的存在。愛是能量。能量守恒定律證明瞭愛的永恆。Ted 和 Ann 在 Schnormeier 的花園中人鬼情未了! 浦瑛姐的美國媽媽

是她剛來美國時的英語 tutor。在去回花園的路上,浦瑛姐一直叫着“Mom”“Mom”。浦瑛姐是一個好念舊的人。愛,有聲或默言,都會觸心動靈!

September 6, 2020 Zhenni Jackson

Twenty-nine years ago from today, Ying Pu, my dear friend, landed in the U.S. from China to pursue her American dream. She spoke no English, had no connections, and worked as a waitress for three Chinese restaurants in the Greater Cleveland area. Today, she is founder, owner, and chief editor of Eric Chinese Journal, established in 2003. She has interviewed thousands of Americans and immigrants, from politicians to business owners, from doctors, artists, musicians, athletes to prisoners and the homeless. She has written of their visions, struggles and achievements. Everyone’s life is a book. Ying has a special talent and an irresistible energy to open each one’s book.

Ying invited her American Mom, Christa Acker, and me to visit Schnormeier Gardens for her 29th American Dream anniversary. Why does Ying call Christa “Mom”? Deep gratitude! Christa was Ying’s English tutor when Ying had just arrived in the U.S. Christa herself came to the U.S. from Germany sixty-five years ago, right after World War II when she was a mere high schooler. Christa’s dream was to become a teacher. But in post-war Germany there weren’t many opportunities for girls to enter teaching positions. Invited by her uncle in the U.S., Christa and her sister both came to America and helped in his restaurant. Christa decided to stay in the U.S. and went to college. Her dream

and constructions. As well, they modernized Feng Shui elements to echo peace, harmony and serenity.

The Pavilion, built in the Chinese garden, was inspired by Chinese Pagodas during Ted and Ann’s trip to China. At each roof tip of the pavilion a dragon gargoyle was situated to ward off evil spirits. I took a photo of Ted inside the Pavilion and looked over through one moon gate. A Zigzag Bridge was built in Meadow Garden. Ted explained that, based on Chinese belief, you can shake bad luck off if you walk across a zigzag bridge. Built on the hill, surrounded by ponds, streams, waterfalls and rare conifers, a Japanese Garden House in Serenity Garden was walled in by glass-turned-mirror – ashied against ghosts. Ted showed me how to ring a giant Buddhist bell that was suspended over the patio. I stuck it loudly three times, thereby dispelling evil spirits, praying for good luck, and giving thanks. In 2020, such a trio of blessings is in high demand for everyone on the planet! At the moment of entering the Garden house, Ying and I both suddenly felt elevated power and energy. Ted told us that his and Ann’s ashes would be placed around the house. Love carries energy. The law of conservation of energy proves the eternity of



love. The Schnormeier Gardens embodies Ted and Ann’s life legacy.

On the way back, Ying kept calling Christa “Mom” when initiating chat. Her vocalization of “Mom” sounded like a little girl in search of reassurance, love and dependence. At the end of our trip, Ying suggested we go to Hunan Restaurant in Fairlawn to dine. That very restaurant is the one that gave Ying her first job when she came to the U.S. twenty-nine years ago. She emotionally shared with us how the restaurant owner’s family helped her through the early years.

Life is Karma. We receive what we give. May we love what we receive. Visit Schnormeier Gardens to celebrate Ying’s 29th anniversary. Never can I imagine, at the moment

Twenty-nine years ago, Ying Pu, my dear friend, landed on the continent of the U.S. from China to pursue her American dream. She didn’t speak English and had no connections.

Today is my friend, Ying Pu’s 29th anniversary of landing on the U.S. from China to pursue her American dream.

