FRIDAY, MAY 4
Theme: Let's Celebrate: A Golden Anniversary
Plant Sale: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Appetizers, Dinner & Silent Auction: 5:00 PM
Live Auction: 6:30 PM

It is time to attend the gardening social event of the year. Whether it is to connect with friends, enjoy delicious food or sip wine, the Arboretum's Garden Social has it all! Our theme this year is “Let’s Celebrate: A Golden Anniversary” marking our 50th anniversary. As many of you know, event ticket holders have the first chance at purchasing the best plants at the spring plant sale (Saturday for the general public). Leah Worth, Horticulture Project Manager for the arboretum, will have a wonderful selection of plants. We are honored to have Charity Nebbe as our celebrity auctioneer. She is the host of Iowa Public Radio and TV shows Talk of Iowa and Iowa Ingredient.

You will be treated to an evening featuring live music along with a delicious dinner. The live auction follows with hundreds of unique plants, garden-related items and gifts to bid on. Auctioneers J&J Auction Company will set the stage for an entertaining and engaging evening. We also added a wine swap and a 50/50 raffle for you to enjoy and further support this important fundraising event. Come early to buy plants and stay late to enjoy the festivities.

Price: $50 before April 27, $60 after April 27
at iowaarboretum.org under event, or call 515.795.3216

CHARITY NEBBE
THE CONNECTION
Mark Schneider – Executive Director

Good news! We are placing the finishing touches on the arboretum’s master plan. Two committees have been working diligently with the Des Moines landscape architecture firm Confluence. By the end of April, the new plan will be ready to unveil.

We listened to you. The plan includes expanded trails, creates a great lawn area for special events, and designates areas for expanding plant collections. A children’s discovery area and a new event venue are included in the plan. Interpretive signage and other learning opportunities are built into the plan along with more opportunities to experience wildlife. I look forward to sharing the full plan at the meetings in May and in the next newsletter.

MAY – AUGUST 2018
IOWA ARBORETUM NEWSLETTER

Iowa Arboretum, Inc.
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Mark Schneider
mark.schneider@iowaarboretum.org

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS
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Doug Van Dyke – Vice President
John Wassenaar – Member at Large
Don Draper – Member at Large
Tom Jordan – Secretary
Wayne Koos – Treasurer
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Kevin Lantz – Horticulturist
ShyAnn Sherer – Event Specialist – Administrative Assistant
Leah Worth – Horticulture Project Manager

MY FAVORITE TREE | Juglans nigra | Black Walnut
By Rob Wallace, Associate Professor, ISU

As a botanist, it is incredibly difficult to answer the question, ‘What is your ‘favorite’ tree?’, however among our native hardwoods, black walnut (Juglans nigra) is certainly among my top choices. This deciduous tree produces a majestic, somewhat open canopy that is full of its characteristic and graceful bipinnately-compound leaves. In addition to the many uses of its seeds for food, as a source of various chemicals and as a reliable hardy ornamental tree, my favorite attributes of black walnut are related to the wood it produces. I have been a woodworker for over 40 years, and have experience using many different wood species – perhaps a hundred or more, including native and exotic species from around the world. Among these many different woods, walnut remains one of my favorites for the beautiful dark uniform figure of its heartwood, the strongly contrasting light-colored sapwood, and the dried wood having excellent physical properties for cutting or carving, doing joinery, sanding and finishing. Within the forestry and lumber industries, walnut is highly prized as a hardwood, making it one of the most valued native timber species used for the making of furniture, cabinetry, architectural elements and artistic forms. The wood often commands premium prices when being sold, but provides so many positives in the woodworking process to make it a good value for both quality and aesthetics of the resulting pieces. As many fellow woodturners say “I just love walnut!” I could not agree more!

TREE FACTS
• The tree is a native of southern New England to west of eastern Nebraska, and throughout most of the eastern United States, including all of Iowa.
• In spring, clusters of female and male flowers (catkins) enable wind pollination to allow the growth of fruits, giving rise to the highly prized “nuts” and the tasty seed within.
• Non-lumber and non-ornamental uses include making a brown/black dye from the fruit husks and bark, which was commonly used as a woodworking stain on raw wood.
• The ground dried fruit husks are used commercially as sandblasting abrasive.
• The bark has been used as a reliable source of tannins, and extracts of the leaves have been used as flea and other insect repellent and insecticidal compounds.

ROB WALLACE – BRIEF BIOGRAPHY
Rob Wallace is a botanist and biology professor at Iowa State University where he teaches courses in plant biology and evolution. He is also an avid woodworker specializing in artistic turned items made on a wood lathe.

