



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter November 2013

HAPPENING THIS MONTH!

Volunteer Workday

Saturday, November 2
9 a.m. - Noon

Please note that our workday is the **FIRST**, and not the usual second Saturday of the month since our anniversary event will be held on that day, November 9.

We still have work to do to get ready for our anniversary event. So please come out to help. It's a great way to meet new friends while doing productive work that truly makes a difference!

We will have some tools and gloves available, but you are welcome to bring your own clippers, gloves and bug spray. Please wear long pants and closed-toe shoes.

The Art of Nature 5th Anniversary Event



Anhinga looking over Lake Ray

You're invited to our party!

The Art of Nature

Saturday, November 9, 2013

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Celebrate the Arboretum's 5th anniversary with The Art of Nature, offering a day full of activities for all ages. An outdoor sculptor exhibit presented in partnership with the Northeast Florida Sculptor's Group (NFSG) will feature the unique creations of 25 artists around the

5th Anniversary Event

Saturday, November 9
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

A Walk in the Woods

Saturday, November 23
8 a.m. Fitness Walk
Brisk 3 mile hike

Saturday, November 23
9:30 a.m. Nature Walk
with naturalist/biologist
Walks are free.

NOTE: Since our anniversary event is Saturday, Nov 9, there will be no Fitness Walk that day.

'Tis the Giving Season

As the end of the year approaches, you undoubtedly receive many requests for tax-deductible donations to your favorite charity or other non-profit organization. Please consider putting the Jacksonville Arboretum, a 501c(3) not-for profit organization at the top of your gift list. Please mail your check, made out to the Jacksonville Arboretum with Year-End Donation noted, to P.O. Box 5763, Jacksonville, FL 32247.

We will send a thank you letter/receipt for tax purposes. Thanks for your consideration and support!

Join Us! Become a JAG Member

By becoming a member, you are supporting the

the Northeast Florida Sculptor's Group (NFSG) will feature the unique creations of 25 artists around the Lake Loop and Jones Creek trails. Visitors can vote for their favorite to receive the People's Choice Award. The event will also have storytellers from the Jacksonville Public Library and the Beaches League of Storytellers, a digital photography workshop, vendors offering nature-related demonstrations and merchandise, nature tours, music by Old Time Jam, children's activities and a chainsaw artist working his magic on an old camphor tree stump. Food will be available from food truck Up in Smoke Bar-B-Q. The event will conclude with a tribute to our military in honor of Veterans' Day, awards and a celebration cake. The event is free but donations are suggested and appreciated. Please visit our website www.jacksonvillearboretum.org for a list of participants and a schedule of events.

**RAIN DATE IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 (same hours)
NO DOGS ALLOWED DURING THE EVENT!**

Many thanks to all of our artists, vendors, participants, and volunteers. And we thank the following sponsors for their generous in-kind donations:

The Home Depot - Regency
The Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens
Karate America
Katie
Ken Cranford - Koncepts Kreations
Publix Supermarkets, Inc.
Southern Wine & Spirits

TAKE OUR VOLUNTEER SURVEY

Our Volunteer Survey is now ready and we ask all of our current volunteers and those who would like to volunteer to take a few moments to give us your valuable input. Our volunteers are the lifeblood of the Arboretum and we want to know more about your experiences, interests and how we can improve. [Click here to take our survey!](#)

We are also working on a volunteer database to help us match individual skills and interests with our specific volunteer needs. Once we have the survey results, our list of needs and the database completed, we plan to have a volunteer orientation to acquaint existing and

are supporting the Arboretum's day to day operations and planned improvements. Members receive discounts to special programs & events and your membership is tax-deductible.

Membership Levels

\$ 25 Student/Senior/
Limited Income
\$ 35 Individual
\$ 55 Family
\$ 100 Corporate
\$ 200 Friend
\$ 500 Sponsor
\$ 1000 Benefactor/Lifetime

To join, go to our website at www.jacksonvillearboretum.org and click on "Membership"

THANK YOU!

list of needs and the database completed, we plan to have a volunteer orientation to acquaint existing and new volunteers with all of the opportunities available at the Arboretum.

THANK YOU, KEN!

