

IOWA ARBORETUM & Gardens

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2019

NEWSLETTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

You're Invited
to ArbFeast

ArbFeast is the annual fall garden party held on September 22nd, 2019 from 1-4 pm.

Join us for the outdoor "garden party" of the year, ArbFeast! ArbFeast is for the entire family with a silent auction full of fun prizes and experiences all will enjoy. See the beautiful grounds of the Iowa Arboretum while tasting delicious food, and listening to live acoustic guitar music by Eddie Arndorfer. The proceeds from the event will be used to support the arboretum's intern program. Ticket prices for Arbfeast are \$25.00 online, \$30.00 at the door and free admission for children 12 and under.

Tickets available at
www.iowaarboretum.org

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*

by Kevin Lantz

The male Summer Tanager is all red. The female is olive green on top and yellow on its face and underside.

Summer Tanagers migrate to Mexico and South America during the colder months. It is common in open deciduous (particularly oak) woodland.

Nests of the Summer Tanager are thin and cup shaped. It is made from grass, stems and leaves. The Tanagers lay 3-5 eggs of a blue

green color that are spotted with brown and gray. The length of the incubation and nesting periods are unknown.

Summer Tanagers diet consist of insects, especially larvae of bees and wasp, and also consist of spiders and berries.

Come check out the Summer Tanager at the Iowa Arboretum! There are plenty of places to sit back and watch them feed and fly around.



FALL PLANT SALE

Saturday, September 7th
9am-4pm

**More information on page 6*

WOOF WALK

Sunday, September 15th • Free Event
1pm-3pm

Join Nan Bonfils for the fall Woof Walk. Enjoy the beauty of the arboretum grounds with your best friend. Dogs on leashes are always welcome. You do not need a dog to attend the walk. It is a great time of the year to be outdoors with nature.

ARBFEAST

Sunday, September 22nd
1pm-4pm

Tickets available on our website
**More information on page 1*

PAWS IN THE PARK

Saturday, September 28th
8am-11am

Tickets available on the Boone Area Humane Society Website

**More information on page 6*

ARB FALL FLORALS

Sunday, September 29th
1pm-3pm

Tickets available on our website
**More information on page 6*

PUMPKIN CARVING

Thursday, October 17th • Free Event
5:30pm-8:30pm

Test your carving skills and enjoy a hot bowl of chili, a warm piece of cornbread and a cool dessert. The pumpkins will be displayed during the arboretum's Halloween events.

ARB"BOO"WEEN

Saturday, October 19th
1pm-3pm • Admission is \$2 at the door

**More information on page 6*

ARB"BOO"SCARE

Saturday, October 19th
6pm-9pm • Admission is \$2 at the door

**More information on page 6*

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Sally Good - Bookkeeper
Kevin Lantz - Horticulturist
Leah Worth - Horticulture Project Manager
Megan Mariotti - Event Specialist

THE CONNECTION

Mark Schneider – Executive Director

The next time you visit the doctor you may be prescribed a visit to your local arboretum. A program sponsored by Park Rx America helps doctors motivate their patients to make changes in habits so they feel better. A 2019 study conducted by University of Michigan researchers for physicians suggests 20 minutes of physical activity outdoors can help reduce health issues such as stress, heart disease, blood pressure, and weight. A dose of "Nature's Pill" may be the best cure for what ails us.

Include the Iowa Arboretum as part of your healthy living program. Give a family member or friend an arboretum membership and show them you care about their health and wellbeing. For more information visit Park Rx America.



“Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul.”
- John Muir

MY FAVORITE PLANT | *Opuntia*

By Tom Sheehan

Opuntia, commonly called “prickly pear”, is a genus in the cactus family, *Cactaceae*. The genus is named for the Ancient City of Opus (*O. ficus-indica*). It is a large trunk-forming segmented cactus that may grow 5-7 m (16-23 ft.) with a crown of possibly 3 m (9.8 ft.) in diameter and a trunk of 1 m. (3.3 ft.) The Iowa Arboretum houses one cold-tolerant *Opuntia* species that is much smaller than India ficus prickly pear.



