



## Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter November 2019 Edition

### UPCOMING EVENTS!

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**Volunteer Work  
Day  
Saturday,  
November 9  
9 a.m. to noon**

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**Discovering Nature  
Nearby  
Painting Trees  
Saturday,  
November 16  
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.**

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**Nature at Night  
Saturday,  
November 16  
4 - 7 p.m.  
Members and**

### Introducing JAG Interim Director, Meg Gaffney-Cooke, RLA

The Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens (JAG) Board of Directors has named Meg Gaffney-Cooke, RLA, as JAG Interim Director. Meg will fill the position formerly held by Diane Machaby, who left JAG to pursue other opportunities, as a board search committee interviews to hire a permanent executive director in the coming months.

Many of you may know Meg; she was instrumental in the founding of JAG and served as board chair during its opening. For her work with the arboretum, she received the President's Volunteer Award for Community Service in 2005 and the 2009 Canopy Award for Civic Horticultural Leadership.



Meg is the principal landscape architect for Blue Leaf Landscape. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Ornamental Horticulture and a Master of Landscape Architecture degree from the University of Georgia. Her expertise includes: Landscape Architectural design, and

**volunteers only**

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**Mandala on Leaves  
Yoga Program**

**Sunday,  
November 17**

**10 - 11 a..**

**\$5 - \$10**

**RSVP**

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**Thanksgiving Day  
Hours**

**Thursday,  
November 28  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

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**Nature Walk  
Saturday,  
November 30  
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.**

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**Children's Tour  
Saturday,  
December 7  
10 - 11 a.m.**

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**Spirits Under the  
Sun  
Saturday,**

development and project management of residential, commercial, multi-family, mixed-use, government, institutional, transportation and amenity-based projects throughout the state. She specializes in horticulture, resilience/sustainability, niche and historical design.

## **Meet Lynsae Davidson**

Please welcome Lynsae Davidson who will manage Discovering Nature Nearby and the Children's Tour Programs. Lynsae moved to the Jacksonville area seven years ago with her husband and two children. She is in her senior year at the University of Florida and will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Management.

As a student at the University of North Florida, she had an opportunity to be involved in two research projects involving North Florida subtropical forest systems. Her passions include gardening, kayaking, hiking, animal husbandry, learning to homestead, and teaching children the importance of caring for others and our natural resources. Say hello to Lynsae!



## **Construction is Underway on the South Loop**

We are excited to announce that construction has begun on the South Loop of The Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens. We are one-step closer to becoming permanently ADA accessible.

A team from A-1 Coastal Paving will complete the project in the coming weeks. They are working with us to ensure the public can access the Arboretum while the

**December 7  
2:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
Tickets required**

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**Arboretum  
Gates Open  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday - Sunday**

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**SUPPORTERS  
& PARTNERS**

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

John and Sondie Frus

Ron and Carol Russell,  
Russell Blueberry  
Farm

**SILVER PARTNER  
\$500+**

Anthony John Rigney,  
PA & Rigney Family  
of Jacksonville, FL

**BRONZE PARTNER  
\$250+**

Mary Ann and Shepard  
Bryan Jr.

**MEMBER FRIENDS  
\$100+**

project is underway

This project represents a major capital investment in the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens from many sources. Our thanks to long-time volunteer and supporter Marcia Mederos for providing the lead gift, all the individuals who donated during last year's annual holiday appeal and the Delores Barr Weaver Fund, which provided a \$9,000 match to additional individual donations to the capital campaign earlier this year.

"We're excited that JAG will soon be able to provide permanent ADA accessibility to the pavilion area for elderly and mobility-impaired visitors," said JAG Board President Ron Whittington. "We also appreciate the support of many of our supporters and their private contributions to the organization that made this project possible."



**"Spirits Under the Sun"  
Rescheduled to December 7**

The new date for "Spirits Under the Sun" is **2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday, December 7**. Due to predicted high winds and rain, we had to postpone our annual fundraiser in October.

