



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter May 2015

HAPPENING THIS MONTH!

Volunteer Gatekeepers Needed

info@jacksonvillearboretum.org

Volunteer Workday

Saturday, May 9
9 AM-Noon

Nature Walk

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

Photo Hike

Saturday, May 9
2 PM-3 PM

Rescheduled

Nature At Night

Saturday, May 30
6:00 PM-9:00 PM
Details to come in
future e-announcement



NATIONAL PUBLIC GARDENS DAY

Celebrate National Public Gardens at the Jacksonville Arboretum

Saturday May 9th will be a fun-filled day at the Jacksonville Arboretum. Prior to volunteer work day activities, Chuck Hubbuch will give a short **lecture on the importance of Public Gardens.**

Chuck Hubbuch earned his bachelors degree in horticulture from the University of Kentucky. From 1984 to 2002, Chuck became Director of Plant Collections - overseeing a horticultural department - at the world-renowned Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden in Miami, Florida. During this time, Chuck was Fairchild's all-time leading plant collector, traveling to 25 countries outside the US to expand Fairchild's collection. From 1990 to 2004, Chuck worked closely with sixteen gardens in eight countries, including projects with the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust, Institute of Museum and Library Services and Caribbean Botanic Garden Conservation. Since 2005, Chuck has directed the design and management of landscaping, gardens and natural

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

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areas at the University of North Florida's over 1,200 acre campus. During his impressive career, Chuck has organized four conferences, published over 55 articles, and offered over 100 presentations in ten countries. His leadership at UNF and on the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens board continues his record of horticultural expertise in the southeastern United States.

After the talk, take an informative **nature walk** (9:30 AM-10:30 AM) with a local biologist and put in a few **volunteer work** hours out amongst the trees (9 AM-Noon). If you do not have one already, **get a discounted family or friend membership** at the membership tent (10 AM-2 PM). Be sure to bring your camera, because the activities will wrap up with a **photography hike** (2 PM-3 PM) that you will not want to miss!



Picture of Paul Ladnier courtesy of Carlton Higginbotham

A "Fun-Raiser" Recap

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!

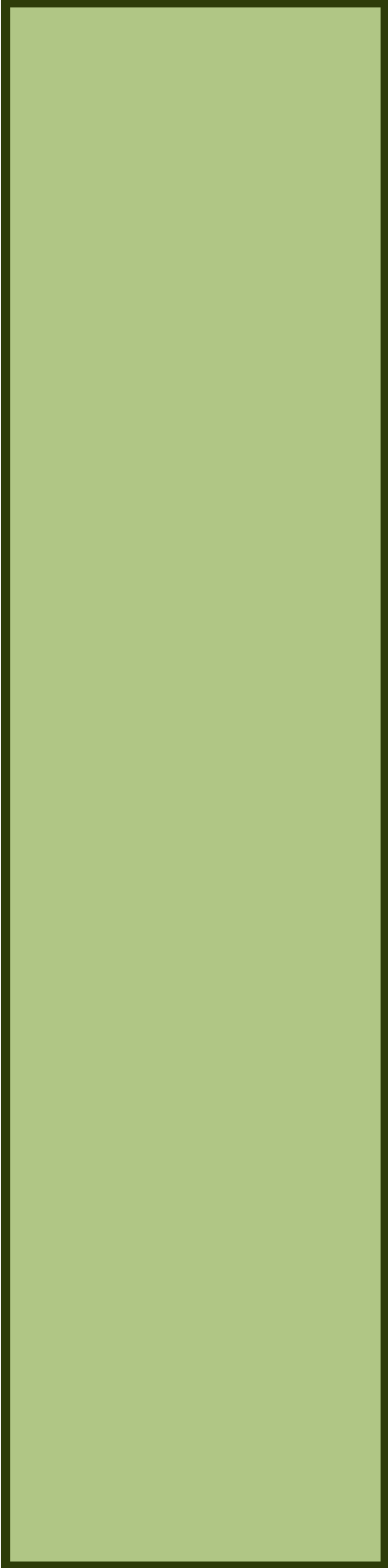
THANK YOU!

This year's A Brush With Nature plein air painting event was a success and the Artists' Reception & Show was the perfect culmination. After three delightful days of creativity in nature, the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens was able to raise about \$19,000, which will be used to help maintain and improve the property so that visitors can continue to enjoy all the Arboretum has to offer. None of this could have happened without such an amazing group of artists and volunteers, as well as sponsors, patrons, and advertisers. Thank you whole heartedly for your time, effort, support of, belief in, and dedication to the Arboretum.



A Useful State Tree

The cabbage palm or palmetto, *Sabal palmetto*, is



Florida's state tree. According to the Florida Department of State's webpage, it was designated as the state tree in 1953 because it is so widespread through the state and it has so many uses for people. The flavor is somewhat bitter but the small fruits are edible. The seeds are also listed edible by some but might be best treated as a survival food. Bees use the flowers to make honey. The "cabbage" of the cabbage palm is the soft inner bud at the base of the leafy crown. Of course, harvesting this kills the palm.

Other uses include the thatching of huts with leaves, weaving hats, mats and baskets with the leaves. A durable fiber can be harvested from the leaf stalks. The trunks have been used in construction. The outermost cylinder of the trunk has the hardest wood (densest fibers) and that portion can be used to make narrow boards and items such as walking canes. Brushes have been made of horizontal sections of the wood.

The cabbage palm's horticultural use is important also. These are durable plants that provide a distinctive look in Florida landscapes.



Getting In Touch With Nature

On the first morning of the A Brush With Nature event, two groups of 7th and 8th graders from Blessed Trinity Catholic School took turns watching the artists painting "en plein air" with their art teacher Kathy Strandes and taking a nature tour led by an arboretum ranger. The kids were clearly pleased to be learning outside of the classroom. They asked and answered questions and were not hesitant when it came time for a little hands-on learning. It is doubtful whether the boys above will recall the tree they reached out to as a *Carpinus caroliniana* or even as an American hornbeam, but there is little doubt they will recall the musclewood tree for years to come.



Bloomers

Ornamental perennial peanut (*Arachis glabrata*)
Annual phlox (*Phlox sp.*)
Coreopsis (*Coreopsis leavenworthii*)
Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)
Sweet almond (*Aloysia virgata*)
Coral bean (*Erythrina herbacea*)
Tropical milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica*)
Prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia humifusa*)
Brazilian vase plant (*Aechmea distichantha*)
Common spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohiensis*)
Annual phlox (*Phlox sp.*)
Spanish needle (*Bidens alba*)

Membership For Mommy

Really, you want to take Mom out for lunch and get her a robe AGAIN???

Nothing beats time with your family in nature.

Why not purchase a family Arboretum membership and take Mom out to enjoy a day with you!

OUR MISSION

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