I have been interested in growing cacti since I lived in the Mohave Desert in Twentynine Palms, California. I had a small cactus garden and grew beaver tail cactus with beautiful pink flowers. I became hooked on cacti and especially *Opuntia*! I have since moved back to the Midwest and I had an opportunity to inherit a cactus garden at the Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Gardens in Dubuque. I was approached by Jack Frick, President of the arboretum. He asked if I would be interested in caring for the cactus garden since I had experience with cacti. When I visited the Iowa Arboretum in Madrid, I was impressed by the native *Opuntia* that was imported from Nebraska and will tolerate our cold, Iowa winters. It visually struck me as very robust and healthy!

Opuntia pads and fruit have a long history of use by humans. The pads are referred by the Nahuatl from their word “nopalii” and both are consumed as foods. The pads must be carefully handled in preparation since they contain spines and also glochids which have fiberglass-like barbs that are hard to remove and very painful as they get caught on the throat, lips and tongue. Native people rolled them in grit, such as sand, or burned them off with a torch or in a campfire before they were able to consume them. Once they are processed in this manner, they are safe to eat and make a delicious food staple. The young segments of the pads are often used to make appetizers, stews, salads, entrees, vegetable dishes, breads, beverages, candy, and jelly. When visiting Tortilla Flats, Arizona in April I had the opportunity to taste candy and ice cream made from the fruit or ‘tuna’, as it is referred to by *Opuntia* experts. Besides for food production, dyes are made from the *Opuntia* species as well as medicinal uses, earthen walls, water treatment and animal fodder.

Tom Sheehan has been a volunteer and Master Gardener at the Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Gardens for over 10 years. He adopted the cactus garden as his main plant interest, although he has an interest in all plants and helps the arboretum with many different projects and weeding! (He directs the lifting of the cacti which remain in pots in the fall and places them in the heated greenhouse during the winter. They are then placed back in the cactus garden in the spring.) He has spent many years working and living in the southwestern deserts including the Great Basin, Mohave, and Chihuahuan Deserts (he has also spent time in the Sonoran Desert, (4th American desert) while working for the National Park Service in cave parks. He obtained his Master's Degree in Environmental Education at the University of Utah.



VOLUNTEER CONNECTION

Nancy Rosenquist

1. Tell me about yourself.

I currently work full-time at Iowa State University as an Administrative Specialist in the Liberal Arts & Sciences Academic Services office. Several years ago, my family volunteered at the Iowa Arboretum -- we adopted what was then the Conifer Garden and took care of it for a few years. Then, my parents had health issues and I dedicated my time to taking care of them. After they passed away, I went back to volunteering when I had free time.

2. Why do you like to volunteer?

I like to volunteer since it is such a change of pace from my full-time position. Gardening has been a big part of my life. At a very young age my sister and I helped my parents plant their vegetable gardens as well as process the wonderful produce. Later on we helped with the designing and planting of multiple perennial gardens on their farm. I am one of the rare people who actually enjoys weeding, likely because it brings back so many wonderful memories of the times spent helping with my parent's gardens. I had adopted the Children's Garden at the arboretum... there are wind chimes that are so soothing. It's also rewarding to hear children and see the excitement on their faces as they wander through it. Being able to volunteer at times that work into my schedule is a definite plus. And the arboretum staff are wonderful!

3. What do you do at the arboretum?

Adopting the Children's Garden has given me the 'best of gardening.' I'm able to work with both vegetables and perennials. True, there are challenges -- weather and critters. What I need to do each time I'm there varies. Most of the time it is weeding, but I've also been involved with starting seeds, planting and watering as well.

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

When I'm not working in the Children's Gardens, I enjoy walking through the perennial gardens to see what has started blooming as well as new additions.

5. Why would you recommend others to volunteer?

Volunteering is not only a way to give back to a community, but it is such a positive rewarding experience. One may need to try several different things, but once you find one that 'clicks', you are hooked! And volunteering in such a scenic and peaceful setting only enhances the experience.



“It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.”
— Kahlil Gibran

MEET OUR SUMMER INTERNS

We are happy to introduce two interns from Iowa State University - **Jayme Jaeger and Ashley Roth!** Both of these interns have done an outstanding job and have brought in creative ideas that have truly helped grow the arboretum.

