



**Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter  
October 2018**

**HAPPENING  
THIS MONTH!**

**Buy your Tickets  
now for the**

**'Spirits Under the  
Sun'**

**ArborEATum  
Fundraiser  
on  
Saturday, Nov. 3  
3 to 6 p.m.**

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**Diane Machaby  
Joins Us  
As Executive  
Director**

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**Volunteer Work  
Day  
Saturday, Nov. 3  
8 -11 AM  
  
Nature Walk**



**Annual Fundraiser Set for Saturday, Nov.  
3**

Have a good time enjoying food, drinks and our gardens while you support the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens at our annual premier fundraising event "Spirits Under the Sun - A Pairing of Food, Drink & Nature" from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3 at the arboretum.

This year at our fifth annual 'ArborEATum,' dishes from the restaurants will be paired with spirits, wine and local craft

**Saturday, Nov. 24  
9:30-10:30 AM**

**Kids Tour  
Saturday, Nov. 3  
10 - 11 AM**

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**Arboretum  
Gates Open  
8 AM - 5 PM  
Daily**

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**SUPPORTERS  
& PARTNERS**

**BRONZE PARTNER**

Greg and Pat Cloud

**SILVER PARTNER**

Anthony John Rigney,  
PA & Rigney Family  
of Jacksonville, FL  
Russell Blueberry Farm

**GOLD PARTNER**

David W. Cromer  
DVM / Baywood  
Animal Hospital  
John & Sondie Frus

Gate Keeper  
Marcia Mederos

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more about Donor  
Programs!](#)**

beers - and we also be 'pairing' plants with many of the cocktails, wine and beer featured at the event.

Restaurants and others in the local food industry taking part include Bold City Brewery, Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q, Chuy's Tex Mex, Florida Cracker Kitchen, Pastiche Catering, Publix Aprons, Havana Jax & Cuba Libre, Indochine, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Salt Life Food Shack, Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits and Soul Food Bistro. They will showcase dishes, desserts, coffees and local craft beers - along with liquors, liqueurs and a variety of exceptional wines, signature cocktails and handcrafted beers.

Thanks to our presenting sponsor, Marcia Mederos, sponsoring the event in honor of all arboretum volunteers, and other sponsors bestbet, TerraWise Homes and Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits, and supporter POG Cinema Advertising.

Entertainment will be provided by Sidetrack Duo, with items available for purchase during a silent auction. Guided walking tours will also be offered during the event.

Tickets are \$75 per person can be [purchased in advance on the event page on our website](#).

Members of the arboretum receive a 10 percent discount on the 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. (Also, please leave your pets at home for this event.)

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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 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



*Guests helped the Arboretum raise more than \$4,000 at the 2017 event. This is the premier fundraising event held each year, with all proceeds will be used to maintain and fund enhancements at our 120-acre venue.*

Tickets are limited, so we encourage you to purchase yours today!

### **Diane Machaby Joins JAG as Executive Director**

We're excited to announce that Diane Machaby (pictured below) has joined us as the executive director for the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens.



The board of directors is excited to have Diane on board, and

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](http://smile.amazon.com)

are certain her experience in the community will prove to be a valuable asset for the Arboretum moving forward in obtaining support and funding for several programming, garden enhancements and construction initiatives we have planned over the next few years.

In interviews with several potential candidates, the executive search committee and board of directors selected Machaby for her fundraising expertise and her proven experience in assisting nonprofit agencies transition from board-driven to staff-driven management.

She has proven her dedication to the First Coast over the past 25 years through her extensive background working with charities and nonprofits across northeast Florida.

Diane, who has called the First Coast home since 1988, has cultivated a career from her passion for serving others in the community and has many ties to the local area.

She has worked with the Keep Jacksonville Beautiful Commission, the Habitat for Humanity and Home Again St. Johns.

Through her previous experience grant writing and fundraising, she has helped generate over \$6 million in revenue by initiating partnerships with individuals, corporations and government entities.

In her work with Habitat for Humanity, she coordinated the efforts of thousands of volunteers and sponsors to build 800 homes in Jacksonville and St. Augustine.

Prior to joining JAG, was co-founder of Art 4 Charities, LLC - an organization that sells high-quality reproductions of artwork and photographs for local charities to use in their fundraising efforts.

