DECEMBER 2015 – MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DAD’S BELGIAN WAFFLES
December 5
9 a.m. – 12 noon
Dad’s Belgian Waffles returns to serve mammoth size waffles that will fill your plate and satisfy your appetite. See wonderfully Iowa grown and decorated community Christmas trees. Santa will be flying in from the North Pole to make a guest appearance. A great event for the entire family.

$8 per person. (children 5 and younger – free)

SOUP SUPPERS
January 29, February 26 & March 25
4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Warm up at the Arboretum with a hot bowl of soup, bread and fixings. Finish with a slice of pie or delicious piece of cake. A great way to connect with the Arboretum during the cooler months.

Speaker TBD.

$7 per person

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND SEASONAL CRAFT
March 12
9 a.m. – 12 noon
Iowa Arboretum’s own Kevin Lantz and family members will be making scrumptious pancakes. Come hungry and challenge Kevin to make interesting shaped pancakes for you. Join the Arboretum’s own Nan Bonfils and make a fun children’s craft.

$8 per person (children 5 and younger – free)

SPRING FEVER SYMPOSIUM – KEVIN VAUGHN
Saturday, April 2 • 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

MORNING TALK – “NOT YOUR GRANDMOTHER’S IRISES”
AFTERNON TALK – “HYBRIDIZER ON THE LOOSE”

A native of Massachusetts, Kevin Vaughn started hybridizing at age 9 and quickly had success, introducing the Sempervivums ‘Silvertone,’ ‘Emerald Spring’ and ‘Greenwich Time’ from his first crosses. Nearly 80 Sempervivum hybrids of his creation have been introduced with ‘Lipstick’ and ‘Jungle Shadows’ winning awards from the Royal Horticultural Society. Iris hybridizing started shortly thereafter and his first iris introduction, ‘Soothsayer’ was in 1974. Several Miniature Tall Bearded iris followed. The hybrids ‘Little Bluebeard’ and ‘Real Jazzy’ were both award winners with American Iris Society. Hosta pioneer Frances Williams gave Kevin a number of very choice hosts with the advice “It would be really good if you started crossing these.” He did and produced many award-winning cultivars. From this work, Kevin was awarded the Eunice Fisher Hybridizing and Alex J. Summers Distinguished Merit Award from the American Hosta Society.

Kevin’s interest in the inheritance of variegation led to a Ph.D. in botany from Miami of Ohio and a career with the USDA in Mississippi investigating weeds. In Mississippi, Kevin started to work on Louisiana and spuria irises as well as daylilies. All of these programs have been successful, with 20 Louisiana irises, 3 spuria irises and 9 daylilies finding their way to the market. Kevin’s first Louisiana iris cross produced the highly popular ‘Red Velvet Elvis’ that went on to win the DeBaillon Medal, Caillet Cup and Charles Arny Award. Kevin became president of the Society for Louisiana Irises and won both their Service and Distinguished Merit Awards. During this time, Kevin co-wrote the book “Louisiana Irises: Taming of a Native American Wildflower.” Besides these horticultural efforts, Kevin produced 18 Tradescantia hybrids, 3 border bearded irises and started programs in hellebores and daylilies.

Retirement in 2010 saw a move to a nice piece of property in Salem, Oregon where the climate is perfect for growing all sorts of plants. Besides the projects started in Mississippi, the Sempervivum breeding has resumed at a rapid pace and the hybridizing of irises of all types, daylilies and daylilies increased ten-fold. Pulmonaria, heleniums, asters and penstemon are recent additions to the hybridizing program. Despite this recent move, Kevin’s Garden has been on the Pacific Regional daylily tour, the Tall Bearded Iris Society tour and the American Iris Society National Convention. 2015 saw the publication of his book, “Beardless Irises: a Plant for Every Garden Situation” that has drawn high praise in reviews. A book on Sempervivum is currently being written and scheduled for publication in early 2017.

There will be irises and other unique plants for sale during the symposium. Lunch is included in the symposium price.

EARLY BIRD BEFORE MARCH 18: $50 for members $60 for non-members
AFTER MARCH 18: $60 for members $70 for non-members

SAVE THE DATE

IOWA ARBORETUM
THE CONNECTION

Mark Schneider – Executive Director

It is time to take our pulse. We have been racing along for the past few years carefully laying
the groundwork for growing the Arboretum. It is important to take time out to reflect on where
we have been and where we want to go in the future. Here are a few of my observations
from the past 4 years.

