Second Annual Friends on the Farm Event Celebrates Tomatoes and Friends of The Arboretum Members

We are delighted to invite Friends and their adult guests to the second annual FRIENDS ON THE FARM celebration at UK’s South Farm on Wednesday, August 15, 2018, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thanks to the generous support of UK’s Department of Horticulture, we can offer this special membership benefit to celebrate summer with tomato tasting of South Farm-grown tomatoes, fresh hors d’oeuvres, wine and live music. All members are welcome to bring up to four guests.

If you are already a Friends of The Arboretum member, you are ready to RSVP your acceptance to this event. If you are new to The Arboretum, or if your membership has lapsed, we encourage you to join or re-join so you can enjoy this exclusive benefit. Here’s how:

• You can renew your membership by going to The Arboretum’s website (ARBORETUM.CA.UKY.EDU). Look under the Friends of The Arboretum menu option for the membership form, then download, print and return it to us with your payment.
• Alternatively, visit the Dorotha Smith Oatts Visitor Center to obtain a blue membership envelope and return it to us.
• Or, perhaps easiest of all, use the handy form on the back of this newsletter.

Please RSVP by August 8 by sending an email (including the number of guests in your party). RSVP to Nancy McNally at FRIENDSONTHEFARM2018@GMAIL.COM.

South Farm is located at Nicholasville Road and Man O’War Boulevard (officially, the address is 4321 Emmert Farm Lane, Lexington, Kentucky, 40514). Enter the farm through the gate at the stop light on Man O’War, across from the entrance to Lowe’s and WalMart. Look for our signs and balloons at the gate.

We hope to see you there!

Summer Favorites Band Concert and Woodturners Display Return!

The weekend of July 7 to 8 promises to be a busy one for visitors and patrons. On Saturday, July 7, 2018, the Central Kentucky Concert Band performs under the trees near the picnic tables. Thanks to a generous anonymous donor, this performance is for the entire community and is free to all. On Sunday, July 8, 2018, our annual RETURNED TO THE ARBORETUM Display and Silent Auction comes to a close.

In the spring, the woodturners group collects fallen or downed trees from the grounds to create the beautiful (and useful) pieces which are then displayed in the Dorothea Smith Oatts Visitor Center. The pieces are also available for purchase via a Silent Auction.

The Silent Auction ends with a reception on Sunday, July 8, 2018 from 2 to 4 p.m. with proceeds benefitting both The Arboretum and the Bluegrass Area Woodturners’ educational programs. We hope you will take the opportunity to enjoy these annual summer events.
**Director's Message**

Summer is here, and the grounds and plantings are looking wonderful, thanks to the dedicated work of Jesse Dahl, Emily Ellingson and their respective staff members, Fayette County Extension Master Gardeners and a score of faithful volunteers. We invite you to stroll the paths and see the original array of plants and careful placement of perennials, annuals, and summer foliage. Thanks to everyone’s efforts, visitors see beauty and inspiration at every step. We are honored to host several students this summer in various capacities. Students Ben Browning (UK) and Alistair Norman (EKU) are working with Jesse Dahl in the Demonstration Gardens, while UK students Rachel Cook and Cody Jones are interning with Emily Ellingson in the Native Plants Collection. UK graduate student Hayley Hoffman recently completed her Master’s degree, all the while interning with Jackie Gallimore in the Kentucky Children’s Garden (KCG). We are sad to say goodbye to UK student Hattie Nunley who also interned with Jackie in the KCG. UK student Hayley Washington and recent WKU graduate Teran Sundy have been assisting in the Visitor Center gift shop and with admissions for the KCG. We are grateful that they are here and hope they have an excellent experience working at our state’s botanical garden!

**Improvements to the Gardens**

When you next visit the Demonstration Gardens, take a look at the green roof on the garden shed (located near the Vegetable Garden cared for by Fayette County Extension Master Gardeners). It is becoming established and performing as envisioned, one of the few publicly initiated “green roofs” visible in the central Kentucky area.

The Herb Garden now enjoys much more sun! The American holly (*Ilex opaca*) hedge surrounding this area had grown too tall to maintain—not even Jesse using a 12-foot ladder and a 6-foot pole saw could manage it—and was pruned to its roots this spring. By the end of summer, new shoots will have emerged and, with regular pruning, we will have created a shorter and more manageable hedge for this location.

Thanks to UK Waste, Trucking and Recycling Manager Esther Moberly and UK Recycling Coordinator Joanna Ashford, there are eight new pairs of landfill and recycling outdoor containers placed in key locations at The Arboretum! UK Recycling and UK Grounds have worked for the past year to upgrade and standardize all outdoor containers and we are excited to join their efforts. These containers have ample space for both landfill-bound waste and items to be recycled. We invite you to recycle your plastic bottles, aluminum cans, glass bottles, paper and cardboard in the blue recycling containers. We are thrilled to be one of the recipients of the Kentucky Pride Fund Recycling Grant and hope you will take advantage of this wonderful addition.

