

IOWA ARBORETUM

IT'S TIME TO SOCIALIZE AT THE

GARDEN SOCIAL AND AUCTION

Plant Sale, Dinner, Drinks, and Silent and Live Auction

Friday, May 3

Plant Sale: 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Dinner, Live Music and Silent Auction: 5:00 PM

Live Auction: 6:30 PM



Spring! It is upon us and undoubtedly is one of the favorite times to enjoy the arboretum. Reserve the evening of Friday, May 3 for the annual arboretum Garden Social and Auction. It is one of the best social events of the year. As an added bonus, event ticket holders will have the first choice to purchase the best plants at the plant sale which continues for the general public on Saturday. Leah Worth, the arboretum's Horticulture Project Manager will have some of the most popular and trending plants that fit this year's theme of "Big and Small Plants for All". We will have live music, great food and live and silent auctions featuring plants, decorative arts, and garden décor.

At the social we will be honoring Jeff and Lora Rathje from McCausland in Iowa. They are an inspiration and have contributed much to the arboretum and other gardens throughout Iowa and Illinois.

We rely on donations, memberships, and functions like the arboretum Garden Social and Auction to fulfill our mission, which is to be an inspiring education and recreational resource demonstrating the value and use of trees, shrubs and other plants in the Iowa landscape. Invite your friends.

Come early, bid high, and show your support for Iowa's own Iowa Arboretum. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely, Jamie Beyer – Chair of the arboretum Garden Social and Auction Committee

Buy tickets at www.iowaarboretum.org
or call 515-795-3216

“The Garden Social and Auction is always an exciting event and a great way to meet other people that also appreciate nature and gardening. The auction is exciting and the donated items in the auction are great. It has such a festive mood and everyone has such a great time. We are always looking forward to it!”

- Peggy Pierce

MAY - AUGUST 2019

NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WOOF WALK

April 28th

1 PM – 3 PM

Free event

Join us for a fun afternoon for canines and the people who love them.

No dog, no problem! Everyone is invited

GARDEN SOCIAL AND AUCTION

Friday, May 3

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

*More information on page 1

PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 4

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

*More information on page 4

BOONE RIVER VALLEY FESTIVAL

Friday, May 24

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Free Event

The arboretum will be participating in this year's Boone River Valley Festival held throughout Boone County over Memorial Day weekend. Join us for programs for all ages. At 10 am, the arboretum's director will read a children's story about boats followed by a river boat and apple boat snacks building activity. Adults are invited to take a free tour of the grounds at 11 am with Horticulture Project Manager Leah Worth.

Register by calling 515.795.3216

or at iowaarboretum.org

CLASSIC CAR DAY

Sunday, June 9

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

*More information on page 6

VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION

Thursday, August 29

5:30 PM

Come and help us honor the great work our volunteers do throughout the year! There will be a barbeque picnic served.

Register by calling 515.795.3216

or at iowaarboretum.org

Iowa Arboretum, Inc.
1875 Peach Avenue
Madrid, Iowa 50156
Phone: 515.795.3216
Fax: 515.795.2619
Email: info@iowaarboretum.org
Website: www.iowaarboretum.org

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Linda Grieve - President
Doug Van Dyke - Vice President
Don Draper - Member at Large
Tom Jordan - Secretary
Wayne Koos - Treasurer
Donald Lewis - Past President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jamie Beyer
Steve Bush
Randal Elder
Paula Flynn
Matthew Bailey
Doug Gustafson
Mike Overton
John Jordan
Duane Kent
Kathleen Law
Bernard Mouw
Bob Shaw
Keith Thornton
Jamie West

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mark Schneider
mark.schneider@iowaarboretum.org

STAFF

Heather Bass - Office & Gift Shop Manager,
Membership Coordinator
Sally Good - Bookkeeper
Kevin Lantz - Horticulturist
Leah Worth - Horticulture Project Manager
Megan Mariotti - Event Specialist

THE CONNECTION

Mark Schneider – Executive Director

Did you know that the average American spends 93% of their life indoors? I started to think about my life and the percentage of time I spend at work, home and in my car. I can remember as a child spending most of my time outdoors making snow dams in the street, digging holes in the backyard and playing sports. I asked myself, “what happened to my outdoor time?”



There are many reasons we spend so much time indoors. Technology has made life easier for us, but in many cases has also contributed to a more sedentary lifestyle. Our busy lives do not leave much time for “outdoor wellness.” This is leading us to become the “indoor generation” which may have a long term effect on our health and well-being. It is time to open the doors and go outdoors!

How can the arboretum help?

