CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ARBORETUM GARDEN SOCIAL AND AUCTION
Friday, May 13
4 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Early Bird (before May 6, 2016): $50 per ticket, After May 6: $60 per ticket.

SPRING PLANT SALE
Saturday, May 14
Sunday, May 15
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
The latest and greatest plant sale.
Iowa Arboretum’s Annual Spring Plant Sale. Find unique and interesting plants for your Iowa garden.

CLASSIC CAR DAY
Sunday, June 5
Car Registration (free):
10 a.m. – 12 noon
12 noon to 3 p.m. — Bring your car or your camera and enjoy an afternoon admiring some of Iowa’s best-loved cars. Classic tunes will help set the mood and lunch will be available for purchase. Free to the public.

MEMBERSHIP DAY
Sunday, July 10
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
We love our members and we are always ready to welcome new ones too. Join us for a special afternoon of guided tours, refreshments and crafts for children. Bring a prospective new member and they can join at half the membership rate.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION
Thursday, August 25
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Join us for a cookout as we celebrate the accomplishments of our volunteers.
MY FAVORITE TREE | *Pinus strobus* — WHITE PINE

**Written by Mark Vitosh**

At Iowa State University summer forestry camp on Cass Lake, in northern Minnesota in 1985 white pine was the first tree that I learned to identify from a long distance because of its irregular mature shape.

As white pine matures some of its long stretched branches can break due to ice and snow loads creating a unique irregular looking shape that looks like something in a bonsai tree collection.

White pine is the only native pine found in Iowa, with a beautiful collection of this species found in the White Pine Hollow State Preserve near Luxemberg in northwest Dubuque County.

My favorite white pine is a 50-foot tree in my backyard that I can see towering over the neighborhood houses as I ride up my street on my bike. I enjoy sitting on the bench below the tree on summer evenings watching bats dive through the sky, and listening to a pair of neighborhood owls as they communicate their intentions for the evening ahead.

As an Iowa DNR District Forester this species has been a work horse for me as I have recommended it hundreds of times for windbreaks, reforestation projects and as a specimen in home landscapes.

**Tree Facts:**

- **Native:** Northeast Iowa
- **Growth Rate:** Fast
- **Mature Shape:** Irregular
- **Height:** 50 to 80 feet
- **Width:** 30 to 40 feet

**Site Requirements:** well-drained upland soils

**ID Characteristics:** 5 needles in bundle, slender needles 2 to 5 inches long, needles and branches flexible and soft to the touch and cones 4 to 5 inches long

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**THE CONNECTION**

Mark Schneider — Executive Director

When I first started working at the Arboretum I received a call from Miriam Dunlap. She asked about planting a tree in memory of her father who had been a nurseryman in Des Moines. Miriam and her husband, David, agreed to the selection of a Kentucky Coffeetree and invited me to join their family and friends for the planting and a picnic lunch. Our friendship continues to this day.

Planting a tree brings inherent pleasure: the feel of the soil, the satisfaction of physically digging up and setting in, and the sweet smell of mulch. As the tree grows, it becomes a measure of life and its milestones — connecting yesterday to today and hope for tomorrow.

This spring... invite someone to plant a tree.

_A yard without a tree isn't fit for a dog — DONALD LEWIS — Iowa Arboretum past Board President_
Volunteer Connection

Reid Brown

My name is Reid Brown. I am 23 years old and originally from Clive. This fall I will begin work on my PhD in Biochemistry at Iowa State University where I plan on focusing on an aspect of plant biochemistry.

I am an avid hiker, biker, camper, gardener, cook, writer, reader, and am trying to become a runner. In general, I really like learning and being outside.

I began volunteering at the Iowa Arboretum to learn a wide variety of skills, to meet like minded people, and to give back in a small way doing something I enjoy. Initially it started because I go to Ledges State Park a lot and was always intrigued by the signs for the Arboretum but never ventured the small additional distance over to check it out. This summer I realized I would have extra time and decided that there would be a lot to learn at the Arboretum.

So I found the website and contacted Mark who put me in contact with Joe and the rest is history. And I can say that I was right that there is a lot to learn and a lot of interesting people to meet.

Someday I hope to start my own permaculture hobby farm, probably in Iowa, and I know that this will be a valuable experience when I finally get my own land.

I don’t know if I have a favorite area per se but I enjoy grounds management, specifically pruning trees. Joe is a great resource for learning pruning techniques and has given me quite a bit of guidance on the proper pruning strategy. I think the whole of the Arboretum proper flows well together.

