



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter February 2016

HAPPENING THIS MONTH!

**Volunteer
Workday**
Saturday, February 13
9 AM-12 PM

Nature Walk
Saturday, February 13
9:30 AM-10:30 AM

Save The Dates!

Nature at Night
March 5

The Art of Nature
Rescheduled- new date TBD

V is for Valentines & Volunteers

Do you **love** the outdoors? Do you want more people to have the opportunity to enjoy nature right in the **heart** of Jacksonville? The Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens is expanding the search for **passionate** volunteers, just like you, to fill the following roles:

- Volunteer Coordinator- manage the current volunteer database, recruit new volunteers, and staff projects and events with capable volunteers
- Marketing/Outreach Ambassadors-act as a general Goodwill Ambassador to the general public, represent the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens at public events, trade shows, exhibitions, expos, etc., be responsible for staffing information booths, distributing literature, and selling Arboretum fundraising materials
- Property Stewards- preserve the Arboretum's beauty by working alongside the Site Ops team for both special projects and general maintenance of the property
- Site Rental Coordinator- work with groups interested in site rentals and be a liaison

Themed Nature Walk

May 14

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

BRONZE PARTNER

Laurence Gierum
Pat & Cliff Jeremiah
Anthony John Rigney, PA
& Rigney Family of
Jacksonville, Florida
Dr. Todd Sack & Dr.
Barbara Sharp

SILVER PARTNER

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

GOLD PARTNER

bestbet Jacksonville
David & Bonnie Foster
Marcia Mederos

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

working with site renters, equipment rental companies, and caterers to provide memorable events at the Arboretum

- Programs Assistant- facilitate field trips and help the programs manager promote and coordinate programs for the general public
- Communications Specialist- oversee public relations including: press releases, the monthly newsletter, the quarterly e-magazine and e-blasts

If you have the **desire** and qualifications to assist the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens with these needs, reply to info@jacksonvillearboretum.org. Please state the volunteer position you are seeking in the subject heading and send your resume and phone number. 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

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



Photos courtesy of Merrill Varn

Earning Their Bug Badge at the Arboretum

The Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens (JAG) aims to please. So when the programs manager received a tour request with an added note that attending Scout Troop 1464 would be working towards their bug badges, she knew just who to arrange as their guide. Merrill Varn recently stepped down as president of JAG, but she continues to volunteer A LOT and she just happens to have a PhD in Entomology. The scouts, as shown above, clearly enjoyed their tour of the Jones Creek Trail and interacting with a millipede, but Merrill may have had the most fun of all.

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

**John Bertram
Society**

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

To join or purchase a
gift membership, click

[JOIN](#)

Thank you!



Photos courtesy of Terry Whitehead

**Music in the Woods
During Nature at Night**

Terry Whitehead will be providing fireside entertainment for the next Nature at Night event, which is free of charge for members and volunteers. Saturday March 5th from 6 PM to 9 PM we will be roasting hot dogs and s'mores under the stars at the Arboretum. Bring your own lawn chairs, bug spray, and flash lights. Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens supporters Certified Steak & Seafood and Potter's House "Soul Food Bistro" will provide food. Beverages will be available as well (all non-alcoholic for this family-friendly event).

[RSVP HERE](#) by noon on March 5th. Please put "Nature at Night" in the subject line and let us know the number of adults & children in your party. Admission is free for members and volunteers; however, if you bring guests, we ask for a donation of \$5 per adult and \$2 per child to

help defray costs. Attendance will be limited to the first 100 people.



Photo courtesy of Merrill Varn

Workday Volunteers Start Jones Creek Trail Improvements

On January 9th, workday volunteers began the process of increasing the accessibility of the Jones Creek Trail. By the end of this REI funded enhancement, part of the trail will be leveled and covered with asphalt millings. In addition, a new bridge will be installed and bench seating will be added. Come help with this project during the next second Saturday work day from 9am to noon on February 13th. See you there!



Photo courtesy of Merrill Varn

People and Plants Theme a Hit

The second of the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens' People and Plants-themed Nature Walks took place on January 9th. All of the Arboretum's Second Saturday tours are free. The next People and Plants-themed walk will take place on May 14th. It is not to be missed!

OUR MISSION

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