1. Walk our incredible trails and connect with wildlife while breathing our fresh air elixir.
2. Adopt a garden and work the soil while exercising your mind and body.
3. Plant a tree at the arboretum. Create a lasting legacy (Memorial & Honorarium program)
4. Show your dog a good time outdoors. Attend a Woof Walk event.
5. Run or walk in nature with our Run for the Trees event.
6. Love is in the air. It is the perfect place to bring a date or get married.
7. Socialize at our ArbFeast “outdoor” garden party event. Enjoy food, drinks, and music as you walk around the garden.

Visit the Iowa Arboretum and make us a part of your outdoor experience.

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”

- Mahatma Gandhi

MY FAVORITE TREE | Sycamore

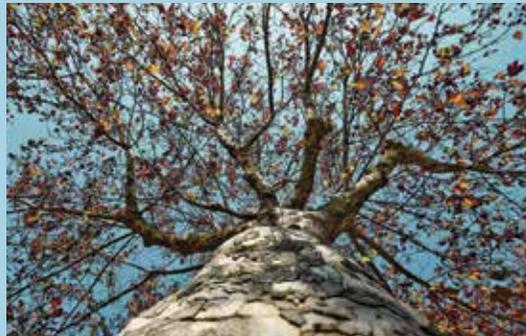
By Emily Swihart

When someone asks me what my favorite tree is they might as well say “Who is your favorite child?” because it is nearly impossible to pick just one. That said, it is hard for me to hide my enthusiasm for the sycamore (*Plantanus occidentalis*). My affection for the majestic beast is related in large part to the fact that it is just that...a mammoth of a tree that is a workhorse in the landscape all the while offering unique aesthetic characteristics.

Native to the eastern two thirds of Iowa, this species is naturally found along streambanks and low land areas and is adaptable to drier, upland sites. It is also relatively fast growing, which can help satiate our thirst for quick results in the landscape while being one of the longer lived fast growing trees. And speaking of thirst, this tree is a water hog being able to intercept, infiltrate and absorb upwards of 7000 gallons of storm water each year. The large leaves, ornamental ball shaped fruit and white or mottled upper branch bark color all contribute to the beauty of the sycamore.

We all have trees that have made an impression on us in our lives and for me it has been the sycamore. While I love the species as a whole, there are a few that stand out to me like old friends that I visit as often as I possible. There are the trees of my childhood in our local park, the stately sycamore on the corner of Lincoln Way and University Blvd in Ames that I enjoyed throughout my college years and when I can, I visit the south side of the Iowa State Capitol grounds to visit the sycamores that call Des Moines home.

Emily Swihart is a Field Coordinator and Program Manager with Trees Forever where she assists communities in southeast Iowa plant and care for trees...especially sycamores.



VOLUNTEER CONNECTION

Mary Ellen Silver

1. Tell me about yourself.

I was raised on a farm along with eight brothers and sisters. My early education was in a one room school in Missouri where we lived. At the age of eight I chose the goal to be a teacher, and as an adult taught at Madrid Community School for twenty plus years.

2. Why do you like to volunteer?

It is a joy to be involved with people who are doing worthwhile activities for the betterment of their lives and their community. You are able to see the progress of a job completed and the benefit of that job to others, and it is good exercise for body, mind, and spirit. Knowing and working with others increases a person's awareness of the world around them and is beneficial to myself and others.

3. What do you do at the arboretum?

My first project was the Perennial Garden to dead head, weed and haul this material to the recycle area. I applied to be a Tour Guide to gain more knowledge of the arboretum and to educate visitors who wanted tours. My education has also been expanded by special events where I helped people be involved, served food and, of course, provide cleanup.

4. Where is your favorite place to go in the Arboretum?

I enjoy being in nature, meeting and educating people and myself, and having new experiences; all of which, are available at the arboretum. Therefore, it is hard to narrow it down to one place. There is a fondness for the Perennial Garden since it was my first project. The Schoolhouse stands out because of my early education. The wedding venue of the willow tree and pond alongside the Butterfly Garden are beautiful, serene and calming. There are many unique plants, native and nonnative, that add beauty and education to any walk or tour ride around the grounds.

5. Why would you recommend others to volunteer?

To me there is value to doing an activity that you enjoy, especially one that enriches the lives of others. Taking time to be involved in nature helps keep a person grounded. Working with other people exposes us to new ideas, ways of doing activities which expands our experiences. As others share about their daily life, a person gains information on how to enhance their own existence. Be a life-long learner and volunteer.