People should volunteer at the Iowa Arboretum to join a community of people engaged with plants, the outdoors, and community involvement. There is also a tremendous amount to learn and to enjoy while learning. The Arboretum is a very pleasant place to be and helping it grow is a rewarding activity.

The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others. — Deann Hollis

Saying Farewell to Joe McNally

It is with mixed feelings that we say farewell to Joe McNally on May 20. We are sad to see him leave, and yet happy to know he is moving to an area that has a strong horticultural presence. Joe and his wife, Gabrielle, are heading west to Corvallis, Oregon. Gabrielle has accepted a position with the USDA Northwest Regional Climate Hub.

Joe moved to Iowa in July 2012 and joined the Iowa Arboretum as the Horticulture Project Manager. He managed the Arboretum’s plant collections, plant sales and greenhouse. He has a strong passion for plants and enjoys giving garden lectures to interested gardeners of all ages.

One of his biggest accomplishments, while working at the Iowa Arboretum, has been the inventory, or census, of all the plants, trees and shrubs. This includes updating the computer records and improving the plant labels, many of which were incomplete or missing altogether. He has inventoried over 500 plants but will most likely be at 1,000 by the time he is done with trees and shrubs.

His favorite memory is going to pick up Christmas trees with Kevin while hearing about the history and stories of the Iowa Arboretum. The highlight to his job was working with staff, volunteers and community members who are so dedicated, supportive and invested in the Iowa Arboretum. This will also be what he misses the most — the coworkers and volunteers and the fun they had on the job.

When asked what he is taking away from this experience he stated “I have expanded my knowledge of public gardens and what it takes to run and maintain the garden.” His advice to his replacement is to pay attention to details but be sure to relax and enjoy them.

He ended by saying, “I’m not sure how much I will miss the Iowa State Fair but I will try my best to find something on a stick to remember it by.”

We have no doubt that wherever Joe lands, he will be an asset to that organization. His contributions have been an enormous benefit to the Iowa Arboretum and, undeniably, he will be deeply missed here. Please join us in wishing Joe the very best of luck and the greatest of success in all his future endeavors.

Join us for a Farewell Party for Joe and Gabrielle on May 17 from 4 - 7 p.m. Please RSVP by calling (515) 795-3216 or email emily@iowaarboretum.org
FAMILY YOGA aka Yoga for Kids

Sunday afternoons in May at 1 p.m. • May 1, 8, 15, & 22

Experience family friendly yoga that is just right for everyone. Even beginners and grown ups — with or without kids — can enjoy this chance to stretch, bend, twist, and balance while barking like a dog or breathing like a lion. Everyone gets a workout. Everyone gets a chance to relax too.

We’ll start at the Hughes Education Center, then head to a gazebo in fair weather. Take a walk around the Arboretum before or after yoga.

Your instructor is Nan Bonfils. She recommends family yoga for children age 4+. All children must be accompanied by an adult. But grown ups are welcome to participate without a child.

You don’t need special equipment. If you don’t have a yoga mat, just bring a beach towel, water bottle, clean feet, and a big smile.

Fee: $7 per family (members) $10 per family (non-members)
Buy the series and save: $20 per family (member) $30 per family (non-members)

ARGORETUM AMBLE

Thursday evenings in May starting at 7 p.m. from the Hughes Education Center

My doctor said, “Take two walks and call me in the morning...”

Join us this May for Thursday evening wellness walks. These ambles vary in length, route and focus so there is sure to be something for everyone. (Read the details below.) And, of course, you can always shorten or extend any of these guided walks.

All walks begin at the Hughes Education Center at 7 p.m. Our education coordinator, Nan Bonfils, will lead you to parts of the Arboretum you might not normally explore. She’ll also be collecting your comments and ideas as we look to expand this pilot program.

All walks are open to all ages — definitely family friendly. Well behaved dogs on leashes are welcome to come along too. We ask for a goodwill donation to cover our costs.

Nuts and Nesting Boxes

Thursday, May 5

We’ll take the outer loop with stops at the nut tree collection and a few bluebird nesting boxes.

Paws on the Prairie

Thursday, May 12

The route is short but there is oh so much to smell. Definitely Bring Fido! Don’t have a dog? No problem, you can walk with Nan’s.

Walk for a Cause — You Name it

Thursday, May 19

We’ll take the inner loop and you can walk it in the name of whatever cause you choose — a cure, a policy, a nonprofit. Come tell your story and listen to what inspires other people to get going.

