

**ITM GROUP**  
ITM (US) President  
Culture Research Advisor/Author  
ITM (US) Board of Advisors

**Lorinda Laughlin**  
BIOGRAPHY

Raised in northeast Ohio on 75 acres of beech-maple forest, Lorinda's love of plants was cultivated at an early age by an avid gardener and nature explorer, her mother, Grace Annette. Torn between her love of horticulture and a keen interest in the social sciences, Lorinda ultimately graduated from Baldwin Wallace College with majors in political science and sociology. Subsequently trained at the Philadelphia Institute, and certified in Litigation Management, Lorinda spent the 1980's in the Labor and Litigation Departments of the Cleveland-based international law firm, Squire Sanders and Dempsey.

In the 1990's, Lorinda stopped working to devote herself full time to the raising of her three children. It was during this time spent with her children that she rediscovered her first love, horticulture.

The next decade found Lorinda working for horticulturist and mentor, Susan Holmes Bercheck, then owner of the historical 1928 garden center, Sunnybrook Farms Nursery in Geauga County, Ohio, where she learned garden design, installation, upscale flower garden improvement and organic maintenance techniques, as well as plant propagation and retail sales. She was able to put her design skills to work in the creations department, designing custom container plantings and holiday arrangements for long -time clients and retail sales.

Lorinda was employed at Sunnybrook until it closed its doors in 2010. She spent the following season working as a consultant to a new local garden design and maintenance company, and creating custom arrangements for retail sales at local greenhouses. From 2012 to 2014, Lorinda held the position of head designer for Perennials Preferred, Inc. in Chesterland, Ohio.

Today, Lorinda is a nationally certified flower show judge, and has judged as well as exhibited horticulture, floral design and miniature landscapes throughout Northeast Ohio, including the Cleveland Botanical Gardens. Lorinda enjoys speaking and conducting workshops on gardening related topics for nurseries and garden clubs and is active in her own local club, raising funds for scholarships to horticulture students, and working in her community's public parks to design and maintain its garden beds.

Lorinda is a member of the Ohio Judges Council, The Cleveland Flower Arranger's Guild, OFA Association of Horticulture Professionals, The National Garden Club Central Atlantic Region, Garden Clubs of Ohio, and the Garden Clubs of the Western Reserve.

In 2013, Lorinda was introduced to Jack Craciun III, Chairman/CEO of ITM (China) Ltd. and ITM (US) Ltd. The First Dragon™ Global Chinese Cross Cultural Exchange enterprise was the focus of their meetings.

Upon completing significant research pertaining to ITM, The First Dragon™ Ltd. and their EpAngelia Group Ltd. Strategic Alliance including, its President, Fr. George Smiga, STD., ITM (US) Global Culture & History Research Project Manager and Author, Lorinda joined ITM as a Vested Member of its Board of Advisors.

Guided by Dr. Smiga and Mr. Craciun, Lorinda is now performing research to complete a manuscript that will perfectly complement The First Dragon™ and The First Phoenix Manuscripts completed by Dr Smiga pertaining to "The Birth of Chinese Culture" and "The Early Stage Evolution of Chinese History." The primary focus of The First Dragon™ Enterprise is to dispel Eurocentric misrepresentations of the Chinese culture, its symbols, mythology & lore, and its contributions to humankind.

Laughlin's "Yin and Yang Manuscript" will deliver a study of western misconceptions regarding China's profound relationship with the natural world now and throughout the millennia. A focus on Eastern horticultural practices reveals profound insight into their view of the world and how to live in it and will serve to clarify their contributions to mankind in fields such as medicine, art, literature and philosophy, thus furthering ITM's interest to promote a mutual understanding of cultures through education and entertainment.

*"There is no greater fraternity than that bound by the love of plants."*

-Michael Dirr