ARB BARK
Saturday morning, November 16 • 10 a.m. -12 noon • Cafferty Building
What is green and goes ruff, ruff? Your dog under a tree at the Arboretum’s first ARB BARK event. Bring your pooch for an amazing morning of exercise and other dog-related activities. Dr. Suzanne T. Millman, College of Veterinary Medicine, ISU, will lead a presentation on dog safety and communication. Mrs. Claws will be there to find out if your dog has been naughty or nice. Lots of treats for pets and their people and great walks await you. Sponsored by Ledges Farm Dog Camp.

Here’s an invitation to you and your well-behaved dog. All dogs must be on a leash and you must present current shot records.

Fee: $5 per family for members and $6 for nonmembers.

This is also the morning we kick off our holiday shopping in the Potting Shed gift shop, Hughes Education Center. Sounds like there will be something for everybody.

DAD’S BELGIAN WAFFLES AT THE ARBORETUM
December 7 • 9 a.m. – 12 noon
Don’t miss the eating event of the year. Satisfy your appetite while supporting the Iowa Arboretum. Delicious hot waffles and sausage will be served with a tasty selection of syrups. The Hughes Education Center will be decorated with Iowa-grown Christmas trees decorated by local organizations. Finish off the morning at the Arboretum by chatting with Santa, chugging along with a train display and power shopping at the gift shop. Come hungry and bring a friend. $7 per person. Children 5 and younger are free.

HOLIDAY GALA
DECEMBER 14
5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Celebrate the holidays at the Arboretum. Start with tasty appetizers. A delicious meal will be followed with something to satisfy your sweet tooth. Enjoy live music and a silent auction. A fun fundraiser at the Arboretum. $60 per ticket.

GIFT SHOP HOLIDAY SALE
Saturday, November 16
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Find the very best in gardening décor, gifts and books for that special person.

VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION
Friday, December 6, 6 p.m.
Join us as we recognize our volunteers for their work during the year. Bring a dish to share.

DAD’S BELGIAN WAFFLES
Saturday, December 7
9 a.m. - 12 noon
Dad’s Belgian Waffles returns to the Arboretum to serve mammoth size waffles that will fill your plate and satisfy your appetite. See wonderfully Iowa-grown and decorated Christmas trees. Santa will be flying in from the North Pole to make a guest appearance. This is a great event for the entire family. $7 per person. Children 5 and younger are free.

HOME GROWN HOLIDAYS
Saturday, December, 7 – Sunday, December 22
See Iowa grown Christmas trees creatively decorated for the holidays by local clubs, schools and organizations. Look for model trains rolling around the track. Find the perfect holiday present in the Arboretum’s gift shop. Fun for all ages.
The connection

Mark Schneider — Executive Director

This spring the Iowa Arboretum partnered with 1st year MBA students from Iowa State University College of Business. They worked with board members Ann Hutchins, Don Draper, Donald Lewis and me to survey Iowans and develop a marketing analysis for the Arboretum. Partnerships like this provide real world experiences for students and provide much needed research for the Arboretum. Best of all is the exchange of ideas generated during the process. One of the most interesting storylines of this project occurred when one student mentioned to his family that the student team was developing a new tag line for the Arboretum. One of the family members got involved and suggested a tag line that was later adopted by the Arboretum — “Sharing our passion for trees, plants and nature with all of Iowa.” Students on the project were Maggie Mishler, Kayla Nielsen, Kurt Sandholm and Ashutosh Singh with leadership from professor Jim Summers.

Learning can occur when you are open and receptive to new ideas and opportunities. The Arboretum is planning to work with the business school next spring on another cooperative endeavor.

My favorite tree | Liquidambar styraciflua

Height/width: typically 60 to 80 ft tall and 40 to 60 ft wide although heights may climb past 100 ft
Habit: pyramidal when young with an oblong to rounded crown at maturity
Growth Rate: medium to fast, up to 2-3 feet per year in moist soil
Flowers: monocious, not showy; late April-May
Foliage: star shaped, dark green and lustrous in summer turning yellow-purple-red in the fall
Fruit: resembles a spiny gumball
Bark: gray-brown with irregular furrows
Exposure: full sun
Hardiness: zone 5-9

Comments: The American Sweetgum is an often overlooked shade tree. This is unfortunate since serious health issues for this tree are few. It is less useful as a street tree due to root area requirements but in a park or yard setting, the Sweetgum is hard to beat.

