



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter November 2014

HAPPENING THIS MONTH!

The Art of Nature

Saturday November 8
9-5 PM

6 year Anniversary Event
featuring
39 artists creating 19 sculptures
Nature-related demos and
merchandise
Live music, children's arts &
crafts activities, food
trucks and more!
\$5 admission
Children under 12 free
Don't miss this family-friendly
event!

Photo Hike

Saturday, November 8
2 p.m.

Volunteer Workday

Saturday, November 1
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.



Devine by Design- Lad and Mindy Hawkins Photo by Donvovan Geoghegan

The Art of Nature 6th Anniversary Celebration November 8 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Enjoy an autumn day at the Arboretum as we celebrate our sixth anniversary with a full day of fun and educational activities for the entire family. The event will showcase the "art" of nature with 40 artists working solo and in groups to create unique

A Walk in the Woods

Fitness walk
Brisk 3 mile hike
Saturday, November 8 and 22
8 a.m.

Nature Walk

with naturalist/biologist
Walks are free.
Saturday, November 22
9:30 a.m.

SAVE THE DATES!

A Brush with Nature Plein Air Painting Event

April 16-18, 2015
For more information go to
www.abrushwithnature.org

ALSO

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

SILVER PARTNER
Kevin Driscoll - The Driscoll
Group
Marcia Mederos

GOLD PARTNER
Bestbet Jacksonville

For more information about the
Donor Programs, go to
[www.jacksonvillearboretum.org/supp
ortus](http://www.jacksonvillearboretum.org/supp
ortus).

Thank you!

sculptures along the Lake Loop and adjacent trails.

Also featured will be the largest display of fairy
and gnome houses in Jacksonville!

Educational demonstrations on a variety of nature -
related topics will be given by the Museum of
Science & History (MOSH), Gopher Tortoise Council,
North Florida Woodcarvers Group, FSCJ
Printmaking, the Sierra Club, Duval County
Extension Service, the Jacksonville Zoo, UNF
Sculpture Guild and Lesley Royce/Merlin the Barred
Owl. Chainsaw artist James Gandy will be giving
demos and the Jacksonville Public Library will offer
storytelling throughout the day. Merchandise such
as glass art, handmade soaps & lotions, bee
products, jewelry, olives, artwork and other
nature-inspired products will also be available.
There will also be live music by Old Time Jam and
Al Poindexter & River Rise, food trucks, an ice
cream truck, children's art & craft activities, and
nature walks through this beautiful and picturesque
property. Last, but not least, there will be a tribute
to our military in recognition of Veteran's Day on
November 11.

Admission is \$5.00 (cash preferred and no
discounts), children under 12 are free and our
celebration is open to the entire Jacksonville
community. Please note - **NO DOGS DURING THE
EVENT**. So come and enjoy a family day and admire
"THE ART OF NATURE" at the Jacksonville Arboretum
and Gardens.

Adopt-a-Species

The Arboretum is introducing an Adopt-a-Species
program, offering an affordable option for those
who want to support the Arboretum. As a starting
point, two species found within the Arboretum
were selected from wildlife, shrubs and trees.
More species may be added as the program
matures. The species available for adoption
include:

Wildlife: Gopher Tortoise, Barred Owl

Shop at Amazon Smile

The Jacksonville Arboretum is now registered with Amazon Smile, a foundation set up by amazon.com that donates a portion of all sales to a shopper's favorite charity. You will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as on amazon.com and can use your same account and settings, but all purchases must be made through smile.amazon.com. So enjoy shopping and supporting the Arboretum at the same time! Best of all, there is no cost to you. Click on the link below to take you to a special Amazon Smile landing page for the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens.

[Thanks!](#)

Become a JAG Member

We have revised our membership levels and added more benefits in appreciation of your support. Details of our new program are available on our website.

By becoming a member or donor, you are supporting the Arboretum's day to day operations and planned improvements and your donation is tax-deductible.

Membership Levels

\$ 40 Single
\$ 55 Dual

Shrubs: Native Rosemary, Devil's Walking Stick
Trees: Live Oak, Loblolly Bay

For an adoption fee of \$30 per species per year and the adopter receives a certificate and Fun Facts with a color photo of the subject. Our hope is that those who adopt will want to learn more about nature and come out to see their species live at the Arboretum.

With the holidays fast approaching, Adopt-a-Species may be just the gift to introduce a child to the wonders of nature or for the nature lover who seems to have everything. Each adoption helps us maintain and preserve the property for species habitat.

For more information, please visit our website. We will also have a display at the Art of Nature anniversary event on November 8 with examples.