“The quality of your life will be determined by the quality of your contribution.
When you work to improve the lives of others, your life improves automatically.”
– Kurek Ashley

Jeff and Lora Rathje Honored

Jeff and Lora Rathje will be honored at the arboretum Garden Social and Auction for their commitment to the Iowa Arboretum and other public gardens. Jeff and Lora are lifelong Eastern Iowans having been owners for the past 30 years of Lasting Beauty Landscaping, a small landscape contracting business in McCausland, IA, that specializes in design and installation. They started their nursery and later developed their home garden to showcase conifers and conifer companions.

Jeff earned an associate degree in horticulture from Kirkwood Community College and later became a landscape designer. His interest in conifers accelerated when he met his mentor, Chub Harper, who steered him into the wonderful world of conifers.

Lora, a retired teacher, serves as garden mechanic maintaining their garden by weeding and watering. A few years back, she jokes she was given a promotion to pruning. Although not a nursery professional, she has taken the lead in pond keeping, trough making, and rock gardening.



Congratulations Linda!

Board President Linda Grieve received the Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association's (INLA) Hall of Fame Award on February 22, 2019. She was recognized for her accomplishments in the field of horticulture and her work with the INLA.

Executive Director Mark Schneider stated:

“Linda has achieved many positive outcomes in her personal life and professional career. She has been a successful business woman, organizational representative, and wife, mother and grandmother. She approaches each of these areas with passion and joy. The Iowa Arboretum is fortunate to have Linda at the helm as she guides us to greatness.”

Good Things Come in Small Packages

By Leah Worth – Horticulture Project Manager

Like the idiom “good things come in small packages”, we have learned over the years that something does not need to be big, in order to be good. Sometimes the things that have the most value to us are small. I could think of examples in my own life that would relate to this; including the wedding bands my husband and I designed for each other, or the first time I held each one of my niece and nephews in the hospital, or the small mechanical doorbell we twisted when we arrived at our grandparent’s house as kids. One has monetary value, but all could never really carry a price tag.

Several factors contribute to the value a plant in the nursery trade, whether big or small. First and foremost, the plant must be suitable to a wide range of climatic conditions. Low maintenance, resistance to pests and diseases, and interest in multiple

seasons also contributes to the value. This year’s plant sale represents perennials that follow the same criteria, with a spotlight on smaller-scale specimens bound to fit any landscape.

Plants perfect for small areas of the landscape include a smaller-scale version of Cat’s Meow catmint (*Nepeta* ‘Cat’s Pajamas’), a low-mounding yarrow (*Achillea ptarmica* ‘Peter Cottontail’), a short and vibrant Japanese sedge (*Carex oshimensis* ‘Everillo’), and the low and moderately silver-speckled leaves of lungwort (*Pulmonaria* ‘Pretty in Pink’). Dense spikes and low-growing forms of two contrasting veronicas, ‘Giles Van Hees’ and ‘Aztec Gold’, are perfect additions to any home; whether as a border plant or in a hanging basket.



Nepeta ‘Cat’s Pajamas’

Don’t be discouraged if you were wanting to shop the plant sale for a new landscape project. Selections such as false indigo (*Baptisia* ‘Pink Lemonade’), Japanese painted fern (*Athyrium* ‘Godzilla’), and bluestar (*Amsonia tabernaemontana* ‘Storm Cloud’) will provide interest, height, and spread for those larger spaces. Several perennial plants of the year selected by the Perennial Plant Association are also available including the 2019, 2018, and 2017 winners, betony (*Stachys monieri* ‘Hummelo’), ornamental onion (*Allium* ‘Millenium’), and butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), respectively. The stunning, 10” tall hosta ‘Lakeside Paisley Print’, and 2019 Hosta of the year winner, is also available.

Reserve Saturday, May 4th (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM) for the Iowa Arboretum’s Spring Plant Sale. You will be sure to find something to fit any size landscape!

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



Carex ‘Everillo’



Achillea ‘Peter Cottontail’



Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, May 4th 9 AM - 4 PM

Shop the plant sale early when you attend the arboretum’s Garden Social & Auction Friday, May 3rd, from 4 PM- 6 PM

AT THE ARBORETUM



Marilyn Andersen & her Textiles



Pancake Breakfast



Gift Shop Shopper



Gift Shop Shoppers



ISU Students Visit



Pancake Breakfast



Kevin and Bob Prep for the Plant Sale



Xi Sigma Pi at Maple Syrup Day



Bobbi Preps for the Plant Sale

Classic Car Day

Sunday, June 9th

Car Registration 11 am - 12 pm

Event 12 pm - 2 pm

Come out and enjoy classic and antique cars from other car enthusiasts in our community!
Smokin' Big Dawgs will be onsite selling food

This is a free event!



Here Are Two New Ways to Promote and Support the Iowa Arboretum

1. Purchase a Decal License Plate(s) from Iowa DOT and place an Iowa Arboretum approved decal on the license plate.
2. Purchase a Decal for your car window, bumper, refrigerator or anywhere you want to promote the arboretum.