• We can build on the strong foundation laid out by past volunteers, board members and staff
• We have passionate people who are committed to the success of the Arboretum
• The people of Iowa love the outdoors and public spaces like the Arboretum
• There are many wonderful gardeners in Iowa who have a strong connection to the Arboretum
• Cultivating current relationships and making new relationships are paramount to the future
success of the Arboretum
• Having a carefully laid out plan will lead us in the right direction

Our pulse is healthy and our goals are admirable. Let’s continue the dream.

All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.

~ ALBERT EINSTEIN

MY FAVORITE TREE | LIRIODENDRON TULIPIFERA / YELLOW POPULAR

Written by Kevin Lantz

Hardiness Zone: 1 through 6
Growth Rate: Fast
Shape: Narrow to rounded
Height: 50 to 100 feet

Native To: North America
Culture: Grows in moist sites in full sun
Flowering Dates: April – June
Use: The wood is used commercially for furniture, musical instruments, and interior finishes. It is planted widely as an ornamental and shade tree, and bees will utilize the blossoms for making honey.
Comments: I have always been fascinated with the leaf and flower. It comes into flower in June and it has a very subtle orange and green color, one that is only noticed if you are specifically looking for the bloom. The tree I planted here at the arboretum 19 years ago can be found along the south fence by the Nut Tree collection.

Kevin has worked at the Iowa Arboretum for 32 years. His father John and his sister Lynnette volunteer at the Arboretum. Kevin has a degree in horticulture from Iowa Lakes Community College.

Tree information: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/iowa_trees/trees/yellow_poplar.html
1. Tell us about yourself
I worked for C & W Railroad for 24½ years and Union Pacific for 13½ years before retiring. I am a Vietnam veteran and served in the army. I represent the local honor guard attending funerals, parades and special events. I volunteer for the Salvation Army as a bell ringer, help with the summer lunch program, and I am a member of the Pufferbilly Steering Committee. I am also a member of the VFW and the American Legion.

2. Why do you like to volunteer?
Volunteering keeps me active and outdoors. I like to work and learn about trees and shrubs and the Arboretum is the perfect place. The staff and fellow volunteers are great and make my volunteer experience rewarding.

3. What is your favorite feature at the Arboretum?
I like all the trees and it is a good place to learn about them. I would be remiss if I did not say the grass. I love to cut grass and I have the opportunity to cut a lot of grass at the Arboretum.

4. Why should others volunteer?
The Arboretum is nice and serene. Everyone is so friendly. It a wonderful place to volunteer.

Volunteer of the Year
DELORES LIENTZ
Delores Lientz was selected by the staff as the 2015 Volunteer of the Year. She received her accolades at the Volunteer Celebration in August. Delores volunteers at the Information Desk answering visitors’ questions and processing gift shop sales.

Delores said she started volunteering because she wanted to share her knowledge of the natural world and Iowa. She has watched the Arboretum mature into a great place. She likes the peaceful atmosphere and learning about trees, perennials and shrubs in all seasons. Delores enjoys working with the staff, other volunteers and the general public. She said she enjoys meeting new people and the time she spends at the Arboretum.

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.
– Winston Churchill
AT THE IOWA ARBORETUM

Cooking Class

Drawing Class

Eagle Scout Pergola Project

Eagle Scout Trail Improvements

Fall Floral Class

Family Bird Feeder Class

Halloween

Halloween

Halloween
AT THE IOWA ARBORETUM

Halloween

Halloween

Volunteer Celebration

New Bee Hives

New Comfort Room

Scavenger Hunt

New Certification

New Wayfinding signs
LYNN KUHN  I grew up in small town Iowa spending much time in the yard with my 9 siblings; playing, doing garden chores with Mom and relaxing in the sun. As I look back, I can see how these childhood experiences shaped my design sensibilities and landscape ethic.

After graduating from Iowa State University with a landscape architecture degree, I spent over 15 years in the nursery industry as a landscape architect, making my clients happy by creating beautifully landscaped spaces.

After a few years at home with three young boys, I returned to the world of plants as a consultant, then as the first Executive Director of the Brenton Arboretum near Dallas Center, Iowa. Special places like the Brenton Arboretum, and even our own back yards are critical to our well-being.