It is the leaves of this tree that make it so unique. Their distinct shape coupled with a spectacular fall color make the Sweetgum a great choice for a shade tree. Add in the fact that this tree also has a pleasant smell associated with it and you have a real winner.

According to the University of Texas at Austin, the Sweetgum is second only to the Oak tree in production. Its uses include furniture, cabinet work, veneer, plywood, barrels and boxes. On top of all that you can make medicines, perfumes and soaps.

The next time you’re looking for a shade tree with some character, consider the American Sweetgum.

Brandt Jelken is the owner of CopperTree Consulting (515-559-4152) and is a board member for the Iowa Arborist Association and the Iowa Urban Tree Council.
1. Why do you like to volunteer at the Arboretum?
I enjoy the peaceful and serene landscape to work in, also the department leaders are very easy and knowledgeable to work for. There is always something to work on that gives you a sense of accomplishment.

2. Tell us about what you did before you retired?
Before retiring I worked 9 years as the only grounds maintenance person for a large community hospital in Nebraska. Prior to that I worked with PBS Landscaping, Hubbell Reality in Des Moines and private estate care for 25 years. My work included building flower beds, yard care, planting trees, and “my favorite” trimming and pruning shrubs in the shape of bonsai art. I can’t wait to do one of the Amur maple shrubs/trees at the Arboretum.

3. What is your favorite thing and/or feature of the Arboretum?
It is hard to pick a favorite thing and/or feature at the Arboretum. All plants have something to give to this planet and it is just fun to learn, watch, and enjoy them all. A very peaceful and beautiful place to work, learn more about nature, and relax.

4. Why would you recommend others volunteer at the Arboretum?
You have the opportunity to give back to Mother Nature and the State of Iowa by working in a place that has been created by past generations. Working in a place that is already beautiful and all you can do is make it look a little better. Giving is one of the best feelings.
Branches Tree Series

GARDENING WITH CONIFERS *
Saturday - November 2 • 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. – Cafferty Building

You’re invited to a whole new world of gardening with conifer authority Gary Wittenbaugh. See how the color, texture and form of conifers add year round beauty and contrast to gardens and landscapes. Learn about conifers that can be used as fast growing screens, “tiny buns” that have unusual shapes and textures, and distinctive forms that can be used to make living sculptures. Come and explore the world of conifers as Gary begins indoors and then leads a guided walk outdoors among the Arboretum’s conifers.

WINDBREAKS and TREES FOR TRICKY PLACES *
Saturday - November 9 • 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. – Cafferty Building

Dr. Jesse Randell, an ISU Extension Forester and Professor in Natural Resource Ecology and Management at ISU will teach this class. This indoor/outdoor program will highlight some of the problems with current windbreaks and discuss new windbreak options (spacing, species selection, planting and maintenance, etc) to promote energy conservation around your home, farm, etc. The talk will also focus on “planting the right tree in the right spot.” Participants are encouraged to bring photographs of their own trees if they have questions or concerns with their trees.

Fee: $10 for members and $15 for non members

Second Saturday Morning Education Series with Joe McNally

Meet every month on the second Saturday for this fun and educational program taught by the Arboretum’s own Horticulture Project Manager Joe McNally. This annual spring series was well attended last year and we are expecting full classes again. Sign up early so you can reserve a seat.

January 11 – Pruning 101 and 202 – Join Joe McNally as he explores the fundamentals of tool selection and sharpening in the first hour of the class plus the concepts of pruning for form and structure. Dress for inside and outside demonstrations and be ready to prune. Joe suggests that you bring your own clippers and light work gloves.

April 12 – Organic Vegetable Gardening – Joe will share his tips for growing a successful organic vegetable garden including discussion on composting and worm bins.

Fee: $10 per session for members and $15 per session for non members

For more information or to register: 515.795.3216 or www.iowaarboretum.org

EVERGREEN CENTERPIECE
Saturday, December 7 • 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. • Cafferty Building

In this “make and take” class families will use fresh cut greens to create something special for holiday décor. Children and their parents will learn how to distinguish between different kinds of evergreens and how to use floral wet foam, wrap, picks, and wire to assemble the centerpieces. It’s a great opportunity to recall basic elements of design as well experiment with embellishments like ribbons and ornaments. You are encouraged to bring your own clippers and light work gloves.