Decals: \$10 for one and each additional decal is \$5
* Decals are available in the gift shop



Showing in May



DONATIONS, NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS

FEBRUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH MARCH 15, 2019

SIGNIFICANT GIFTS

Lisa Kobernusz

MONETARY GIFTS

Steve Bush
Helen Gunderson
Quasueton Federatead Garden Club
Swaledale Garden Club
Woodland Hills Garden Club

INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

Susan Bier
Michelle & Bill Boswell
James & Carol Brannon
Lisa Burke & Todd Vens
Keith Butz
Barbara Cunningham
Andrew Dahl
Karen Dannen
Elizabeth Finn
Robert Fisher
Jack & Lois Girton
Dennis Hanser
Ginger & Cecil Harry
Ann Heimberger
Kathleen & Gary Hoard
Steve & Darla Huber
Deb Jacobson
B. Jean Johnson
Sue Kemmerer

Ken & Dorothy Kirkland
Russell & Donna Knutson
Joyce & Jim Krug
Wayne & Marty Lamoureux
Edward Lyon
Ed Mall & Julie Christian
Russ & Hollie Moore
Mike & Marica Pickell
Lois Powers
Stephanie & Joshua Radke
Nancy Ross
Lori Salati
Ron Schulz
Benette Sherman
Eric & Susan Souhrada
Judy Stammeyer
Michael & JaneAnn Stout
Lynne Van Valin
Mary Vannoy
Thomas & Julie Venner
Todd & Angela White
Ann & Linn Wilbur
Deb Wiley & Jon Schmidt

SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIPS

Mary & Pete Bilden
Ron Hallenbeck
Steve & Connie Kruck
Gary Mason
Michael & Virginia O'Keefe

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Afton Federated Garden Club
Urbandale Federated Garden Club

IN MEMORY OF JIM JOHNSTON

Adell Town & Country Garden Club

IN MEMORY OF JACK MILLER

Brandi Livingston
Jack or Beth (Jill Brady) Miller Family Trust
Richard & Kimberly Smith

IN MEMORY OF ANDREW VARLEY

Catherine Olesen
Marilyn Reed

IN HONOR OF ELLEN NELSON

Pam Pepper
Teresa Trepp

DONATED GOODS AND SERVICES

Larry Eckhart
Rhonda Getschman
Lynette Lantz
Megan Mariotti
Bobbie & Jeff Miles
Doug & Jan Pedersen
Mark Schneider

A special thank you to the Lantz family for sponsoring the Pancake Breakfast and Maple Syrup Day.

Garden Sponsorship Program

Consider sponsoring a plant collection at the Iowa Arboretum. Sponsors will have their name or company/organization logo on a sign for a one year period. This is a great way to support the arboretum. The sponsorship provides funding for purchasing new plants and for general maintenance and care of the selected plant collection. Ten percent of each sponsorship is directed to the Iowa Arboretum's Endowment Fund for sustaining the plant collection.

For more information, contact Mark Schneider at 515-795-3216 or mark.schneider@iowaarboretum.org





Sharing our Passion for Trees,
Plants and Nature with All of Iowa

1875 Peach Avenue
Madrid, Iowa 50156

Non Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Madrid, IA 50156
Permit No. 10

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. Use the pedestrian gate and auxiliary parking lot when the main parking lot is closed.

“LIKE” US ON FACEBOOK

Check out our new website! www.iowaarboretum.org

“Big and small plants for all”

Garden Social & Auction

Friday, May 3

Plant Sale: 4 PM - 6 PM

Live Music, Silent Auction, & Dinner: 5 PM

Live Auction: 6:30 PM

Call 515.795.3216 or visit iowaarboretum.org for tickets

“ The 2019 Garden Social and Auction is getting close, and I’m looking forward to the event. It’s a wonderful time of year to see the arboretum and of course it gives me early access to the plant sale which gives my gardener’s heart reason to dream! I’m a relative newbie to the arboretum and have only been to two Garden Social and Auctions but each one has been an excellent opportunity to pick up some new plants and help the arboretum at the same time. I even have a beautiful water feature in my garden because of my winning bid. And how can you resist the friendly competition of a live auction? Beyond being the biggest fundraiser for the arboretum, which is reason enough to join in the fun, there is a great meal and time to socialize with other arboretum members. This year I’m a member of the committee, planning the food we will be enjoying May 3rd. Helping the arboretum continue to grow and thrive is the number one reason to come to the Garden Social and Auction event but there are plenty of other reasons to buy your tickets and get the event on your May calendar. Hope to see you there!

- Ann Wilbur