The Board of Directors of the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens want to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to Ken Cranford, owner of Konzept Kreationen, Inc. for his extraordinary efforts over the past several weeks in helping us improve and beautify the arboretum facilities. He has cleared underbrush and trees north of the picnic area, regraded portions of the Loop Trail that had washed out, built an overlook adjacent to the Lake Loop, mowed areas of overgrown grass and weeds, and spread zoo poo in garden areas. Ken's commitment went above and beyond our normal volunteer work and through his tireless efforts the Arboretum is a show place for all to enjoy. Come out and see for yourself on November 9th for "The Art of Nature ", our 5th Anniversary Celebration.

WHAT'S BLOOMING?

The flowers of summer have pretty much faded. But, that does not mean that there is not plenty to see. The Arboretum has grasses, fall flowers, mushrooms, and a new fall look to the salt marsh.

Fox tail grass (*Setaria sp.*) can be found near the new overlook on the lake side of the Lake Loop Trail and broom sedge (*Andropogon sp.*) can be found on the path to the Ravines trail. The show stopper, however, is the muhly grass (*Muhlenbergia capillaries*) in the parking lot. The pink inflorescences are nothing short of gorgeous. The African art of sweet grass basket making uses this grass. This craft was brought to the United States by slaves. Sweet grass baskets are popular items that can be found in the markets of Charleston.

You may still see a few *Bidens alba* flowers. These are joined by the fall flowers of goldenrod (*Solidago sp.*), Baccharis, and dog fennel (*Eupatorium capillifolium*). The red holly (*Ilex sp.*) and violet beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) berries also add an unexpected pop of color to the landscape.

There are several varieties of mushrooms. In the pine

There are several varieties of mushrooms. In the pine flatwoods area on the west end of the Live Oak trail a bright red mushroom with white gills (*Russula emetica*) can be seen. The parasol mushroom (*Lepiota procera*), cream with brown scales on the cap and ruffles around the edge, are in the palm garden along the south Lake Loop trail. The orange and yellow wax mushrooms (*Hygrophors*) are also prevalent. On dead or dying tree trunks or logs are numerous species of shelf mushrooms, also called conks. One species, *Polyporus versicolor*, is found throughout the Arboretum in dense clusters of browns tinged with red, yellow, blue, and green. You may also notice a mushroom with pores under the cap (instead of gills). These are likely *Suilles lutes*, a boletes mushroom.

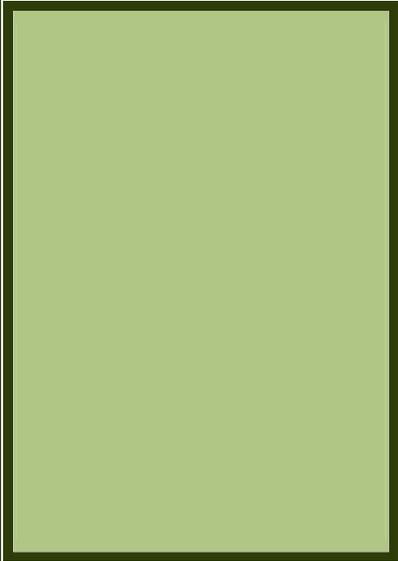
The salt marsh is displaying its fall colors. The black needle rush (*Juncus roemerianus*) is now gray-brown and the smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*) has changed to a yellow-brown.

WHAT'S NEW?

Several Eagle Scouts have recently completed projects at the Arboretum. These include seven new benches constructed and installed by Preetham Pamulapati; three gate closures along Merrill Road frontage and post and cable work adjacent to the gates by Andrew Callahan; and post and cable prepared and installed by Matthew McCulley along the banks of Lake Ray. Thank you Preetham, Andrew and Matthew - your efforts are essential to maintaining and improving the Arboretum.

Have you walked the Live Oak Trail lately? If so, you may have been keeping track of the restoration and planting work funded by a grant from the Horticulture Department of the Jacksonville Zoo. Each year the Zoo donates money raised from plant and zoo pooh sales to restoration efforts throughout the country. We are very grateful for the zoo's confidence in our ability to carry out these efforts and happy to help promote restoration of critical habitats in northeast Florida.

Several years ago, the Division of Forestry flail mowed a portion of our overgrown pine flatwood. We are working hard to maintain it as an "Urban Wildfire Buffer" while still doing limited plantings to showcase the flatwood natives of the southeastern coastal plains. Just uphill



still doing limited plantings to showcase the flatwood natives of the southeastern coastal plains. Just uphill, the turkey oak barren is ready for burning this winter and then planting with sandhill grasses and forbs this spring.

OUR MISSION

Cultivating a unique environment for recreation, education and inspiration.