



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter July 2013

HAPPENING THIS MONTH!

A Walk in the Woods

Saturday, July 13 & 27
8 a.m. Fitness Walk
Brisk 3 mile hike

Saturday, July 27
9:30 a.m. Nature Walk
with naturalist/biologist

Walks are free.

Our Nation's Birthday July 4

We wish everyone a happy and safe Fourth of July. Consider including a walk at the Arboretum in your day's activities and take a moment to reflect upon the meaning of this special day honoring the birth of our nation.

Boeing's Global Day of Service Saturday, July 13

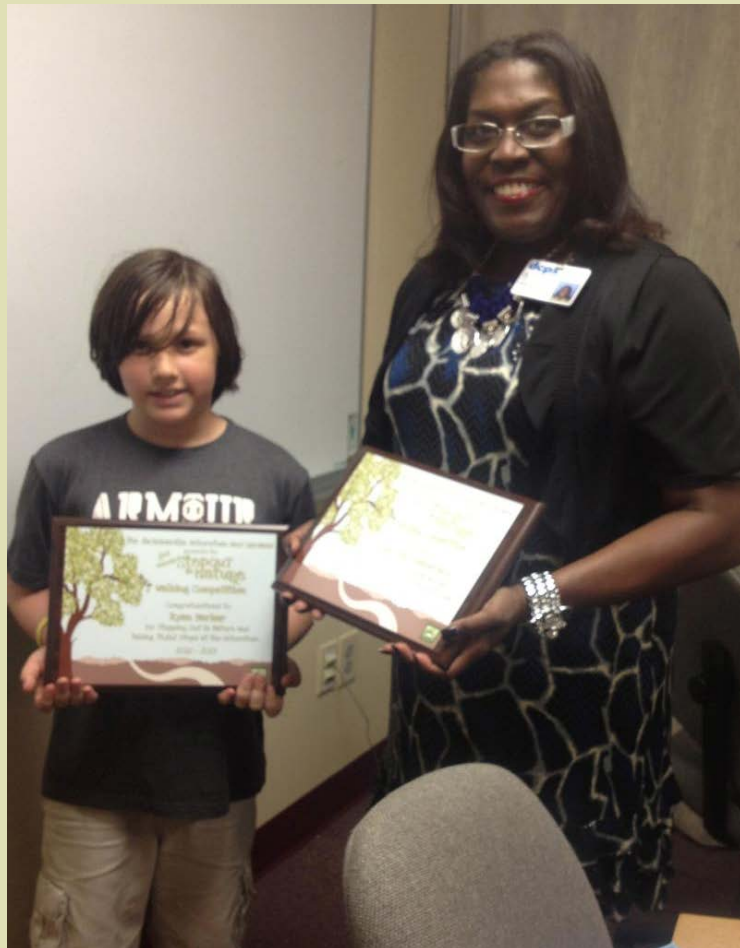
Once again, employees from the local Boeing facility will be teaming with Arboretum volunteers to work on trail improvements during Boeing's Global Day of Service on Saturday, July 13.

"At Boeing, we believe the innovative spirit that helped

CONGRATULATIONS



2013 Winners!



2013 SOIN Individual Winner Ryan Barker with Lone Star Elementary School Principal Dr. Anastasia Washington

us create rockets and land on the moon will help us address environmental challenges closer to home and create a more sustainable future for all of us on earth," said Ron Poland, Boeing Cecil Field site director. "For the third year in a row we are pleased to be partnering with the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens during our annual Global Month of Service to make immediate and effective changes to the natural habitat found here in Florida to help preserve the land for years to come."

Global Month of Service is designed to engage employees to volunteer as One Boeing during July. The annual observance also serves as a focal point for the many activities that Boeing employees engage in year-round by volunteering as part of company efforts and in their personal lives to build better communities. To learn more about Boeing employees who volunteer thousands of hours every year to support nonprofits and other worthy causes, visit www.boeing.com/community to read the 2012 Corporate Citizenship Report.

No Volunteer Workdays in July or August

Our regular volunteer workdays will resume in September, so mark your calendar for Saturday, September 14, 9 a.m. - noon and the second Saturday of each month thereafter. We thank all of our volunteers who have helped with our work days this past year. Your efforts made a big difference and we hope to see you in September!