Breathe and Stay Cool

Thursday, May 26

Visit gazebos and shade gardens with time out to try some restorative breathing techniques. A nice way to ease into summer.

ECO WEAVERS FOR FAMILIES

This art project is called Eco Weavers because it intertwines repurposed materials (ECO) on looms (weavers) made from gardening fence. Each participant makes two squares. One is a make & take for the young artist to take home. The second square is donated to the Arboretum. Staff here will assemble and interweave these donated pieces to create a huge outdoor mural for the children’s garden.

Any age visitor from toddler to teen can be an ECO Weaver. Lots of children will do so as part of a school field trip or summer day camp. But we also wanted to provide opportunities for individual families to get involved.

Pick a date that suits you and meet Nan Bonfils, our education coordinator. Nan says, “I’m delighted with Eco Weavers because it combines two great loves for children of all ages— making stuff and being outdoors.”

Sunday, May 15 from 2:30-3:30 Cafferty Building
Sunday, June 19 from 2:30-3:30 Cafferty Building
Sunday, July 10 from 2:30-3:30 Hughes Education Center
Sunday, August 7 from 2:30-3:30 Cafferty Building

All the ECO Weaver family events are free. No registration required.
TUESDAY EVENINGS IN THE GARDENS IN JUNE

PLEIN AIRE — OUTDOOR DRAWING
Tuesday, June 7 • 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Carla Boekelman will provide instruction as participants create images of plants and flowers using oil pastels. Carla taught the oil pastel class series here last fall and guided the mixed media studio sessions this winter. “Drawing directly from nature is fun and inspiring” enthuses Carla. Participants at every level of practice are welcome, including beginners. This class is designed for high school age and older. Everyone needs to bring basic drawing materials, pencil, eraser, paper, oil pastels, a firm board, and a comfortable, portable outdoor chair.

We have a minimum enrollment so we are only taking registration by phone 515-795-3216. We ask that you pay when you make your reservation. If we do not meet minimum enrollment we will cancel the workshop on Sunday, June 5 and contact you.

Fee: $10 members $15 non-members

FLOWER BOUQUETS — MORE THAN BLOOMS IN A VASE
Tuesday, June 21 • 7 – 8:30 p.m.

There’s real artistry to creating stunning floral bouquets and Beth Kemp from Elizabella Flower Farm knows all about it. She will show us the best practices for displaying a variety of cut flowers in an assortment of containers. Participants can bring their own containers if they wish. In addition, participants are invited to bring cut plants that they would like to incorporate in a floral design. If you can’t bring any plant material or a special container, don’t worry. We will have plenty to share. Just bring your imagination and plant clippers. Take home a gorgeous bouquet.

Fee: $10 members $15 non-members

GENTLE YOGA FOR GARDENERS
Tuesday, June 14 • 7 – 8:30 p.m.

So you’ve been busy in the garden after a long winter of underused muscles. Time for a tune up?

Jan Mitchell from Yoga Center of Boone will lead this class for gardeners of every stripe and condition. You don’t have to know anything about yoga. The movements will be gentle, restorative, and easily replicated at home. This class is designed for grownups. Youngsters grades four and above may also attend with an adult. We will have some yoga mats to share; if you have your own, please bring it.

Fee: $10 members $15 non-members

EXPLORE THE GROUNDS WITH KEVIN
Tuesday, June 28 • 7 – 8:30 p.m.

This is an exclusive opportunity to spend time with Kevin Lantz, Arboretum Horticulturist. Tour the grounds with Kevin, taking a closer look at the great plant collection. Tap into 30+ years of Kevin’s dedicated connection to our plants, trees, and shrubs. Listen to great stories about the people who made it all happen. Nan Bonfils will cohost. We will cut some flowers as we make our way so everyone can take home a fresh bouquet.

Fee: $10 members $15 non-members

* Check-in for all classes is in the Hughes Education Center
Boone Garden Club - Planting Seeds
Pot Washing Fun for Spring Plant Sale
Apple Grafting Workshop
Build Your Own Willow Trellis
Italian Night
Pancake Breakfast and Children's Craft
Pancake Breakfast
Soup Supper
Spring Into Blooms
Sunday Sketchers
Family Yoga
Significant Gifts
Ruby Buck
Robert Jones Estate