Sandy Gossman from Ames and Nan Bonfils, Arboretum staffer, will co-teach.

This is also the morning of our waffle breakfast. Expect a busy, festive day.

MORE FAMILY FUN IN 2014

WINTER BIRDWATCHING
Saturday, February 1, 2014 • 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. • Hughes Building

Whether you are already an avid bird watcher or just getting started, come spend a morning indoors gazing on feathered friends at the Arboretum’s bird feeders. Nan Bonfils, Arboretum staffer, will lead an activity to help us sort out why there are so many different kinds of feeders and why we need so many different kinds of seeds. Karl Jungbluth will teach the basics of bird identification as we check a variety of species and feeder behavior. We have invited Linda and Tom Thomas, from Wild Birds Unlimited (Ames) to prepare us for the 17th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count coming up later in February. Each family will make a bird feeder to take home.

Fees for Family Classes: $10 per family (members) and $15 per family (non members)

ALL ABOUT BLUEBIRDS
Saturday, March 1, 2014 • 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. • Cafferty Building

Some of the best bluebird trackers in the state, Marlene and Bruce Ehresman, will lead this family class. Come find out what makes bluebirds keep coming back each spring. We’ll talk about all kinds of bluebird behaviors - migration, scouting, nesting, feeding, fledging, and back to migration. Learn what you can do to support these beautiful birds as their habitat continues to shrink. Every family will take home a bluebird nesting box. Zippy doo dah.

SOIL AND COMPOST - DOWN IN THE DIRT
Saturday, April 5, 2014 • 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. • Cafferty Building

Who knows what the ground will look like next April? Will it be covered with snow, ice, mud, or the first greens of spring? Whatever it is, we will dig through it to discover the life underneath. Come learn about the Earth’s nutrient cycle, composting, and the tiny but essential creatures underground that make it all happen. Nan Bonfils, Arboretum staffer, will co-teach with our invited instructor.

GARDEN ANNUALS
Saturday, May 3, 2014 • 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. • Cafferty Building

It’s time to get started in the garden and you can take home a little bit of garden today. We’ll look at how plants get started (propagation) and explore the difference between annuals and perennials. Every family will take home a hanging flower pouch. Nan Bonfils, Arboretum staffer, will co-teach with our invited instructor.
When I started working at the Iowa Arboretum in 2012 I was impressed by the diversity of trees on the grounds. As I have spent more time on the grounds, a few unique individual trees have caught my collector's eye.

The specimen of Sugar Maple, *Acer saccharum*, called ‘Kompact’ really is an impressive and truly unique tree. It was brought to the Iowa Arboretum by Al Ferguson, one of our founding members, in 1981 from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Al recognized the growth pattern of this tree was different from all the other Sugar Maples growing along “K Street” in Cedar Rapids, where it got its name. After observing this specimen for several years, Mr. Ferguson determined that it was worth propagating and took a few cuttings. After growing them in his nursery for several years, the tree was transplanted to the Founders Grove at the Iowa Arboretum where it stands today. Unlike the typical Sugar Maple, this one has a compact pyramidal shaped growth pattern and dark blue green foliage. The brilliant red-orange fall color is something to behold, so visit the Iowa Arboretum this fall and see it for yourself. This tree is one of a kind and you will only find it at the Iowa Arboretum.

My favorite unique tree has a name you might be familiar with, the Kentucky Coffeetree, but this variety is a dwarf or compact form. Being from Kentucky and having studied the Coffeetree, *Gymnocladus diocus*, in college, I was enamored by the uniqueness of these specimens. Planted in 1983 and now standing only sixteen feet tall, this tree is a wonderful example of Mother Nature’s diversity. With its slow compact growth pattern this tree could find a place in any garden. The bipinnately compound leaves are dark blue-green in summer changing to golden-yellow in the fall. The attractive furrowed bark provides a nice display in the winter. The exact origins of this cultivar are not known, but we have traced the history of the trees at the Iowa Arboretum to the Bangor, Iowa area. We have two of these unique trees on the grounds and are propagating them, so look for them in future plant sales at the Iowa Arboretum.