There is nothing like a dream to create the future. ~ VICTOR HUGO
**Volunteer Connection**

**Larry Eckhart**

**Tell us about yourself:** I am a lifetime resident of Boone. I graduated from ISU and then went on to work at the ISU Power Plant for 25 years. Currently, I work part time at Hilton Coliseum as an usher at sporting events. Besides volunteering at the arboretum, I also volunteer for Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) which is a county volunteer program. In the small amount of free time I have left, I enjoy deer hunting.

**Why did you start volunteering at the arboretum?** My wife, Melanie, volunteers here and has been trying to get me to for years. Finally, in April 2017, I decided to volunteer here to get out of the house and back to doing something I enjoy.

**What is your favorite place in the arboretum?** My favorite place at the arboretum is the Koos Building. It’s what I consider “my spot” as 90% of my work is in the building. I get equipment back running and enjoy performing maintenance work.

**Why would you recommend volunteering at the arboretum?** It’s a great place! It gets you outside in the environment and you can work at your own pace. If you love the outdoors and love gardening, it’s a good place to be.

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**Honor**

Wayne Koos received the Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association’s Merit Award on February 21, 2018, for his service to the arboretum and other groups in Boone County. Wayne has been a board member since the late 1980s and is currently the Treasurer and Advisor to the Endowment Committee.

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**1st Place Photo Contest Winner**

Christina Gute
The American business-mogul and philanthropist Warren Buffet put it eloquently, “Someone’s sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.” This statement is especially true as we view and enjoy what the arboretum is today, 50 years after it was established.

This year’s plant sale will help celebrate the arboretum’s 50th anniversary by highlighting plants with the appropriate ‘golden’ theme. Of the plant sale selections, Hosta ‘Golden Anniversary’ captures our celebratory festivities best with its altering golden to dark-green foliage color and commanding garden size. Discovered in the 1950s and listed for sale in the 1960s, ‘Golden Anniversary’ hosta is one of the earliest hosta cultivars developed in the United States, but wasn’t officially registered with the American Hosta Society until 1998. Like the story of its name, ‘Golden Anniversary’ deserves to be in the 50th anniversary spotlight once more.

Several other golden-themed novelty perennials will also be available this spring. Marvel at the old-fashioned and classic beauty of the bleeding heart (Dicentra spectabilis ‘Gold Heart’), but with a new variation of metallic gold leaves and peach-colored stems. The brilliant foliage of spike speedwell (Veronica prostrata ‘Aztec Gold’) will provide a dense gold carpet with a pop of blue flowers in any sun-garden. For those gardeners who dream on the more woodsy – and naturalistic – side, the startling gold-leaves and large bright pink spring blossoms of golden salmonberry (Rubus ‘Golden Ruby’) will captivate your naturalism philosophy.

Of course, there are many plant sale selections that do not have the golden theme. Other top favorites include stunning new releases such as Geum ‘Blazing Sunset’, Heuchera (villosa hybrid) ‘Wild Rose’, and Pulmonaria ‘Shrimps on the Barbie.’ Some tried and true favorites are also included, such as Allium ‘Millennium’, Delphinium ‘Butterfly Blue’, and Hosta ‘Whee!!’.

Mark your calendars for the Iowa Arboretum’s Spring Plant Sale on Saturday, May 5 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM). This sale is going to be gold!

A full plant list is available on our website – www.iowaarboretum.org.
Tell me about your family’s connection to the arboretum.

My dad, Dwight Hughes, Sr., was a board member for approximately 30 years. His focus was on adult education and continuing education. He felt the horticulture industry would be stronger by having an arboretum. He never lost the vision and always wanted to see a building of significance built at the arboretum.

Dad did things in a quiet way and was never forceful. He was a soft spoken and gentle person who took action to accomplish big things. He was also very loyal and consistent in his approach.

Mom and Dad were attending the 100th anniversary of the Iowa State Horticulture Society (1966) when it announced they wanted to start an arboretum. Dad latched onto the idea. The arboretum was started two years later in Madrid (1968).

I served on the board to see Mom and Dad’s dreams come true. Dad wanted to build a functional building at the arboretum that was low maintenance with a masonry exterior and a metal roof. In 2000, the Hughes Education Center was built as a tribute to the Hughes family and serves as a visitor center, gift shop, education center, office area and meeting/reception hall. The building has all the elements Dwight Hughes, Sr. wanted in a building.

What is your dream for the Iowa Arboretum in the future?

My dream for the Iowa Arboretum is for it to become “The” Iowa Arboretum for all of Iowa. I want it to have significant plant collections and educational offerings that draw people from all corners of the state. The next 50 years can be pretty special drawing on the synergism that has been created by pushing out from central Iowa and become more important in the state. I would like to see the arboretum connect more with departments at Iowa State University. The relationship would be beneficial to the university and the arboretum.