The area near the Kentucky Children’s Garden entrance is certainly a hub of activity. The outdoor restroom facility now has an ADA accessible water fountain and a landfill/recycling can pair. The plants in the Wet Meadow are in their second summer; they appear to be thriving! A mulched path through the Wet Meadow affords an opportunity to see plants and insects up close and in person. This UK Sustainability Challenge Grant-funded project is also scheduled to include interpretive signage.

The ongoing construction at the KCG entrance will recognize those who have given a minimum $5,000 gift toward the creation of this uniquely Kentucky garden designed especially for children and their families. We hope that we will be able to announce the project’s completion very soon!

**Legacy Campaign Update**

We are pleased to report our fundraising totals as of May 31, 2018, for gifts and pledges to expand and renovate the Dorotha Smith Oatts Visitor Center and to establish an endowment for the building.

- Visitor Center Phase II Fund: $1,123,777.48
- Dorotha Smith Oatts Endowed Fund: $178,085.26

Our fundraising goal for the expansion and renovation of the Dorotha Smith Oatts Visitor Center to better accommodate staff and events is $3,000,000, thus we are nearing 50 percent of our goal. We thank everyone who has contributed to THE CAMPAIGN. Our special thanks go to the late Mrs. Dorotha Smith Oatts for her vision and generosity. And we wish our readers an active summer of good times and good memories.

*Melody Davis*
Hello, Friends!

Nancy McNally, Friends President

We can’t wait to see all the many Friends of The Arboretum at the second annual FRIENDS ON THE FARM celebration on Wednesday, August 15 at UK’s South Farm (see article, page 1). This is the perfect opportunity to catch up with other Friends and to introduce newcomers to the community to the benefits of becoming a Friend of The Arboretum, as each current Friends member can invite up to four guests. As you well know, being a Friend of The Arboretum provides benefits for you and supports our Arboretum. Thanks to everyone who is a member!

We also hope to see you at the annual Central Kentucky Concert Band Performance. Thanks to a generous anonymous Friend of The Arboretum for making this annual event possible!

Our 15th BIRDHOUSE DISPLAY AND SILENT AUCTION this spring was a great success. We thank the many members of the community who created birdhouses and birdfeeders for this year’s event.

Pictured below is just a sampling of the unique birdhouses and birdfeeders from 2018.

We are making plans now for the fourth annual PARTY FOR THE PUMPKINS on Saturday, October 13, 2018, from 2 to 6 p.m. Please SAVE THE DATE for this educational, fun and festive event.

Thanks to Sally Horowitz for creating this collage of some of the 2018 birdhouse and birdfeeder entries!

Favorite photos by Sally Horowitz of the 2017 Friends on the Farm event!

Friends Membership Benefits

10% off at participating area garden centers
10% off at The Arboretum Gift Shop
$15 off Kentucky Children’s Garden season membership
$20 off Junior Master Gardener summer sessions
Free Discovery Backpacks for children when visiting the grounds (must show member card)
Free Garden Guide tour of Home Demonstration gardens (one tour/membership, must show member card, other rules apply)
Free Admission and/or additional benefits through the American Horticultural Society’s Reciprocal Admissions Program, which offers free admission at 320 member gardens throughout North America
Free Better Homes and Gardens 1-year subscription
On the Grounds

Curator’s Choice: *Sedum* sp. (Crassulaceae family)
Emily Ellingson, Curator and Native Plants Collection Manager

The Crassulaceae family, also known as the stonecrop family and the family of the common household jade plant, includes two genera native to Kentucky – *Sedum* and *Hylotelephium*. The Walk Across Kentucky currently has one species of stonecrop planted on the grounds – the three-leaved stonecrop (*Sedum ternatum*). This plant is frequently seen in Kentucky and found in mesic woods and on rocky outcrops across the state. In The Arboretum, it can be found thriving under a box elder in the Appalachian Plateau Region and originally came here as seed from soil from the University of Kentucky’s Robinson Forest.

The Arboretum just acquired a new addition to the stonecrops: widowscross or pink stonecrop (*Sedum pulchellum*). This plant, collected with permission from Shaker Village, grows in thin soils in rocky woodlands, cedar glades and along limestone cliffs, such as those found along the Kentucky River Palisades. You can distinguish the two species by their succulent leaves: the three-leaved stonecrop has larger, whorled leaves and the widowscross has alternate leaves with clasping spurs (pictured).

Kentucky is also home to the Appalachian endemic Allegheny stonecrop (*Hylotelephium telephioides*), which is threatened in Kentucky and the only species of *Hylotelephium* considered native to North America.

Demonstration Gardens Update
Jesse Dahl, Arboretum Horticulturist

At this time of year, the Demonstration Gardens are in their full glory, with beautiful colors and delicious scents. However, there is more to the gardens than just beauty. Science is an integral component to all that we grow, maintain and try to accomplish. From trialing new plants, to finding better ways to grow plants, to conservation and promotion of native species, to hosting student research, documentation and rigor is essential.