The name Yellowhorn sounds like a comic-book character. The Yellowhorn, *Xanthocerus sorbifolium*, is an eye-catching small flowering tree. This unique tree could be a colorful superhero in any garden. The fragrant bright white flowers with a red throat that changes to orange as they mature are a stunning display in spring. The lustrous feather-like dark green leaves provide a lacy backdrop for the flowers in the spring and fruit in the fall. The seeds, when roasted, are said to taste like macadamia nuts. Look for the Yellowhorn in future plant sales at the Iowa Arboretum and impress your garden guests with this fascinating tree.

**SCOUTS BUILD AND INSTALL NEW BENCHES**

Ogden Boy Scout Troop 155 performed a service project at the Iowa Arboretum on August 24, 2013. Led by Eagle Scout candidate Tristan Verkade, scouts performed trail maintenance along the Linden Trail and installed 4 benches along the trail from tree trunks harvested in the area. Tristan, the Eagle Scout project leader, first presented his plan for the project in June of 2013. It took 12 Scouts and 5 adult troop leaders about 5 hours to make trail improvements to Linden Trail.
All aboard for the Arboretum member’s garden tour of the Old South – March 22-29, 2014

HISTORIC HOMES AND GARDENS OF THE ANTEBELLUM SOUTH

The tour includes four famous historic homes and gardens in Natchez, Mississippi, long considered the best preserved collection of historic homes in the Old South. Many of these homes are still private residences lived in by descendants of the original builders and owners. At each home you will be greeted by guides in authentic period costume. A local gardening expert will be your guide for this day, so don’t be shy about asking all your horticultural questions! You will also enjoy typically Southern menus for exceptional dinners and lunches while in Natchez. Finally, there are reserved seats for the famed Natchez Tableau a charming, old-fashioned pageant telling the incredible (but true) story of Natchez through the years.

The next stop is charming and little-known St. Francisville, Louisiana where you will tour both the mansion and gardens of Rosedown Plantation. This magnificent estate is the best-preserved, intact plantation in America, and you’ll see house, gardens, and 12 outbuildings close-up with an expert guide. The 600 foot oak allée here is only the beginning. There are 18 acres of ornamental gardens, both formal and informal, including a superb rose garden. The oldest cultivated camellias are also found here.

You will stay three nights in the heart of The French Quarter, one of America’s most fascinating and beautiful neighborhoods. You’ll take walking and riding tours, visit one of the city’s unique above-ground cemeteries, learn to cook a three-course Creole meal at the famed New Orleans School of Cooking, and listen to the best traditional jazz music aboard the Steamboat Natchez, last true steam-powered boat on the Mississippi River. You will also tour the National World War II Museum, ride a horse-drawn carriage through the Quarter by night, and, of course, enjoy coffee and beignets at world-famous Café du Monde.

For more information call 515.795.3216 or visit www.iowaarboretum.org

Fares: $1,899/person double or twin occupancy (two people in hotel room with 1-2 beds)
$2,299/person single occupancy (private hotel room for one person throughout tour)
$1,799/person triple or quad occupancy (3-4 people in hotel room with 2 beds)

Final Payment Date - February 14, 2014

Don & Dee Draper - Fall Plant Sale
Kady Harris - Irrigation Installation
Mike Havlik
Crab Apple Fruit
Significant Gifts
Ruby Buck
Fred Maytag Family Foundation
Jack & Lois Ginton
Legacy Tour & Travel
Richard Jordan
Edward & Kelli Rinderspacher

Monetary Gifts
City of Madrid
Jack & Lois Ginton
Emily Hanigan
Wayne & Norma Koos
Donald & Dorothy Lewis
Marshalltown Garden Club
Moffitt's Ford Lincoln Mercury
Laura Riecken
Mark H Schneider
Sunset Garden Club
Wiegert Prairie Farms

New Members
Tracy Corsello
Steve Duffy
Douglas Gustafson
Lorin Knapp
Mary Ohms
Laura Petsha
Donald & Diane Ruyle
Cathy Simon
Leora Thomas