An Active & Educational Gift Idea

Do you know a family you want to coax off the couch and out into nature? Perhaps your co-workers would welcome a group hike rather than another stuffy office party or you would like to donate something unique to that fund-raising auction you are attending. Whatever the reason, consider purchasing a Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens tour as a unique solution to those gift purchasing conundrums. For as little as \$25 you can provide a guided nature experience right in the heart of Jacksonville. For more information

emailinfo@jacksonvillearboretum.org

ArborEATum a Big Winner!

Our inaugural wine and food fest, the ArborEATum on October 25 was a big success. Approximately 250 people came out and enjoyed a perfect autumn evening sampling tasty dishes offered by a dozen

\$ 70 Family
\$ 100 Friend

**Supporters & Corporate
Partners**

\$ 250 Bronze Partner
\$ 500 Silver Partner
\$1,000 Gold Partner

John Bartram Society

\$ 2,500+ Gatekeeper
\$ 5,000+ Steward
\$10,000 President's
Council

To join or purchase a gift
membership, go to
our website at

www.jacksonvillearboretum.org
and click on Membership!

THANK YOU!

restaurants and caterers, over 75 domestic and imported wines, custom craft beers and specialty coffees and desserts. Musicians from the North Florida Bluegrass Association entertained the crowds and the Jacksonville Jaguars Jaxson De Ville made a special appearance riding in on his Segway. As a fundraiser for the Arboretum, the event brought in over \$11,000, with proceeds to support our mission of cultivating a unique environment for recreation, education and inspiration. With all the positive feedback, we hope to make this an annual signature event!



Step Out in Nature is a fun and fitness competition for the Jacksonville area public elementary schools that encourages students to compete against each other to see which students and schools can complete the most steps on the Arboretum's trails between September 2014 and March 2015.

Students can register to compete and keep track of the trails they walk at www.stepoutinnature.org; the system will automatically calculate the number the steps taken based on the trails walked. While the competition is limited to public elementary schools, the program is open to any child or adult who wants to participate and take the challenge of seeing how many steps they can take towards fitness, just register as an individual on the program's website.

As part of the program, the Arboretum is offering the following activities until March:

- Outdoor Adventure Kids Bootcamp: Every 1st and 3rd Saturday at 9:30am (An outdoor, low-impact, fitness program for elementary aged kids, all levels welcome).

- A Walk In The Woods: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday at 8am (Fitness Walk, brisk hike, all ages are welcome)
- Nature Walk with a Naturalist/Biologist: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday at 9:30am (The second Saturday walk will feature family friendly activities and the 4th is aimed for adults and/or older children).

The Step Out in Nature program will be offering two activities:

- Tracking program with AyoLane Halusky on Saturday November 15 at 10:00 am

AyoLane is the founder of Earth Kinship, LLC. He is a St. Johns County naturalist and Florida native who had been teaching wilderness skills and native technology for over 20 years.

As part of the program we will be walking the beautiful trails of the Arboretum and learning how to read the landscape to discover who calls the arboretum home. Tracking is the first written language telling the story of the environment. Come out and learn to read nature's newspaper!

- Owl encounter with Lesley Royce on Sunday December 7 at 2:00 pm

Don't you just LOVE owls? Some of us have heard owls hooting at night, but most of us have never seen one in the wild. This presentation gives you an opportunity to see a barred owl up close.

Merlin the barred owl once lived in the wild. But because of an accident, he is now disabled and lives with Lesley Royce, retired City of Jacksonville naturalist. During this Owl Encounter, you will hear about how Merlin came to live with Ms. Lesley, and some of his experiences in captivity.

Barred owls are one of five species of owls that call Florida "home." Ms. Lesley will talk about these different owls, how to identify owl species by their calls, and what makes owls different from other birds. Bring your camera for photo opportunities

following the program.

Site Rentals at the Arboretum

Fall is one of the loveliest times of year at the Arboretum. Days are generally sunny and cool - perfect weather for a company team-building retreat, a family reunion, a wedding or other special occasions! The Arboretum now offers site rentals at six locations, so if you wish to celebrate your special event in a nature setting, consider the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens. More information and a reservation form can be found at www.jacksonvillearboretum.org/siterentals.

Ranger Training

The first session of a newly structured Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens (JAG) Ranger training program was held on October 11th. During this primary level Ranger training, Program Manager Melinda Simmons and Master Naturalist Doug Ganyo discussed JAG history and species. Additionally, participants were taught techniques for successful environmental interpretation and how to lead a beginning level tour including parts of the Lake Loop Trail, Jones Creek Trail, and Ravine Trails. Rangers who have completed this primary training are signing up to lead paying tour groups and many plan to attend future training sessions, which will incorporate additional trails and species into their repertoire. For information on how to become a volunteer JAG Ranger or request a tour, please send an email to: info@jacksonvillearboretum.org

OUR MISSION

*Cultivating a unique environment for recreation,
education and inspiration.*