Ashley Roth- Marketing and Communications Intern. Ashley has done quite a bit during her time here. She has frequently updated our social media accounts and kept our followers up to date, she has been working with the Arboretum staff on the Marketing Plan, and she is also representing the organization at various Farmers Markets. Her major project for the Farmers Markets was the tree photo prop that will be used as an interactive prop for children and families to take pictures. Ashley is 23 years old and studying public relations and leadership studies at Iowa State University. She is in her final semester at ISU. She likes art and helping on the family farm, so she is hoping to move closer to home after graduation to spend more time with family.

“I learned a lot about independence and confidence in making my own decisions. I also became a lot better at problem solving and gained a lot of experience with sponsorships, executing a marketing plan, and so much more that I never would have had the opportunity to do elsewhere.” - Ashley Roth



Ashley Roth with the tree photo prop.

Jayme Jaeger- Special Events Intern. Jayme has been helping the events specialist with summer events and with weddings, but her major project has been planning the annual garden party, ArbFeast. ArbFeast raises money to support the internship program at the arboretum. This project introduces students to coordinating committee meetings, contacting local businesses for support, and coordinating the event. Jayme is 19 years old and will be starting her junior year at ISU in the fall. She is studying public relations and event management. In her free time, she likes to spend time with her family and friends.

“I learned so much at the Iowa Arboretum that you can't learn in a class or textbook. I am so excited to be planning ArbFeast and hope we have the best turnout this year! I really gained confidence in taking the lead as it was my responsibility to reach out to local businesses as well as to get volunteers and staff to help with this event.” - Jayme Jaeger

Pictured are Jayme Jaeger (left) and Ashley Roth





Digging and Dining on Daylilies

By Leah Worth – Horticulture Project Manager

Daylilies are and have been a predominant staple in the perennial landscape for decades. In the early 1900s only yellow, orange, and muted reds existed. The surge of new varieties commenced in the 1930s with a broad selection of bloom times, colors, and forms. While the 1940s, 50s, and 60s brought more complex hybrids, petals were more narrow, smaller in stature, possessed limited ruffling, picrust, and picotee edges, and had no to limited reblooming capability.

Some of you may cringe on the notion of daylilies because of their over-use in the landscape. Even a novice gardener is familiar with the world's, yes, I said world's most popular, *Hemerocallis* cultivar, Stella de Oro. The bright gold petals and mild picrust edging has found its way to municipalities and commercial landscapes in some way or another. Thankfully, however, the availability and desire for something more exiting has crept into our plant-palates as time progressed.

Modern daylily traits have evolved to include a broad spectrum of solid colors and patterns; such as the pastels, nearly whites, lavenders, purples, reds, pinks, oranges, yellows, and beautiful blends. Only true white and true blue still evade hybridizers today. In addition to the color palate, modern-day daylilies display intricate ruffling, colorful picotee edges,

as well as a perfectionist's dream to the picrust. Today's daylilies range from small to large in stature and are held on thick scapes just above the foliage for better proportion and match to adverse weather conditions. While the term 'daylily' means flowers literally last one day, today's daylily hybrids exceed the 5-10 bud count of their ancestors; resulting in 20-30 or more buds per scape. A high bud count coupled with well-branched scapes for even placement aids in the long blooming, and often reblooming, window.

Daylilies aren't only appreciated for their beauty. Did you know the daylily is actually cultivated as a food crop in China and Japan? Though all the parts are edible, the flower is the most frequently used. Flower buds can be eaten cooked from bud stage and raw when fully open. If you have a surplus of un-opened buds you can cook them in a pan with a little butter or oil and salt, or even pan fry them as fritters. The taste can be described similar to a squash blossom, with a hint of radish and green bean. When harvested fully open the flowers make a crisp and sweet addition to a salad bowl. The flowers aren't something to feast on every day, but adding a little excitement to your dishes with something that is so prolific is always worth a try!

Though the month of July is the typical season you

would see these beauties at the arboretum, early fall is the best time to propagate them. Like many of perennial plants the arboretum sells at the annual fall plant sale, daylilies are best propagated by division. Division ensures that the vegetative stock sold is true to type. Division also rejuvenates the plant for new growth.

