



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter May 2019 Edition

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Children's Tour
Saturday, May 4
10 - 11 a.m.

Volunteer Work Day
Saturday, May 11
8 - 11 a.m.

**Discovering Nature
Nearby
Saturday May 18
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Butterfly
Program and 3rd
Annual Butterfly
Release**

Nature Walk

Update On Our Board Retreat

After a very busy fall and winter, in April the board held its first retreat in two years to reset its priorities and develop a work plan for the next 12-to-24 months.

The board's overriding goal is to achieve financial sustainability through grants, events and earned-income opportunities - with an eye toward enhancing the garden displays at the Arboretum and adding necessary infrastructure (especially restrooms) while maintaining the natural elements that we all love and enjoy.

If you visit the Arboretum a lot, you have probably noticed that we are attracting more visitors. While additional attendance is wonderful, it also means more wear and tear at the venue, more trash collection, cleaning, trail maintenance, etc. - and a real challenge when it comes to parking.

Against that backdrop, the board approved a conceptual master plan for the Arboretum - which allows members to now identify specific projects and assemble the funding and volunteers necessary to keep up with its growing visitation and achieve its mission: Cultivating a unique environment for recreation, education and inspiration.

As part of the initial work plan for 2019, we're excited to announce these upcoming projects and initiatives:

The board has long been concerned with making the Lake Loop permanently ADA compliant. With the funding now in

**Saturday, May 25
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.**

**Walk with our
naturalist/biologist
Walks are free**

**Children's Tour
Saturday, June 1
10 - 11 a.m.**

**Arboretum
Gates Open
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Daily
Tuesday and
Thursdays 8 a.m. to
7 p.m.**

**SUPPORTERS
& PARTNERS**

**GOLD PARTNER
\$1,000+**

John & Sondie Frus

**Ron and Carol Russell,
Russell Blueberry
Farm .**

**SILVER PARTNER
\$500+**

Anthony John Rigney,

place, we are working with the City of Jacksonville's Public Works Department to begin paving the South Lake Loop Trail from the entrance to the pavilion area. This will also include some grading, the construction of a wider bridge near the entrance to better accommodate wheelchairs, and some enhancements to the palm garden already started by our previous curator and long-time volunteer and former board member, Chuck Hubbuch.

The second project, in a very conceptual stage now, will be the installation of a performance/presentation platform that can be used for educational programming and special events. We had a small platform that rotted and had to be removed last year, and this will replace that structure. It will have a roof and will be larger to accommodate a broader range of uses to support both public uses along with educational programming opportunities and fundraising efforts for the Arboretum.

While not a project per se, it's important to note that the board is renewing its effort to identify a person to work as its horticulturist/groundskeeper so we can install more plantings and become the botanical gardens our founders envisioned more than 10 years ago.

We will be sharing more details on the elements of the master plan, and other events and activities, in the months ahead through our website, social media and newsletter-- and welcome your feedback and support as those plans come together.

In Honor of Chuck Hubbuch

The Jacksonville Arboretum Board of Directors would like to publicly thank and recognize former board member and our long-time resident curator Chuck Hubbuch for his hard work and support of the Arboretum for nearly a decade.

PA & Rigney Family
of Jacksonville, FL

BRONZE PARTNER
\$250+

Mary Ann and Shepard
Bryan Jr.

MEMBER FRIENDS
\$100+

Eldon and Martha
Bekcum

Stuart and Haze
Bergman

Alex Broner

Marsha Brown and Pete
Starling

Carlos and Davron
Cardenas

Stephen A. Connelly
and Ellen O. Middleton

Catharine Corbin

Carol Spawn Desmond

John Fischer

David and Bonnie
Foster

Pat and Cliff Jeremiah

Charles and Sarah
Kleeman

Jim and Kathy Kotas



Chuck Hubbuch

Chuck, who retired from his position as physical facilities assistant director/landscape and grounds from the University of North Florida in March after nearly 14 years, finished his last term on the board of directors last August. In the interim, he continued to volunteer with us until the end of March.

Chuck's experience and connections made during his previous position as director of plant collections with Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens in Miami and three years as curator of horticulture for the Jacksonville Zoo were a great benefit to the Arboretum. He was able to obtain more than 460 plant species to add to our gardens - all in keeping with the theme of people and plants.

During his professional career, Chuck's plant-collecting travels have taken him to all 50 states and 27 countries on six continents.

In addition, Chuck established the Tea Garden, Palm Garden and Pollinator Garden around the Lake Loop - and spent many a Saturday working with UNF students and other volunteers in keeping the gardens replenished and the weeds at bay - no small task.

Chuck volunteered literally thousands of hours of work to maintain and enhance the gardens for his love of nature, especially plant collecting, and a vision of the potential the Arboretum has in the future as a true botanical garden beyond just trails and trees.

During the last year, he also worked alongside local landscape architect Chad Grimm as they created a conceptual master plan to help current and future JAG board members further develop the Arboretum to its fullest potential.