New Supporting Members
Family Federation

New Patron Members
George & Erin Ledehaas

Renewals
Gerald & Sara Adams
Jim & Linda Ballantyne
Kenneth & Helen Barnes

Lois Barnes
Kimball & Shelly Barron
Morton & Shelia Boyd
Dave & Sue Brakhane
Don & Reta Bruene
Keith Carlson
Margaret Chamberlin
Norman & Beth Cheville
Leroy & Rosamond Clark
Mary Craig
Nancy Danner
John Dresser
Diane Dubberke
Dan & Kim Edsen
Kerry & Aleda Feuerbach
Carole Fisher
Ted & Deanna Garwood
Greg & Kathy Geoffroy
Mike & Ann Gesse
Shari Gillespie
Deke & Marilyn Gliem
Good Earth Garden Club
David & Jeanne Grant
Juanita Grant
Greater Des Moines Garden Club
George Haines
Darrell & Jane Hanel
Larry & Sharon Helm
Laurent & Linda Hodges
Patricia Ann Hopkins
Wilma Ingamells
Sharon Jenkins & Peter Moore
Nick Jordan
Barb Kahler
Ken & Dorothy Kirkland
Mary Sue Kislingbury & John Pokladnik
Wayne & Karen Kloiber
Nancy Kurlt
George & Marilyn Ladd
Lucille Larson

Vince & Shelley Lawson
Willard & Anne Lundahl
Diane Madoerin
Madrid Garden Club
Jim & Karen Maillander
Barbara J Mccone
Joe Mengel
Helen Miller
Hugh & Maurine Myers
Betty Nikkel
Nancy Ostrem
Kathie Oulman & John Lowenberg
Frank & Cathy Paaske
Philip & Jeanine Pfister
David & Andrea Price
Betty L Richter
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Randy & Rhonda Ruark
Cindy Rugh
Mary & Barb Saathoff
Larry & Darcy Schroeder
Hazel Seaba
Mart Severson
Kay Shapiro
Leroy & Joan Sigmund
Steiner & Mary Anne Silence
Inez Smith
Randy & Deb Snook
Kathy Solko-Maternach
Kim & Pat Spangler
Ms. Frances Stetson
Betty Toot
Alan & Donna Vanderhaar
Bobbie Warman
Bryan & Eileen Westrum
Mark Widtleschner
Ed & Nicki Wiederstein
Stan & Shirley Williams
Barbara Wright

Supporting Members
Terry & Chris Branstad
Michael Campbell
Paul & Rhea Dennis
Linda Dykstra
Marilou Gay
Tom & Colleen Good
Carolyn Herald
Richard & Kate Jordan
Marshalltown Garden Club
David Oliveria & Mary Teresa Fallon
John & Cindy Paschen
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Linda A. Smith
Willie Struss
Carl & Evelyn Varley
Bud & Bonnie Wells
Bill & Toni Whitman
Leonard & Georganne Woodruff

Patron Members
Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa
Kathleen Law
Gary & Sue Osweiler
Story County Master Gardeners

Fellow Members
Boone Garden Club

In Memory of Barb Sylvester
Barbara Rusk
Town & Country Garden Club

In Memory of Steven L Gratham
Helen Crouthamel

In Memory of Jim Zabel
David & Joreen Boehm

Donated Goods & Services
Harvey’s Greenhouse
Ed & Kelli Rinderspacher
VFW Post 817

NO FAMILY LEFT INSIDE
Leaves, feathers and fun highlighted the first Four Season Family Hike on Saturday, September 21 led by Mike Havlik, a naturalist, from the Y Camp in Boone. Family members hooted like owls, sang songs and hiked the Arboretum’s woodland trails. Mike’s special guest was a Great Horned Owl. The grand finale was snacks on the picnic tables with the children taking home tree ID posters and Ranger Rick magazines. A great day to connect with nature!

We’d like to thank the following businesses for supporting this program: Dutch Oven Bakery (Boone); Fareway (Boone); Wheatsfield Co-op (Ames).
OPEN SUNRISE TO SUNSET
Discover hundreds of species of trees, shrubs and flowers in a tranquil setting, as well as woodland trails and prairie walk.

“LIKE” US ON FACEBOOK

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
(continued from page 1)

HOLIDAY GALA
Saturday, December 14
5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Bring in the holiday with an evening of fabulous food, music and conversation. $60 per ticket.

SOUP SUPPERS
January 31, February 28 and March 28
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Enjoy a hot bowl of soup and warm bread with family and friends at the Arboretum. Sit back and listen to local speakers talk about interesting topics at 5:30 p.m. $7 per person.

Please join us for the “Year in Review” presentation at the Annual Meeting on November 14 at 1:15 p.m.

LOOK FOR THE NEW SIGN
The Madrid Action Committee has included the Iowa Arboretum on its signpost along the High Trestle Trail. Thousands of bikers pass this sign every year and include the Iowa Arboretum in their travels.