This year the fall plant sale features a vast array of daylilies taken from the Perennial Garden Collection. Over 50 notable hybrids and American Hemerocallis Society (AHS) award winners will be available to purchase in very limited quantities. Additional planting stock available for purchase include an outstanding selection of bearded irises, also from the arboretum's plant collections. As in years past, this is a chance to obtain many of those hard to find and 'collector' cultivars for your home landscape. Shop the fall plant sale on Saturday, September 7th from 9 am – 4 pm. Remember, quantities are limited so shop early for best selection!



Fall Plant Sale

Saturday, September 7th
9am-4pm

Find the perfect plants
for your garden. Irises,
Daylilies and more.



AT THE IOWA ARBORETUM & Gardens



Volunteer Greg Anderson standing on the new Butterfly Garden path



Catch the Iowa Arboretum out at the Farmer's Markets!



Tour guide Donald Lewis speaking to high school students



Volunteers work on Des Moines Founders Garden Club's project grant.



Horticulturist Kevin Lantz and Volunteer Bob Getschman planting in the Alpine Garden



Classic Car Day



Classic Car Day



Annual Arboretum Garden Social and Auction



Mary Ellen Silver received her professional tour guide certification from Iowa State



Guests having boat snack fun during the Boone River Valley Festival

“ This place has really changed over the past 4-5 years. The signage is new, the plants are labeled and the plants are thriving. ”

– Barbara Saathoff, Boone, Iowa

Upcoming Event Information

**SAT
SEPT
28**

PAWS IN THE PARK: Saturday, September 28th from 8am-11am. Register on the Boone Area Humane Society website www.baahs.us. Join the Foundation for the Boone Area Humane Society as they host their annual fundraiser, Paws in the Park! This event is a 5k run/walk that raises money and supports the Boone Area Humane Society. Bring your four-legged friend and support the animals at the Boone Area Humane Society! **TICKETS ARE \$30 UNTIL OCTOBER 1ST.**

**SUN
SEPT
29**

ARB FALL FLORALS: Sunday, September 29th from 1pm-3pm and tickets are on sale on our website at www.iowaarboretum.org. Sandy Gossman, professional floral designer, will guide your imagination and hands to create an arrangement just right for autumn. You'll be taking home three small pieces you can use right away as a trio or individually. You'll also get tips from Sandy for quick switch outs to give your piece a fresh look for winter. **Please bring garden clippers and light gloves.** All materials will be provided. Nan Bonfils will co-teach with Sandy. \$15 members \$20 non-members

**SAT
OCT
19**

ARB"BOO"WEEN: Saturday, October 19th from 1pm-3pm. Tickets are \$2 at the door. Put on your favorite creative costume and join the parade of activities and treats. Pumpkins will be decorated for the holiday. Enjoy hayrides and games at this fun family Halloween event.

**SAT
OCT
19**

ARB"BOO"SCARE: Saturday, October 19th from 6pm-9pm. Tickets are \$2 at the door. As the sun sets over the Iowa Arboretum...the Halloween Ar "Boo" Scare event begins. Walk the "No Return Hidden Trail" and ride the "Hayride to the Valley of Darkness." Bring a flashlight, wear a costume and enjoy the cool night air. Look for carved pumpkins, and lots of treats at this night event.

“*Only by giving are you able to receive more than you already have.*”
– Jim Rohn

Ensuring for Future Generations

by Kathy and John Strohl

The Iowa Arboretum is a hidden gem among the surrounding bean and corn fields.

We love the beauty and natural setting of the Arboretum. It is relaxing to walk the paths and see the variety of trees and plants. The sights are constantly changing - not just during the different seasons; there is always something newly blooming, on the brink of blooming or just finishing blooming.

John enjoys perusing the agricultural books in the Hughes Education Center library. He can catch up on all the latest and best technology being used in farming – at the beginning of the 20th century!

Kathy loves photographing the variety of flowers, grasses and trees throughout the seasons. She also enjoys sketching scenes at the Arboretum.

The special events held at the Arboretum such as the classic car show, tractor parade, astronomy lecture and many assorted nature related presentations are an added treat for us and help us with our goal of being lifelong learners.

We support the arboretum as members and contribute to the year-end appeal to ensure current and future generations have access to this learning resource and the beauty of nature.