PAULA FLYNN  Paula has a Bachelor’s Degree from Iowa State University in Microbiology and a Master’s Degree in Plant Pathology from the University of Nebraska. Paula worked at Iowa State University for 17 years in the Plant Pathology Department. Her primary role was the plant disease diagnostician in the Plant Disease Clinic, where she worked to determine the cause of infectious and abiotic disease problems in field crops, turfgrass, fruits, vegetables, trees and ornamental plants. She also taught undergraduate courses in plant disease diagnosis and microbiology. With responsibility to ISU Extension, she taught the plant pathology component to Master Gardeners and a number of other courses related to plant diseases to adult learners. She currently works at Ryder as a customer development manager. She is a member of the American Conifer Society and the National American Rock Garden Society. She has an extensive collection of interesting and unusual conifers and also enjoys collecting interesting rocks from a family farm in Minnesota.

TOM JORDAN  Tom earned a BS in Agricultural Business and a MS in Agricultural Education and Studies from Iowa State University. He served 3 years in the army. He was elected to the Hardin County Extension Council and appointed to the Hardin County Magistrate Appointment Commission. He has been a Master Gardener since 1998 and is currently the President of the Story County Master Gardener Association. He had a successful career in production agriculture and agricultural business. Tom owns and operates a small landscaping business.

HIBERNATION CELEBRATION
Sunday, January 10, February 14 & March 6, 2016 • 12 noon to 3 p.m.
Perfect for all ages - families, friends, singles.
Come enjoy the Hughes Education Center and Arboretum grounds in winter.

Program Highlights

FAMILY YOGA – Just right for everybody
SOUP’S ON – Meet the guest chef and take home a taste
LOCAL ARTIST – Get acquainted with this special guest
OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES weather pending
BIRD-WATCHING at the feeders all afternoon
SILENT ZONE with natural light available all afternoon
BRING A BOARD GAME, hobby, journal or curl up with a good book.

Gift shop open. Light refreshments served.
Suggested good will donation $5-10.
We may have to cancel for really bad weather.
Sponsored by: Centering Porch LLC, Madrid, Iowa

“SUNDAY SKETCHERS”
THIS WINTER AT THE ARBORETUM
Sundays – January 17, February 7 & March 13 • 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Local artists Carla Boekelman and Richard Parker will be leading classes in drawing with oil pastels, watercolor paints, ink pen and pencil. These two accomplished artists will provide the instruction and subject matter while the Arboretum provides hospitality in a great space. Participants bring all their own supplies — watercolors or oil pastels, paper, brushes, pencils, erasers, etc. If participants do not already have supplies, Carla and Richard will provide a short list for recommended purchase at local craft stores. (This list will be posted in January.) All levels of experience are welcome — even beginners. You may attend one, two or all three dates in the series (You pay per class). The class is for high school age and older.

Fee: $10 per class per member, $15 per class nonmember.

LET’S GO PAPERLESS
Let us send you your newsletter digitally. Same great product but it comes to you by way of the internet highway. Contact info@iowaarboretum.org to make the change.
DONATIONS, NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS AUGUST 1 TO OCTOBER 31, 2015