Eldon and Martha  
Bekum

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

Vicki Lake and Nick  
Garpetti

Janine Leland and Tom  
Larson

Donald Lookingbill

Linda Martin

Julie and Bill Mason

"Spirits Under the Sun" is a pairing of Food, Drink, & Nature" featuring dishes from Jacksonville's most popular restaurants combined with spirits, wine and local craft beers. The sixth annual event will be held at the Arboretum's lakefront pavilion and features musical entertainment, a silent auction and guided tours of the gardens.

The limited attendance event will showcase some of Jacksonville's favorite restaurants that will provide samples from their signature menu items.

Local craft beers are being provided courtesy of Bold City Breweries, Intuition Ale Works and The Green Room - with spirits and wines from around the world courtesy of in-kind sponsor, Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits. Entertainment will be provided by Sidetrack Duo, with items available for purchase during a silent auction.

Patrons who already purchased tickets for the October date should show up on December 7 and do not need to contact JAG or get new tickets. For previous ticket holders who can't make the new Dec. 7 date, please contact us at [info@jacksonvillearboretum.org](mailto:info@jacksonvillearboretum.org) to request a refund.

We also have additional tickets available for purchase on the event page at [www.jacksonvillearboretum.org](http://www.jacksonvillearboretum.org). Members of the Arboretum receive a 10 percent discount on the \$75 ticket price.

Guests must be 21-years or older to attend and are encouraged to wear the appropriate shoes to take advantage of the natural environment found at the Arboretum.

Event Sponsors include bestbet Jacksonville, the Tom Bush Family of Dealerships, Crowley Cares Foundation, and Driver, McAfee, Hawthorne & Diebenow, PLLC, with Partner Level Sponsors Terra Wise Homes and REI, and Supporter Level Sponsors JaxPort, Liberty Advisory Group, OE&S/Office

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

[Click here to find out  
more about  
Donor Programs!](#)

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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

## **Nature at Night is November 16**

Our popular Nature at Night event will celebrate and thank our volunteers and members from 4 - 7 p.m. November 16. If you wish to be a part of this event you **MUST** be a current volunteer or member. Now is the time to join and help us continue to grow the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens. Join [here](#) Please RSVP to [jagmembership@gmail.com](mailto:jagmembership@gmail.com) to reserve your space at this event. We hope to see you there.



## **Vote JAG**

We are excited to share that we are in the running to win the Jax Best category of Best Scenic Trail on News4JAX.com. Help us prove why we're the best Scenic Trail in Jacksonville by going to [News4JAX.com/jaxbest](http://News4JAX.com/jaxbest) to vote for us once every day from **November 4 - November 18!** Spread the word! #OnlyinJAX"

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!

### 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.

**WHO'S THE BEST?**  
**VOTE NOW!**  
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**JAX BEST**  
PRESENTED BY  
visit Jacksonville and the Beaches  
**#onlyinjax**

## Discovering Nature Nearby



**Dave Holley**

The Discovering Nature Nearby program will be held **Saturday November 16 at 9:30 a.m.** in the picnic area.

A tree identification walk and fun fact talk will be given by **Dave Holley, Arborist and Urban Forrester** for the City of Fernandina Beach.

After the walk, we will make light sketches, paintings and crayon rubbings to enhance our knowledge of the trees

and leaves of the arboretum. All are welcome.

Enjoy shopping and supporting us by visiting [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

## Thank You JEA Volunteers

JEA volunteers are helping transform the Arboretum. Volunteers helped weed and mulch the garden and donated 120 bales of pine straw and 50 butterfly bush plants.



## Special Service for Naval Volunteers

A team from the Second Class Petty Officer Association observed POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 20 by volunteering at the Arboretum. Five officers and chiefs spent the day mowing, moving mulch, and pulling weeds to clear space for a greenhouse.



"We find the gardens to be a clean, fun, and family friendly place to visit. Each trail is full of informational templates about the Arboretum, and the extensive choice of trails affords us the opportunity to get a great workout in for the day," said Second Class Petty Officer, Michael Stephens. He said they chose the Arboretum for their community service project because many of

their members frequent the gardens.

## 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](https://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