Chuck has played a valuable and indispensable role in creating a venue that thousands of people enjoy today - and positioning our nonprofit agency with a botanical foundation

Vicki Lake and Nick
Garpetti

Janine Leland and Tom
Larson

Donald Lookingbill

Linda Martin

Julie and Bill Mason

Barbara and Charles
McTiernan

Bonnie Nackino

Peggy Nolan

Vincent and Susan Ober
Jr.

Robert and Vivien Parks

Jane and John Pope

Terrone and Carolyn
Rosenberry

Tony and Rachel
Stewart

Lorin Thies

Mary and Joel Toomey

Robin Wahby

Michael Zambetti

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we can build upon year after year.

For that, Chuck Hubbuch will always be appreciated and remembered for his unparalleled commitment to the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens during its infancy - and providing a strong launching point for its future.



Chuck Hubbuch prepping the Pollinator Garden with UNF Student Volunteer McKenna Korzeniewski.

Vandals Strike Arboretum

Vandals damaged multiple benches and our new signs on the Sand Ridge Trail. It happened sometime after 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30. The following morning, volunteer Randy Didier discovered the damage between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Didier fished several broken benches from creeks and picked up the damaged signs, and volunteer Alex Wolf repaired as much of the damage as possible along the trails.

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+

**To join or purchase a
gift membership, click**

[JOIN](#)

Thank you!

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We are already in touch with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office for its input in developing a new security program to better secure the gardens and, of course, to ensure the safety of our guests.

In the meantime, and as a timely reminder, if you see anything suspicious during your visit (or have any information on this act of vandalism), please call the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office non-emergency number **(904) 630-0500**. You can also contact our director, Diane Machaby at **(904) 318-4342**.

The Violet Circle Visits

Members of the Violet Circle, from The Garden Club of Jacksonville, recently enjoyed a lovely morning tour at Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens. "We had a great time and are so happy to see how much progress has been made at the Arboretum," said Violet Circle member, Kathy Royce. "We are so lucky that so many concerned citizens came together and worked so hard through the years so that we may have such a place to come to and enjoy nature."

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Members of the Violet Circle

Arboretum Executive Director, Diane Machaby, led the group on the tour during which she gave a history of the property while hiking over half a mile of trails. Traversing the streams and boardwalks over Jones Creek Trail, the group chatted and remarked on how beautiful the surroundings were and amazed that we have this jewel of an Arboretum in the center of Jacksonville.

Butterfly Release

Our Third Annual Butterfly Release will feature native grassroots expert, Delores Goslin, who will present a Monarch Butterfly Program. She will tell how she started on her journey into the world of the monarch butterfly, what she learned in the process, the importance of planting milkweed, the dangers of pesticides and much more. Goslin says, "My experience with the Monarch started with a trip to the Riverside Arts Market with a friend and a \$5 purchase that included a big fat complimentary caterpillar that changed the direction of my life."

We will learn what actions we can take as a community to help and she will bring monarch butterflies and caterpillars in stages for us to see.



The Butterfly Release will be directly after Goslin's talk. Native species will be available for participants to release. There will also be an exhibit on gardening for pollinators focusing on the plants the butterflies and bees need, with give-away seeds and plants.

Spirits Under the Sun Set for October 19

Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens will host its sixth annual fun and food fundraiser, 'Spirits Under the Sun' - A Pairing of Food, and Drink on Saturday, October 19th from 3 to 6 p.m.

Please make plans to join us as we kick off the fall season with this exciting outdoor extravaganza.

The limited attendance event will showcase some of Jacksonville's favorite restaurants that will provide samples from their signature menu items. Included in the restaurant line up so far are --- Bono's Barbecue, Pastiche Catering,

Havana Jax, Chuy's Tex Mex, Nothing Bundt Cakes and Blue Bamboo.



Photo credit: Robert Storm Burks

The event will be held at the lakefront pavilion at Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens with musical entertainment, a silent auction and guided tours of the gardens.

Become an Arboretum member and receive a 10 percent discount off the posted ticket prices. Ticket price will include admission, food and beverages and entertainment. Patrons must be 21 years of age to attend.

If you're interested in supporting the Arboretum by sponsoring the Spirits Under the Sun event this year, the following sponsorship levels are currently available:

Presenting Sponsor: \$5,000
Sponsor: \$1,000 - \$2,500
Partner: \$500 - \$999
Supporter: \$250 - \$499

Don't miss your chance to promote your business or organization at the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens during our premier annual fundraising event - with sponsor booths available for the first time for those that purchase a \$2,500 sponsorship and up.

For more information on sponsorship, please contact Diane Machaby at (904) 318-4342 or at dmachaby@jacksonvillearboretum.org.

To purchase your Spirits Under The Sun tickets, please watch our website in the coming months.

Show the World You Love the Arboretum

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

OUR MISSION

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