



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter July 2015

HAPPENING THIS MONTH!

Volunteer Gatekeepers Needed

info@jacksonvillearboretum.org

Volunteer Workday

No volunteer workdays for July & August. Thanks to all who have helped maintain the property!

Nature Walk

with naturalist/biologist
Saturday, July 11
9:30 AM-10:30 AM

Photo Hike

Tuesday, July 7
6 PM-7 PM

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

BRONZE PARTNER

Trail Improvement Grant from REI

The Arboretum was just awarded a \$5,000 trail improvement grant from Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI). The funds will be used to upgrade the Jones Creek Trail infrastructure along the first 250 to 300 feet of the trail. To be completed in several segments over the next 6-12 months, the project will encompass trail stabilization, replacement of a bridge and the construction of a stream-side seating area. While the grant will increase access to gorgeous bottomland forest, the stabilization will also help protect the habitats the trail traverses. The Arboretum's neighbor, JEA's East Arlington Water Treatment Facility, will help with the project, as will volunteers enlisted by the Arboretum and REI through their websites, newsletters, social media and on-site notices. This is a great opportunity to be part of a major improvement project. So keep a lookout for upcoming notices on how and when to volunteer. Because the Jones Creek Trail is the most frequently used trail at the Arboretum, improvements will be immediately recognized and appreciated by the over 30,000 annual visitors.

Eli & Martha Bekkum
Laurence Gierum
Robb & Pam Mitchell
Anthony John Rigney, PA
& Rigney Family
of Jacksonville, Florida
Dr. Todd Sack & Barbara
Sharp

SILVER PARTNER

Kevin Driscoll - The Driscoll
Group
Marcia Mederos
Mary Anne & Anwar Saadeh

GOLD PARTNER

bestbet Jacksonville

For more information about the
Donor Programs, go to
www.jacksonvillearboretum.org/donor-programs/

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**Plan Your Special Day
at the Arboretum**

The dog days of summer are here, but a beautiful season for weddings at the Arboretum is just around the corner. The months of October, November and December generally offer clear skies, cooler temperatures and some lovely autumn colors. Arboretum winters are fairly mild and the brightly colored seedlings of red maples and sugar maples are striking against the backdrop of clear blue skies. Then spring brings a profusion of colorful blooms to the Arboretum. Almost any month is perfect for exchanging vows in one of the six beautiful nature settings available for rental. To learn more about having your special day in this very

Become a JAG Member

We have revised our membership levels and added more benefits in appreciation of your support. Details are available on our website. By becoming a member or donor, you are supporting the Arboretum's day to day operations and planned improvements, plus your donation is tax-deductible.

Membership Levels

- \$ 40 Single
- \$ 55 Dual
- \$ 70 Family
- \$ 100 Friend

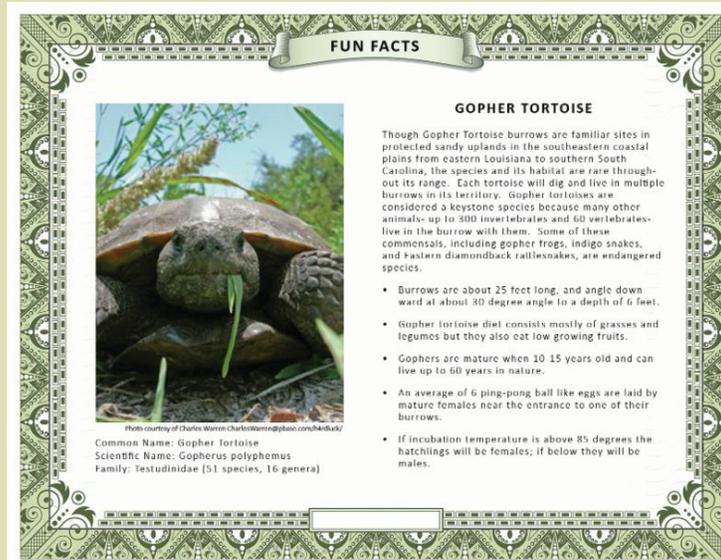
- Supporters
& Corporate Partners**
- \$ 250 Bronze Partner
 - \$ 500 Silver Partner
 - \$1,000 Gold Partner

- John Bartram Society**
- \$ 2,500+ Gatekeeper
 - \$ 5,000+ Steward
 - \$ 10,000+ President's Council

To join or purchase a gift membership, click [JOIN](#) and Support Us!

THANK YOU!

special place, please visit our website - www.jacksonvillearboretum.com/siterentals.



Adopt-A-Species

Adopt-a-Species is an affordable option to help the Arboretum preserve the plant and animal habitats within its boundaries. For a \$30 one-year adoption fee, the donor or recipient receives a personalized adoption certificate and a Fun Facts sheet with a photograph of the adopted species; both are suitable for framing. Adopting a gopher tortoise or a live oak tree is a great way to inspire your child, grandchild, or inner child to learn more about the natural world. There will be delight upon finding the adopted species on visits to the Arboretum and a personal connection will be established. For more information and a list of species available for adoption, visit our website - www.jacksonvillearboretum.org/supportus.



A Nature at Night THANK YOU for Members and Volunteers

Nature at Night events are held twice a year, weather permitting, to thank Arboretum members and volunteers for all that they do. Without them, the Arboretum could not even open its gates.

The most recent Nature at Night event took place on the last Saturday in May because March rain warranted rescheduling of the original plans. Despite a very hot and humid afternoon, rain held off and the evening cooled down to a pleasant temperature. Attendees checked in at the membership table and munched popcorn while strolling down to the Reflection Point Pavilion, a new location for this event. Here fire pits were ready for roasting hot dogs and making s'mores, which went perfectly with donated dishes from the Soul Food Bistro. While some visitors went on night time tours of the Arboretum, others simply enjoyed relaxing in lawn chairs and catching up with friends. Bats put on a show diving for insects above Lake Ray and a few members even saw a fox on the prowl. The evening was a delight!

OUR MISSION

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