



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter
December 2018

**UPCOMING
EVENTS!**

**Open
Christmas Day
Tuesday, Dec. 25
8 AM - 5 PM

**Open
New Year's Day
Tuesday,
Jan. 1, 2019
8 AM - 5 PM

**Kid's Tour
Saturday,
Jan. 5, 2019
10 - 11 AM

**Volunteer
Workday
Saturday,**



**Annual Appeal Goal Set at
\$25,000 for Matching Grant**

Most members should have already received our holiday appeal letter, in which we are asking donors to help us match an amazing \$25,000 Challenge Grant from a long-time volunteer, member and benefactor.

This challenge grant will match any gift you give this holiday season dollar for dollar!

This gift is an additional celebration of all that our supporters have allowed us to achieve since the founding of the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens 10 years ago.

Some of the projects that your contributions will fund include

**Jan. 12, 2019
9 AM - Noon**

**Discovering
Nature Nearby
Saturday,
Jan. 19, 2019
9:30 AM**

**Arboretum
Gates Open
8 AM - 5 PM
Daily**

**SUPPORTERS
& PARTNERS**

BRONZE PARTNER

Greg and Pat Cloud

SILVER PARTNER

Anthony John Rigney,
PA & Rigney Family
of Jacksonville, FL

GOLD PARTNER

David W. Cromer
DVM / Baywood
Animal Hospital

John & Sondie Frus

Ron and Carol

some grading and paving around our lake loop and the creation of more gardens to continue our "People and Plants" theme throughout our 120-acre venue.

These improvements will help the Arboretum better serve the more than 40,000 visitors coming each year to enjoy our gardens and trails while they experience "Old Florida."

To be a part of making the Arboretum even better, join the Challenge today and **see your gift matched dollar for dollar to double the impact of your generosity.**

You can [donate through our secured PayPal service on our website](#) (please note "Challenge Grant Gift" as you donate), or mail your check to:

Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens
P.O. Box 350430
Jacksonville, FL 32225

For questions, or to donate by phone, please contact our executive director Diane Machaby at 904-318-4342.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you in advance for your support, and best wishes for a wonderful holiday season filled with family and friends - and all the best in the new year!

On the Trails

Hats off to Our Helpers from Sandalwood High!

On Nov. 17, Sandalwood High School's Greenstate Environmental Club joined us to pull invasives and remove plants encroaching on the rosemary scrub.

Russell/Russell
Blueberry Farm

Gate Keeper
Marcia Mederos

[Click here to find out
more about
Donor Programs!](#)

JAG Membership

By becoming a member or donor, you are supporting the Arboretum's operations and improvements. All donations are tax-deductible. Details are available on our website.

Membership Levels

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

Supporters & Corporate Partners

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

John Bartram Society

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



The group has been coming once or twice annually for the last 10 years. Our heartfelt thanks to Steve Sherrill, the faculty advisor, for his commitment to the club and the Arboretum.

Nature at Night on February 23

Volunteers and members: mark your calendars for 3 to 6 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 23 for the next Nature at Night event.

Several board members will be cooking up their favorite chili recipes for the event, which will be held in the picnic area near the entryway to the gardens.

We'll also have some entertainment, and some tours as well.

Also, a special thanks to sponsor Wawa.

Sponsors Coming On Board for A Brush with Nature, March 30- 31

Bestbet, OE&S, PRI Productions and The "Press On" Foundation are the first sponsors to support the upcoming 'A Brush With Nature' in March -- hosted at The Jacksonville

To join or purchase a gift membership, click

[JOIN](#)

Thank you!

Shop at Amazon Smile

The Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens is registered with Amazon Smile, a foundation that donates a portion of all sales to a shopper's favorite charity. Using your normal account and settings you will find the same low prices and availability.

Enjoy shopping and supporting us by visiting smile.amazon.com

Arboretum & Gardens (JAG) in conjunction with First Coast Plein Air Painters.