I want to thank the current Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers along with the many other people who impacted the arboretum over the past 50 years. I especially want to recognize former board members, executive directors and volunteers for their countless hours of dedicated service to the arboretum. I also want to acknowledge Dorothy and Donald Lewis for their dedicated service and helpful work to build and sustain the Iowa Arboretum.

RANDY ELDER
Iowa Arboretum Board Member

Randy lives on his family farm in Nichols, Iowa. His love of landscape architecture blossomed when he joined the Vista program in Pittsburgh in the 1970s. He later came back to Iowa and graduated from Iowa State University. He is retired from the city of Muscatine where he worked as a landscape architect. He spends most of his time collecting conifers and remodeling a 100-year-old barn.

How did your association with the Iowa Arboretum start?

Board member Steve Hinkhouse invited me to a board meeting in November of 1979. I became a board member in the spring of 1980. I later became board president.

What words of wisdom can you share about the arboretum?

I have always said the arboretum has a good collection of plants and an even better collection of people. There have been high points, low points, good points and funny points but everyone wanted the same thing for the arboretum. I have so many good memories of the people who gave their time and hearts for the arboretum.

What do you want to see in the future for the arboretum?

I would like younger people to become more active as volunteers and as board members. I would enjoy seeing a greater connection with departments at Iowa State University. I hope in the future the arboretum can acquire more land to conserve valuable forest.
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

**BOONE RIVER VALLEY FESTIVAL**  
Friday, May 25 • 10:00 AM-11:30 AM  
The Boone River Valley Festival fun starts at the Iowa Arboretum! Discover the natural beauty found at the arboretum with one of our family-friendly guided tours. Tours will begin at 10:00 AM and again at 10:45 AM. Tours last approximately 30 minutes. We have put together a special bird-themed activity for the youngsters. Join us at either 10:00 AM or 10:45 AM as we read "Riki’s Birdhouse", create our very own bird-feeders, and finish with a dirt-and-worms cup feast. Both events are free, however, pre-registration is required so we can plan accordingly. Children under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult while on our grounds.  
*Please note: the bird-feeder craft involves the use of peanut butter.*

**SHINRIN-YOKU**  
Saturday, June 9 • Noon-3:00 PM  
Immerse yourself in nature and experience the benefits of being fully present in the medicine of the forest. This gentle forest therapy walk offers a rich experience in nature that can improve mood and provide relaxation. Certified guides Julie and Joseph Breshears from Forest Therapy Pathways will guide you to use your senses to take in the healing environment of the arboretum. Shinrin-yoku offers researched-based health benefits such as lowered blood pressure, decreased anxiety, and improved cognitive functioning. Join us for this unique wellness activity to unwind and rejuvenate!  
Register by June 1 to receive necessary information. Please remember to wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring a snack and water. You may find small backpack useful. We will walk if there is light rain so please be prepared.  
*$25 for all attendees*

**HERB EXCELLENCE**  
Saturday, July 14 • 9:00 AM-11:00 AM  
Reinvigorate your senses this summer with a refreshing look at herbs. Donna Julseth from Prairieland Herbs will lead us on a tour of the arboretum’s herb garden. She will share her extensive knowledge about herbs and their uses. Participants will leave with a handout and their own herb to use at home.  
*$15 members | $20 nonmembers*

**NATURE EXPLORERS**  
1st Monday in June, July, August • 10:00 AM-11:30 AM  
Looking for a fun summer experience for your child? Join us the first Monday of the month to experience our children’s summer series. Best suited for 4 to 8-year-olds accompanied by an adult. We will explore a different piece of nature each month. The morning will start by reading a story related to that day’s topic, followed by a craft and activity in nature.  
**June 4:** Trees have their very own stories to tell us, but we have to play detective to find out! We’ll use tree cookies and dichotomous keys to discover the stories the trees have to tell.  
**July 2:** Come hear the story of two birds and their search for the best nest. We’ll build our own birdhouses and spend the morning watching the skies for the birds of Iowa.  
**August 6:** What do bees do while they’re busy buzzing around? Come find out and hear the story of pollination, make honey ice cream and even follow the path a bee might take during its path around a garden.  
*Please note: Each date must have a minimum of 4 children registered in order to run the program.*  
*$8 member child | $10 nonmember child | $19 member child when purchasing series | $25 nonmember child when purchasing series*

**EXPLORE THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS**  
Tuesday, August 7 • 7:00 PM-8:00 PM  
Join us for a guided evening tour of our gorgeous summer grounds lead by an arboretum expert. Enjoy the beauty of the summer blooms in the cool evening air. The tour will begin at the Hughes Education Center and will explore the nature that the Iowa Arboretum has to offer.  
*$5 members | $10 nonmembers*

