



## Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter February 2017

### **HAPPENING THIS MONTH!**

**Arboretum  
Gates Open**  
8:00 AM-5:00 PM

**Volunteer  
Workday**  
Saturday, February 11  
8 AM-11 PM

**Nature Walk**  
Saturday, February 11  
9:30 AM-10:30 AM

**Discovering Nature  
Nearby**  
Saturday, February 18  
9:30 AM-10:30 AM

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### **Adoration at the Arboretum**

Valentine's Day is coming up soon. What better place to spend time with those you care about than at the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens? Have a picnic, stroll the trails, admire the flowers and stop by the donation box. You will not be disappointed.

## **SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS**

### **BRONZE PARTNER**

Stuart & Haze Bergman  
Laurence Gierum  
Pat & Cliff Jeremiah  
Robb & Pam Mitchell  
Anthony John Rigney,  
PA & Rigney Family  
of Jacksonville, FL  
Russell Blueberry Farm  
Dr. Todd Sack & Barbara  
Sharp  
Denise Trad-Wartan of  
Trad's Garden  
Center/Trad's Pest Control

### **SILVER PARTNER**

Eldon & Martha Bakkum  
Kotas Family Foundation/  
GE Foundation  
Mary Anne & Anwar  
Saadeh  
Southern Wine & Spirits

### **GOLD PARTNER**

bestbet Jacksonville  
Kevin Driscoll -  
The Driscoll Group  
David & Bonnie Foster  
Marcia Mederos

**For Donor Programs  
Information, click  
[Donor](#)  
Thank you!**

**Shop at Amazon Smile**



Photo by Chuck Hubbuch

## **We LOVE Our Volunteers!**

Despite rain, several hardy people came out to our January work day. Fortunately the weather improved quickly. Volunteers weeded, trimmed back plants damaged by the recent cold, planted new plants, and watered. Work days are critical to keeping up appearances at the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens. We are grateful for the

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### **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

help from our garden volunteers.



Photos by Merrill Varn

## **Thank You Troop 519 & Supporters**

Kenny Speth of Boy Scout Troop 519 has spent the past several months recruiting volunteers and in-kind donations for his Eagle Scout Project. He and a squadron of reinforcements braved the absolutely foul weather January 7th to install an extension of the south boundary fence. We hope the fence will



Gold Partner \$1,000

**John Bartram  
Society**

Gatekeeper \$2500+  
Steward \$5000+  
President's Council  
\$10000+

To join or purchase a  
gift membership, click

[JOIN](#)

Thank you!

help keep the trails from getting torn up by bikers who trespass after hours. Kenny wishes to thank Lowe's, Sunbelt Rentals, Johnson Controls, CCI, and Papa John's for their donations of materials, time, and lunch.



Photo by Chuck Hubbuch

**Calendula: a Winter Annual for  
Jacksonville**

*Calendula officianalis* is better known as calendula or pot marigold. It is a bushy little plant to twelve inches or so in height with lettuce-like leaves and large, colorful daisies. The daisies are in shades of yellow and orange. Flowers may be double or single, with a yellow to brown disk in the center. Native to Europe, it is not well-suited to Florida summers but it grows well through the cool months.

Calendula is not just a pretty flower, it is edible and has been used medicinally. The leaves and flowers may be eaten fresh or cooked. The leaves have been used also to treat scratches and scrapes. The petals are added to salads, soups and cheese for their bright color. The flowers have been used as tea, as a dye for cloth and in cosmetics. Literature indicated that the flowers have been used in traditional medicines since the time of the ancient Greeks. Modern lab tests indicate that compounds in the plant contain antiseptic and anti-inflammatory properties. Calendula ointment and essential oils are available commercially. Medical websites offer no warnings for external use but indicate that pregnant women should not eat calendula flowers or drink the tea.

Calendula plants are rare in local nurseries and plant shops. The leaves break easily so it may be that they do not tolerate much handling. However, seeds germinate readily - in about ten days. They may be sown from October to February. The plants will survive frosts and light freezes but may be damaged by a hard freeze. If the flowers are removed as they fade, to prevent seed development, they can flower into June. In January, volunteers planted several calendula plants in the walk-in entry of the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens.

Join us at the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens for a FREE program

# Discovering Nature Nearby



3rd Saturdays - September 2016 through May 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

(No program in December)

Each presentation will be followed by a hands-on activity. Materials will be provided for you to make your own nature journal for recording your observations or storing your photos. Bring out the naturalist or artist in you by recording what you see, hear and feel, taking photos, drawing or painting pictures, making leaf rubbings, starting a lifetime bird list or writing a poem.



Nov 19

Larry Figart, UF Extension Agency  
Most common trees at the Arboretum  
Make leaf rubbings for your journal



Mar 18

Instructor, GTM Reserve Education  
Talk on Climate Change and will  
Conduct a carbon experiment



Jan 21

Jessica Spencer, US Army Corps  
of Engineers, Invasive Plants  
Examples and hands-on activity



Apr 15

Joan Kramer, Bee & Butterfly Expert  
Talk on Native Pollinators and  
Butterfly release, Insect collections



Feb 18

Jack Hernandez, Co. Forester  
Annaleasa Winter, Fresh from FL  
Fire in Florida's Ecosystems  
Tools, safety gear, take-aways



May 20

Amy Morie, Former Clay Co.  
Extension Agent, Wild Florida, Native  
Plants, Field ID exercise and/or walk



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## Discovering Nature Nearby Programs for 2017

On February 18th, professional forester Jack Hernandez will be at the Arboretum to discuss fires and their impacts on Florida ecosystems. Join us at 9:30 AM by the picnic tables. This will be our fifth Discovering Nature Nearby program brought to you

by TD Bank, Rayonier Advanced Materials, and the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens. Each third Saturday of the month through May 2017 expert presenters educate the public on a wide variety of topics. All ages and abilities are welcome free of charge, although contributions to our donation box are greatly appreciated. Bring your nature journal, bug spray, and a friend.

### **Show the World You Love the Arboretum**

Show the world you love us, by posting your Arboretum photographs at [#jacksonvillearboretum](https://www.facebook.com/JacksonvilleArboretumGardens) & [www.facebook.com/JacksonvilleArboretumGardens](http://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