We are now working on a volunteer database and will soon be sending a survey to learn more about our current volunteers and to enlist new ones. This will help us

Congratulations to the Arlington-area schools, students, and their families who participated in the Arboretum's 2nd annual outdoor walking competition, Step Out in Nature! By competing to accumulate the greatest number of steps walked at the Arboretum during the school year, the competition effectively combined the benefits of active living and interaction with nature. More than 1,500,000 steps were taken at the Arboretum by individuals and students.

The top three winning schools and their prizes:

1. Lone Star - \$450 Cash and a plaque
2. Sabal Palm - \$450 Cash and a plaque
3. Don Brewer - \$200 Cash and a plaque

The top three individuals and their prizes:

1. Ryan Barker - \$100 Gift Certificate to Academy Sports, a plaque, a pedometer and a t-shirt
2. Dalton Stone - \$50 Gift Certificate to Academy Sports, a certificate, a pedometer and a t-shirt
3. Kaitlyn Wolfson - \$50 Gift Certificate to Academy Sports, a certificate, a pedometer and a t-shirt

Additionally, the top 60 students received gift certificates to Academy Sports, an Arboretum t-shirt, and a pedometer. All students who entered the competition received a certificate of participation. To see all the schools that participated, visit www.stepoutinnature.org.

1st place individual winner Ryan Barker goes to the Arboretum often with his mom, dad and brother. He and his brother race up the hill at the end of the lake loop trail leaving their mom in the dust. His favorite trail is the Aralia Trail, nicknamed the A-trail in their family. He also likes the Rosemary Scrub Vista, but when their Chihuahua, Jo-Jo is along, they skip it since dogs are not allowed in this area.

Ryan is also a naturalist in the making. He plays games with his mom to see how many bugs and lizards they can find. They always bring along wildlife guides to look up any unknowns, including spiders, beetles, dragonflies and ducks.

Ryan and his family have embraced the concept of hiking for health, and have encouraged classmates, PTA members, and friends to participate in the competition and walk for their health. With Amy Barker's (Ryan's mom) encouragement, the Lone Star PTA won Duval County PTA of the year.

Ryan and his family enjoy walking at the Arboretum because, in Ryan's words "My mom says she likes to walk the trails because she doesn't even know it's exercise. Before you know it, you have walked a mile. I think she's right because there is so much to look at and do at the Arboretum."

Thanks to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida Foundation, for providing the Arboretum with a grant to facilitate the Step Out in Nature competition. Although the competition is limited to Arlington-area elementary schools, **anyone can take on a personal challenge by using the interactive trail map with number of steps per trail available at the Arboretum's kiosk or downloaded from the website - www.stepoutinnature.org.**

Plans are in place to make the Step Out in Nature elementary-school competition an annual event. If you would like to provide feedback or schedule a field trip for next year's

match individual skills and interests with our specific volunteer needs. In the meantime, if you have a special skill or expertise that you can offer as a volunteer, please let us know. Go to info@jacksonvillearboretum.org and put "volunteer" in the subject line.

ALSO

**Garden Concert
The Cummer Museum of
Art & Gardens**
Wednesday, July 3
7-9 p.m.

The concert will feature the River City Satin Swing Band playing patriotic music. Wear red, white & blue; bring a blanket or chair and food and beverages.

\$10 members; \$20 non-members. Children under 5 free. Reserved tables with picnic basket available.

904-899-6004 or

www.cummer.org/concerts-cummer

Ruckus on the River at RAM

Saturday, July 6
10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

The St. Johns Riverkeeper and the Riverside Arts Market (RAM) are partnering to host "River Ruckus", a family festival to celebrate the St. Johns River. There will be lots of activities throughout the day and evening. To learn more, go to

www.visitjacksonville.com

or

www.stjohnsriverkeeper.org

Winter in July Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens

Saturday, July 20
9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

It will be snowing at the Zoo,

competition, please contact Rachael Sulkers at rsulkers@esinc.cc.

Volunteers Needed!

The Arboretum is in need of volunteers to unlock and open the gates to the Arboretum on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. If you can volunteer to open the gates by 8 a.m. on either or both days, please email info@jacksonvillearboretum.org with your contact information and day and time availability.