DONATIONS, NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS

MARCH 16, 2019 THROUGH JULY 15, 2019

SIGNIFICANT GIFTS

American Iris Society
Richard & Sonya Carlson
Des Moines Founders Garden Club
Fred Maytag Family Foundation
Donald & Dorothy Lewis
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MONETARY GIFTS

Ackworth Garden Club
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Midland Power Coop
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Stanley & Maxine Redeker
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Thompson Financial
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Helen Kopitzke
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Daniel & Diane Cloutier
Linda & Dave Grieve

STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS

Ashley Arends
Brooke Crowley

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS - SILVER

Story County Master Gardeners
Wild Birds Unlimited

IN HONOR OF DON DRAPER

Kirsten Linney

IN HONOR OF

RAY & MILLIE HENRIKSEN

Lisa Kobernusz

IN HONOR OF THE LANTZ FAMILY

Evangelical Covenant Church

IN MEMORY OF ROSALIE KOOISTRA

Joreen Boehm
Mike Boehm
Julie and Steve Hicks
Shelley Winchel

IN MEMORY OF LARRY KOOS

Jim & Pat Henkel
Wayne and Norma Koos

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IN MEMORY OF JENNY PROCHASKA

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Robert & Julie Larson
Wilma Lesan
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Stacey Ross
Francis & Marie Schropp
Matthew Sims

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Ames Silversmithing
Beyer's Bees & Ann & Linn Wilbur
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Brekke's Town and Country
Brucemore
Canoyer Garden Center
Chicago Bears
Ciccotti Art Glass
Country Landscapes
Del's Garden Center
Don & Dee Draper
Larry Eckhart & Melanie Erickson
Joann Eubanks
Evergreen Gardens
Flying Frog Hosta Farms
Paula Flynn
Phyllis Friedman
Functional Chiropractic
Garden Therapy
Gary Hoard Photography
Gehrke Lake Camp Ground
Rhonda Getschman
Goode's Greenhouses
Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden
Green Bay Packers
Green Hill Farm
Linda & Dave Grieve
Lisa Harmonson
Hotel Pattee
Ann Hutchins
In the Country Garden and Gifts
Iowa City Landscaping
Jensen Landscaping
B. Jean Johnson
Just My Stuff
Kansas City Royals
Kathy's Kreations
Duane Kent
Lynette Lantz
Lasting Beauty Landscape
Kelly Leichter
Donald & Dorothy Lewis
Lincoln View Farms
Terry Lowman and Mark Kassis
Megan Mariotti
Pam Mauer
Midwest Waterscapes
Bobbi & Jeff Miles
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Moberg Galleries
Mt. Crescent
Richard Parker
Pella Nursery
Perennial Gardens
Pete Tekippe Photography
Piney Ridge Greenhouse
Quilted Gardens
Randy Schnebbe Welding Studio
Red Granite Farms
Reiman Gardens
Rindy Tree & Turf
Riverboat Twilight Cruises
Tracy Rule
Seed Savers Exchange
Seven Oaks
Sky Tours
Sue B Creations, Inc./The Paisley Palette
Ted Lare Garden Center
Theisen's
Gary Whittenbaugh
Ann & Linn Wilbur
Wild Birds Unlimited
Woodsmith Store



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

1875 Peach Avenue
Madrid, Iowa 50156

Non Profit
U.S. Postage
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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

IOWA ARBORETUM, INCORPORATED OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The 2019 annual meeting of the members of Iowa Arboretum, Incorporated will be at the arboretum at 1875 Peach Avenue, Madrid, Iowa, on Thursday, November 14th, 2019. Registration will begin at 1 pm. The meeting will begin at 1:15 pm to take action on the following matters:

1. Reports of officers, directors, and committees
2. Election of Board of Director Members
3. Election of Endowment Fund Committee Member

Such other business may properly come before the meeting, or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

Members are urged to attend this meeting and hear reports of the officers and participate in the election of Board of Director Members and other activities of your arboretum.

This notice dated at Madrid, Iowa, the 2nd day of August 2019:

Tom Jordan, Acting Secretary

Save the Date!

Pumpkin Carving

Thursday, October 17th 5:30 pm-8:30 pm

Ar"Boo"Ween

Saturday, October 19th 1 pm-3 pm

Ar"Boo"Scare

Saturday, October 19th 6 pm-9 pm