Monetary Gifts
Angela Akers
Ames Racquet & Fitness Center
Ames Silversmithing
Brian Anderson
Loretta Angerer
Bevington Garden Club
Boone Fitness LLC
Karen Dannen
Terry Dorenkamp
Melinda Ehrig
Fort Dodge Fed Garden Club
Market Of Madrid
Robert McNair
Modern Woodmen Of America
Pella Garden Club
Quasqueton Federated Garden Club
Mark Schneider & Phyllis Friedman
Story County Master Gardeners
Sustainable Ag Student Assn
Troy & Ruth Thompson
Town & Country G.C.-Webster City
Woodland Hills Garden Club

New Members
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Judy Batt
Richard & Susan Breed
Farley Farms LLC
Diane Green
Helen Gunderson
Darla Huber
Steven Jordening
Louise O’Donnell
Jacqueline Pohl
Mark Riggs
Deb Shannon
Andy Swanson

Renewed Memberships Individual & Family
Dr. John & Elaine Anderson
Brian Anderson
Richard & Sunday Antrim
Dave & Cindy Azbill
Kate Benson-Larson
Susan Bier
James & Carol Brannon
Richard & Phyllis Braverman
Carolyn Bultena
Lisa Burke & Todd Vens
Max Burkey
Steve Bush
Dan Bussey
Dan & Gina Buzzell
Carrie Campbell
Cynthia Canton
Richard & Sonya Carlson
Keith Carlson
Robert & Peggy Clark
Anne Clark & Clark Gaff
Curtis & Desiree Clausen
Gertrude Cloutier
John & Jane Cook
Barbara Cunningham
Karen Dannen
Linda Day
Melinda Ehrig
Ron & Jackie Eppert
Colene Ferrin
Cheryl Fiskerud
Amy Garrett
Sandra Gartz
Monte & Katherine Gibbs
Judy Greene
Dennis Hanser
Ginger Harry
Ann Heimberger
Stan & Kay Puttack Henning
Helen Hom
Robert & Kathleen Houge
Clyta Howell
Bill & Sharon Huln
Walter & Maridel Jackson
Deb Jacobson
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Mo & Jo Kelley
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Mary Ellen Miller
Larry & Connie Mullin
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Joe & Janice Reutter
Merwyn & Nan Ripley
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Lynne Van Valin
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Denise Vrchota
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Bryan & Eileen Westrum

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Jake & Darla Ewalt
Sandra Heereima
Steve & Connie Kruck
Gary Mason
Shirley Pfeifer
Linda Sharpnack
Dale & Ruth Vander Schaaf
Mr & Mrs Larel Wilkinson
Henry (Hank) Witt

Patron
Don & Dee Draper
Wayne & Norma Koos
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Organizations
Ames Garden Club
Fort Dodge Fed. Garden Club
Knoxville Fed. Garden Club
Urbandale Garden Club

Corporate Membership-Bronze
Pam Auiler - Evergreen Gardens

Corporate Membership-Platinum
Vision Bank Iowa

Gifts In Honor & Memory
Ames Garden Club in Memory of Don Lesan
Nan Bonfils & Don Adams in Memory of Helen Ehr
Randy & Donna Burkhart in Memory of Nadine Burkhart
Evangelical Covenant Church on behalf of the Lantz Family

Donated Goods & Services
Barilla
Bob & Jeanine Canthors
Casey’s General Stores

Invest in the Arboretum’s Future

The Iowa Arboretum is now part of the Endow Iowa program. A permanent endowment has been set up through the Boone County Community Endowment and is being managed by the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation. Donors to the Arboretum’s permanent endowed fund are eligible to receive a 25% tax credit in addition to appropriate federal tax benefits. This is an excellent way to support our programs while also making it easier for you to give more for less by taking advantage of tax credits.

For more details call: Mark Schneider – 515.795.3216.
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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.

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Spring Plant Sale
THEME: “GOT NECTAR?”
Saturday, May 14 • Sunday, May 15
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The 2016 Spring Plant Sale is all about the importance of providing nectar during the growing season for native pollinator insects. Select from a wide variety of perennials, shrubs and trees to fill your garden with tasty blooms. Choose the Cornelian Cherry (Cornus mas ‘Redstone’), an early spring nectar provider or choose the fall bloom White Blazing Star (Liatris spicata ‘Floristan White’). Become a citizen scientist by planting a ‘Lemon Drop’ sunflower. Then join The Great Sunflower Project, http://www.greatsunflower.org/ and add your pollinator sightings to a national database. Attendees of the Arboretum Garden Social and Auction on Friday May 13 always shop early. Visit our website, iowaarboretum.org, for a full list of available plants.