The Arboretum is working with UNF to design and install automatic gates; however, until an automatic system is installed, we need volunteers to open and close the gates.

Thank you for your support!

What's New?

Several members of the First Coast Invasive Work Group and the North Florida Ecological Restoration Team joined the Arboretum's Conservation team on June 11 to remove invasive camphor trees and hundreds of their small sprouts. JEA chipped most of the trunks and limbs and local woodworkers will collect the trunk portions that are too big to chip. This area will now be continually monitored for new invasives, so that the problem can be remedied in a timely manner. The plan is to replace these invasives with commercially available species native to pine flatwoods of the southeastern coastal plains in zones 8 and 9 (coastal plains from North Carolina to central Florida and westward to gulf coastal plains of extreme eastern Texas).

We continue to work on property improvements and trail maintenance in order to enhance our visitors' experience. One bridge on the Lower Ravine Trail has been replaced and a narrow bridge over Jones Creek by the big cypress tree will be widened in the near future. A new connector trail, tying the Aralia Trail into the Jones Creek Trail, has been completed and signs are up at the trailheads. Four scouts are currently working on Eagle Scout projects, including two new accessible picnic tables, an access road gate and post and cable installations at various locations along the trails.

What's Blooming around the Lake Loop?

With the dog days of summer approaching, most of the spring flowers and wildflowers we seeded are gone. However, there is still an abundance of Black-eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia spp*) in the West Garden along the Lake Loop and a few Blanketflower (*Gaillardia spp*) and other wildflowers along the trail, so enjoy!

Support Our Supporters!

Here is the last of our *A Brush with Nature* Sponsors & Advertisers, listed by category. Please consider giving them your business, support their cause and thank them for

so come play in tons of snow from 9:30 - 12:30 and then enjoy music, dancing , games and prizes. Watch your favorite animals beat the heat with lots of snow and ice treats throughout the day and cool off in the Splash Ground inside the Play Park.

For more info, go to www.jacksonvillezoo.org

Join Us! Become a JAG Member

By becoming a member, you are supporting the Arboretum's day to day operations and planned improvements. Members receive discounts to special programs & events and your membership is tax-deductible.

Membership Levels

\$ 25 Student/Senior/
Limited Income
\$ 35 Individual
\$ 55 Family
\$ 100 Corporate
\$ 200 Friend
\$ 500 Sponsor
\$ 1000 Benefactor/Lifetime

To join or renew, go to our website at www.jacksonvillearboretum.org and click on "Membership"

THANK YOU!

supporting the Arboretum! The total list can be viewed on the event website at www.abrushwithnature.org and our main website at www.jacksonvillearboretum.org.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

The listing below is a correction to the information published in the last newsletter:

The Driscoll Group - Kevin Driscoll, CFP - 904-620-9993
www.thedriscollgroup.com

MISCELLANEOUS

bestbet - www.bestbetjax.com
The Boeing Company - www.boeing.com
Gate - www.mygatestore.com
GF Florida - www.gfflorida.com
The Dreaming Tree Wine Label - Southern Wine & Spirits
www.southernwine.com
Intuition Aleworks - www.intuitionaleworks.com
Hometown Threads - 904-646-4004

RESTAURANTS

Mandaloun Mediterranean Cuisine -
(Deerwood Village Shopping Center) 904-646-1881
Panera Bread - www.panerabread.com
Firehouse Subs - www.firehousesubs.com

SENIOR SERVICES

ElderSource - www.myeldersource.org - 904-391-6699
Pat Vail, Senior Advocate & Master Gardener -
patvail@att.net

SERVICE CLUBS, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, FOUNDATIONS

JAX Chamber Arlington Council - www.arlingtoncouncil.org
The Greater Arlington Civic Council -
www.greaterarlingtonciviccouncil.org
The National League of American Pen Women, Inc. -
www.jaxpenwomen.com
The "Press On" Foundation
The Rotary Club of East Arlington -
www.clubrunner.ca/Portal/HOMe.aspx?ci

WEB DESIGN

DiscoverTec - www.DiscoverTec.com

OUR MISSION

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