The plein air painting event is open to the public free of charge from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 30 and Sunday, March 31.

Donations to the arboretum encouraged if you attend, and all works of art created at the event are available for sale - with proceeds benefiting the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens and the artists.

Activities include artists' demonstrations each day, art activities for children (photo above), entertainment and food vendors.

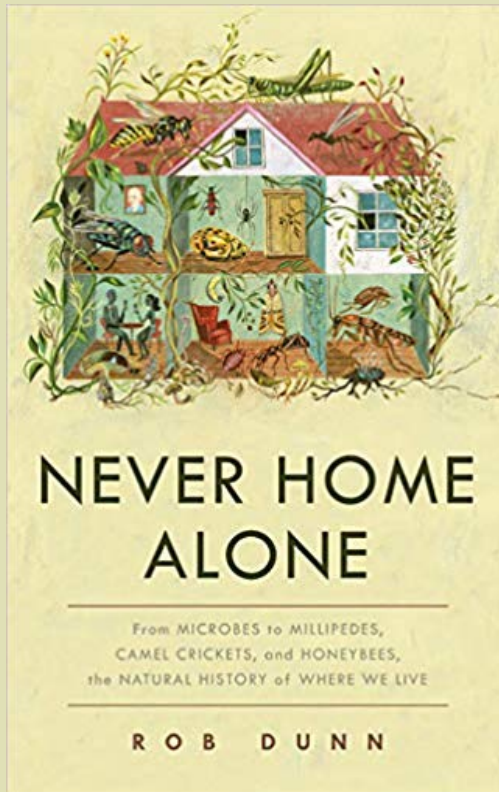
To become an event sponsor, contact executive director Diane Machaby at dmachaby@jacksonvillearboretum.org.

Never Home Alone!

Submitted by JAG Curator Chuck Hubbuch

A new book, *Never Home Alone* by Rob Dunn, discusses the many creatures that share our homes with us. While some of us find topics like this fascinating, people who are squeamish about such things might not want to learn about the surprising number of bacteria, insects, spiders and other species that live in the typical home. One topic should be interesting, however, to people who enjoy gardening and nature. The

author looks at factors that impact the number and types of bacteria species in a typical home.



In homes that are closed tightly to outdoor air, without pets that track in dirt and that are located in urban areas far from nature, the majority of the bacteria species tend to be those that are associated most closely with people. These are the bacteria that feed on dead skin cells and fecal material, that give our arm pits their distinctive aromas and cause disease. Using anti-

bacterial cleansers and pesticides tends to reduce the numbers of harmless bacteria, giving some harmful species more room to spread.

The addition of pets that spend some time outdoors each day, increases the diversity of bacteria by adding some harmless species from the surrounding lawn and garden. The best situation is a home that opens its windows and is located near natural areas or gardens that have a wide variety of different plants. In fact, more plant species around the house means that the more harmless species bacteria will be found indoors. More harmless outdoor bacteria are the best for our health. These bacteria compete with harmful species for space and food in our homes. Some outdoor bacteria are known to elevate our moods. Exposure to a wide variety of harmless bacteria helps keep our immune system tuned properly and seems to reduce the frequency of auto-immune disorders.

More and more research suggests that exposure to nature improves our mental and physical well-being. Having a

healthy home with a diverse population of bacteria is a start. Getting outside to garden or hike in natural areas is another way to expose yourself to natural bacteria, pollen, dust and other elements of nature that help keep our bodies and minds healthy.

If you are not too squeamish, take a look at Never Home Alone. It might help you appreciate some of the little things that make your house their home.

Show the World You Love the Arboretum

Show the world you love us, by posting your Arboretum photographs at [#jacksonvillearboretum](#) & www.facebook.com/JacksonvilleArboretumGardens
We appreciate it!

OUR MISSION

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

Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens, 1445 Millcoie Road, Jacksonville, FL 32225