Please register for all events online at iowaarboretum.org or by calling 515.795.3216. Please email abby@iowaarboretum.org for any additional questions.
DONATIONS, NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS

FEBRUARY 1, 2018 TO MARCH 31, 2018

SIGNIFICANT GIFTS
Mae Coover
Linda & David Grieve
Wayne & Norma Koos
Mike & Christie Overton

MONETARY GIFTS
Jamie Beyer
Boone County CVB
Clay County Garden Club
Don & Dee Draper
Randy Elder
Kathy & David Law
Donald & Dorothy Lewis
Quasqueton Federated Garden Club
Robert & Rebecca Shaw
Swaledale Garden Club
Town & Country Garden Club
Woodland Hills Garden Club

INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS
Greg & Pam Anderson
Richard Antrim
Julia Badenhope
Kimball & Shelley Barron
Susan Bier
Nan Bonfils & Don Adams
James & Carol Brannon
Sue Breisford
Carolyn Bultena
Lisa Burke & Todd Vens
Max Burkey & Susan Ekstrom
Jeff Carstens
Bob & Peggy Clark
Gertrude Cloutier
Barbara Cunningham
Karen Dannen
Jan Ehrig
Ron & Jackie Epperl
Melanie Erickson
Colene Ferrin
Brynne Frame
Amy Garrett
Monte & Katherine Gibbs
Jack & Lois Girton
Brian & Sandra Gossman
Diane Green
Judi Greene
John & Lynne Hanna
Dennis Hanser
Ginger & Cecil Harry
Ann Heimberger
Helen Hom
Steve & Darla Huber
Sharon Hulen
Deb Jacobson
Liz Jeffrey
B. Jean Johnson
Sue Kemmerer
Terry & Sharon King
Ken & Dorothy Kirkland
Russell & Donna Knutson
Bea Koontz
Joyce & Jim Krug
Wayne & Marty Lamoureux
Edward Lyon & Darrell Hart
Carolyn Magnani
Jim & Karen Mailander
Eleanor Mathews
Mary Kay Matisheck
Fred & Viola Metz
Mary Ellen Miller
Russ & Hollie Moore
John F & Judy Murphy
Hugh & Maurine Myers
Robert North
Rosemary Osheim
Nancy Ostrem
Pancho Villa
Shirley Pfeifer
Mike & Marica Pickell
Lois Powers
Colleen Radabaugh
Jan & Merwyn Ripley
Eileen M. Robb, M.D.
Nancy Ross
Joyce Rouse
Lori Salati
Ron Schulz
Judy Stammeyer
Dave Uttrata
Monique van der Heijden
Lynne Van Valin
Thomas & Julie Venner
Katharin & Eugene Vix
Denise Vrchota
Todd & Angela White
Ed & Nicki Wiederstein
Ann & Linn Wilbur
Deb Wiley & John Schmidt
Cheryl Williams
Doyle & Linda Wilson

PATRON MEMBERSHIPS
Fort Dodge Area Gardeners
Wayne & Norma Koos
Brenda Kruse
Eric & Susan Souhrada

CORPORATE BRONZE MEMBERSHIPS
Quick Oil Company

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS
Afton Federated Garden Club
Ames Garden Club
Fort Dodge Federated Garden Club
Urbandale Federated Garden Club

IN MEMORY OF
CHERYL CONROW
Mark & Elizabeth Malwitz

IN MEMORY OF
VIRGINIA DENISEN
Dave Baldus

IN MEMORY OF
MARILYN LEHMAN
Gary & Carol Kline

IN MEMORY OF
PATRICIA WILSON
Rosemary Mitchum

DONATED GOODS & SERVICES
Hughes Nursery and Landscaping
Jeff Miles
Denny Riesselman
Mark Schneider & Phyllis Friedman

$50 FOR OUR 50TH!

In Honor of our 50th Anniversary, new members can join the arboretum at the Family Membership level for $50.

Contact Heather at heather@iowaarboretum.org or by calling 515.795.3216 for more information.
RENT FOR SUMMER FUNCTIONS

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.

Your guests will be happy you selected the Iowa Arboretum.

SPRING PLANT SALE

Let’s Celebrate: A Golden Anniversary
Saturday, May 5 • 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
This sale is going to be gold!

A full plant list is available on our website www.iowaarboretum.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THE IOWA ARBORETUM

The Iowa Arboretum is seeking volunteers for the upcoming season. There are opportunities available in many different areas including: Horticulture, Adopt-A-Garden, Mowing, Gift Shop, Special Events and Weddings, and Maintenance. For more information, please contact Heather at heather@iowaarboretum.org or 515.795.3216.