Significant Gifts
Blue Note Gardens
City Of Madrid
Sandra Strover
Monetary Gifts
Boone Garden Club
Evangelical Covenant Church
Kincard Gardens
Donald & Dorothy Lewis
Mark Schneider & Phyllis Friedman
Channing Smith & Mrs. Smith
New Members
Bobbie Adams
Tavis & Jennifer Anderson
Aaron Bertram
Jim & Beth Billings
Warren Lee Bonnett & Debbie Farrow
Margaret Brennan
Lorie Carrel
Joan Fumetti
Don & Wanda Gibbs
John & Audrey Johnson
Misty Schwisso
Marge Taub
Todd & Angela White
Linn & Ann Wilbur
Jim Wurk
Renewed Memberships
Individual & Family Memberships
Pam Abarr
Sharon Adams
Gerald & Sara Adams
Shirley Altenhofen
Jim & Linda Ballantyne
Lois Barnes
Janine Bennett
Terry & Chris Brenstad
Robert & Nancy Briggs
Karen Burnianek
Earl Check
Norman & Beth Cheville
Sally Courter
Darrell & Janice Cay
Lynn & Mary Crystal
Steve & Lesley Dokin
Kirby Davidson
Todd Davidson
John Dresser
Steve Duffy
Craig & Linda Dutton
Larry Eckhart & Melanie Erickson
Charlotte Feidterson
Bob & Mary Jo Frazier
Ted & Deanna Garwood
Mike & Ann Gersie
Mark & Winnie Gleason
Mark Gordon
Juanita Grant
Brent Gustafson
George Haines
Darrell & Jane Hanel
Dagmar
Larry & Sharon Helm
Lyle & Gloria Herold
Sharon Jenkins & Peter Moore
Donna Johnson
Larry & Jan Jorgensen
Bart Kahler
Sue Kammerer
Mary Jo Kirby
Wayne & Karen Klaiber
Lorin Knapp
Lucille Larson
Doug & Linda Lau
Michael & Marie Leat
Mary Lee
Willard & Anne Lundahl
Diane Maderin
Ann Malver
Laura Marquardt
Barbara J McGone
Karina McLaughlin
John & Maggie McPherson
Jeff & Bobbie Miles
Chris & Krista Moffett
Paula Murrell
Betty Nikkel
Kelly Norris
Chris Perrin & Becky Voss
Sue Posch
Kevin & Jean Rhodes
Betty L Richter
Craig & Barb Rose
Richard & Karen Ross
Randy & Rhonda Ruark
Donald & Diane Royle
Paul Sacks
Harold Schild
Larry & Darcy Schroeder
Janet Schultz
Martha Severson
Kay Shapiro
Robert & Rebecca Shaw
Steiner & Mary Anne Silence
Iren Smith
Randy & Deb Snook
Kathy Solko-Matremich
Brian Squitieri
Frances Stetson
Cecil Stewart
Leon Thomas
Jayne Thompson
Alan & Donna Vandeheur
Mary Vannoy
Belva Weers
Gary Whittembaugh
Mark Widlocher
Stan & Shirley Williams
Daryl & Sally Winter
Leonard & Georganne Woodruff
Supporting Members
Juliane Bramer
Michael Campbell
Robert Carstens
Catherine Chalstrom
Phil Ferrer
Marilou Gay
Deke & Marilyn Glim
Tom & Colleen Good
Gene & Noama Hoffs
John & Cynthia Peterson
Margorie Rudert
Kim & Pat Spranger
P. Theil
Jim & Madeline Walker
Bill & Toni Whitman
Patron Members
Gary & Sue Osweiler
Mike & Christie Overton
Fellow Members
Ann Davison
Richard & Kate Jordan
Organization Members
Good Earth Garden Club
Greater Des Moines Garden Club
Madrid Garden Club
Gift In Honor Of Mark Schneider
Chapter V PEO Des Moines
Gift In Memory Of Barbara Lyon
Jerry & Delores Lyon
Donated Goods & Services
Don Adams & Nan Bonfils
Hy-Vee (Boone)
Donald & Dorothy Lewis
Jean Kalm
Paule Heiden
Pizzi Ranch (Boone)
Sam’s Club (Ames)
Walmart (Boone)

LEGACY PLAN GIFTING
Have you considered investing in the future of the arboretum? The Iowa Arboretum works closely with individuals and their professional advisors to identify opportunities to facilitate the transition of assets through charitable giving. The arboretum accepts cash, stock, gifts of grain, land and planned gifts designated in a will or estate plan. Your planned legacy gift will help make the arboretum sustainable as a public garden.

* Currently the tax-free distributions for individual retirement plans for charitable purposes has not been extended. Check with your professional advisor to see if it will be extended for the 2015 tax year.

Contact Mark Schneider at 515.795.3216 to discuss gift options.

Master Plan Update
The Master Plan process began in August with Confluence (Des Moines). Representatives from Confluence met with Arboretum staff, board members, volunteers and stakeholders to gather information about their vision for the Arboretum. The next step is for Confluence to take the information collected at the meetings and start creating documentation and plans. The master plan process should be completed by June of 2016.
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

THE PERFECT PLACE TO MEET!

Have you considered having your next meeting, party or gathering at the Arboretum? It is the ideal place for business meetings, church get-togethers or family events. Excellent indoor and outdoor facilities make the Arboretum the perfect choice. Tables, chairs and use of the catering kitchen are included in all rentals along with convenient parking and Wi-Fi. Bring in your favorite food or caterer and beer and wine are an option.

YOUR GUESTS WILL BE HAPPY YOU SELECTED THE IOWA ARBORETUM.