Join us in welcoming Diane to the Arboretum family. She can be reached via email at [dmachaby@jacksonvillearboretum.org](mailto:dmachaby@jacksonvillearboretum.org).

*Note to all: We delayed the newsletter to make this special announcement on Diane's arrival!*

**Special Announcement**  
**Free 4th Saturday Tour Cancelled for Oct. 27**

**Please note that the Free 4th Saturday Tour previously scheduled for Oct. 27 has been cancelled. We expect to resume again in November!**

## **On the Trails**



*(Above) Valerie Justice (left) explains importance of making nature more accessible for all at the ribbon-cutting event for the newest section of the REI boardwalk as JAG new Board President Ron Whittington looks on.*

## **Thanks to REI, Volunteers for New Continuation of the Boardwalk**

We appreciated your patience during construction of the continuation of the REI boardwalk over the last few months.

The new section of the boardwalk now extends from the seating area in the ravine around the trail split in both directions -- and one of the Jones Creek Island Bridges was also replaced.

Please join JAG in thanking REI for four years of grant monies to build boardwalks and improve trails at the Arboretum.

In addition, thanks go to the Arboretum Conservation Corps for site preparation, JEA Arlington Wastewater Treatment Facility for helping haul in the lumber and Jerry, Adam, and Cole Holland for constructing the boardwalk.



*(Above) Members attending our Nature at Night event on Oct. 6 stop to pose for a photo on the REI Boardwalk project -- and (below) are the first to walk the new section before sunset.*



**From Hobby to Vocation**



by McKenna S. Korzeniewski

We all know the best way to spend summer vacation is to spend it outside soaking up the sun, working in the garden, and making new friends. It gets even better when you are getting paid to do that. It gets even even better when you are doing this in Washington, D.C. at the U.S. National Arboretum!

After volunteering at the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens for about one year, I was accepted as a horticulture intern in D.C. where for 12 weeks, I worked alongside some of the most knowledgeable and experienced gardeners, arborists, horticulturists, and curators. Over the summer, I learned a new appreciation for this field along with understanding the love and hard labor these people put into their work.

I owe this experience to those who worked with me over the summer. I also owe my gratitude to my mother who never doubted me and continues to support my dreams in higher education and gardening. But thanks to my education at the University of North Florida, I was able to make this goal a reality. Which brings me to thank the Jacksonville Arboretum!

Although a college degree is important, the experience I gained volunteering here was vital to the position. It is not enough to read how to plant a plant; one must religiously do it in order to learn proper techniques. Even if I had an elaborate garden at home and was out there every day, I still would not have gained the skills needed for the internship because public gardening also involves a great deal of people skills. Not only am working with a variety of plant species, I am interacting with visitors and coworkers. This means being aware of where I set my equipment, being knowledgeable of the grounds, and helping one another out if needed. The Jacksonville Arboretum introduced me to working with a small team, but it was not until this summer when I realized that to work with plants, I must work with people too! The U.S. National Arboretum is 412 acres of beautiful plants, which means when people see a worker, they ask a lot of questions!

Another example of how my experience at the Jacksonville Arboretum was important for my time in D.C. was because I recognized plants I worked with and was better able to care for them. During my internship, I worked with a variety of tropical species (that can only be grown in zone 7a during summer), but many of you would be able to identify growing around Florida all year long. It was also a privilege to work with rare or endangered plants because they are hard to come

by in the average garden. This recognition also helped me learn the scientific names of these species, which allowed me to understand which plants were related and where they are from.

The U.S. National Arboretum is located near The Hill, but once you get lost in the trails, the nation's capital will be a fading memory. It becomes quiet and peaceful as if you were in the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens. Lessons I learned here, I was able to apply during my summer internship that enforced my passion for the planet and a career in horticulture. As I graduate from college this December, I look forward to working in gardens that enhance the lives of many.

## **Thanks for All Who Came Out for Nature at Night, Oct. 6!**

Nature at Night is something we host twice each year for our volunteers and members.

Join us next time by visiting our website and [becoming a member](#).

Now's a great to join and help us continue to grow the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens.

## **Show the World You Love the Arboretum**

Show the world you love us, by posting your Arboretum photographs at

[#jacksonvillearboretum](#) &  
[www.facebook.com/JacksonvilleArboretumGardens](http://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