The Arboretum is a host site for American Garden Rose Selections (AGRS), Star Roses, All American Selections (AAS) Herbaceous Perennial and AAS Annual Trials. Trials test new varieties for disease resistance, growth, vigor, hardiness and overall adaptability to our Kentucky climate. In addition to formal trials, in 2018 we have added dozens of some of the newest cultivars of redbud, dogwood, magnolia, garden conifers (*Picea, Pinus* and *Chamaecyparis*), witch hazel, viburnum and crabapple. We will use this opportunity to display new varieties and evaluate their adaptability to our unique soils and climate. We are also building up our collections of sedges, hosta, ferns, spring ephemerals, ornamental grasses and other perennials. After a period of evaluation, we plan to highlight those that perform well in our sometimes-difficult environmental conditions which can include unpredictable frost and heat spells, heavy clay soil, and high pest and disease pressure.

Research Update

In the last three years, we have undertaken several projects in the gardens to add to our native collections and conserve our water and soil. These projects showcase new and innovative ways to use native plants to solve today’s problems. Collaborative efforts with UK partners have resulted in two projects dealing with stormwater: multiple bioswale plantings along the entrance drive and a wet meadow between the outdoor restrooms and the Kentucky Children’s Garden (also referred to in the director’s message, page 2). These projects show visitors ways to use native plants to slow and capture runoff from impermeable surfaces and offer a wide range of environmental benefits including wildlife habitat and carbon sequestration. New plantings at our entrance on Alumni Drive incorporate both native and non-native flowering perennials and shrubs to add interest in every season and present a uniquely Kentucky introduction to The Arboretum.

For several years, The Arboretum has been a host site for graduate work by UK Department of Entomology’s Dr. Dan Potter and Adam Baker. Milkweed trials included eight species of milkweed. They were evaluated on growth and adaptabil-
Out and About at The Arboretum

This summer, we welcome new research from graduate students and faculty members, ranging from studies on invasive pests like the brown marmorated stink bug and the spotted wing drosophila, to studies on origins of biodiversity using pine sawflies and the diseases and leaf development and retention of the invasive groundcover, Wintercreeper.

Your support of The Arboretum helps us to keep growing and looking great, as well as providing opportunities for current and future students and researchers to use our incredible outdoor laboratory to expand our knowledge of the natural world.

Staff News

Welcome, Annette!

We’re delighted to welcome Annette Evans to our staff. Annette will be working in the Visitor Center as the Special Events Coordinator. She will help to coordinate and manage events, work with volunteers, assist in the Visitor Center and help process Friends memberships.

Annette has worked for the University of Kentucky for 15 years and brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise, having worked both in the office of UK’s Vice President for Research and in the Dean’s office of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. We are so pleased she is here and hope you will take a moment to say hello when you are next in the Visitor Center.
Programs

Walking Tour with the Curator
Put on your hiking boots and join our Curator and Native Plants Collection Manager, Emily Ellington, on hour-long walking tours of the Walk Across Kentucky. Monthly topics will highlight current projects and interesting plants around the Walk Across Kentucky. These educational hikes involve up to one mile of walking, sometimes on mulched trails and grass. See Calendar for details.

Guided Garden Tours
Volunteer Garden Guides will lead tours of our horticultural areas gardens. Download the request form from our website on the Plan your Visit/Tours tab and either mail it to us or submit it by email to arboretum@uky.edu. We are delighted to be able to offer this revitalized program thanks to the leadership of Mary Witt, Laura Ferrell and John Hartman, and we hope you will consider bringing a group to visit us!

Adult Education Pilot Programs
You may recall that earlier this year we conducted an Education Survey. While our Education Committee is in the process of evaluating all of the data, we heard a clear message from you! We will offer two pilot programs in August and September. Yoga at The Arboretum will take place three times in August with instructor Jackie Hanson of The Yoga Room in Versailles. In September, photographer Frank Becker will help you learn to take better pictures using your cell phone or point-and-shoot camera. Two different sessions will be offered—one geared toward beginners taking portraits and one for all ages taking landscape photos. Following a short preliminary discussion, participants will practice on the grounds, gaining valuable tips on how to select location, compose a photograph and how to set your phone or camera. See Calendar for details on both programs.

Teacher Trainings
Thanks to financial support from UK’s Barnhart Fund for Excellence and the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education, we will offer two workshops. Each workshop will train formal and non-formal educators on environmental education curricula.

Try a Discovery Backpack!
Explore The Arboretum with our Discovery Backpacks! Each backpack is designed for two children (ages 3 to 7) and an adult to share. Each pack contains fun and educational materials to help you get to know The Arboretum, including books, costumes, activities and more. Backpacks available include: Beautiful Bugs, Garden Explorers and Terrific Trees. Backpacks are available for daily rental on a first-come, first-served basis at the Visitor Center. You must leave a photo ID or credit card at the Visitor Center. See Calendar for details.

For more information, see the Calendar or go to: http://arboretum.ca.uky.edu/Education

Kentucky Children’s Garden

Admission (must be purchased in the Visitor Center)
$3 Children under 2 years FREE
$10 Up to 5 people
$90 Season pass (up to 5 people/visit)
$75 Season pass (Friends of The Arboretum)

Summer Hours*..........closed Independence Day (July 4).
May 30 to August 26
Wednesday - Saturday 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday 10 am to 5 pm
Admission closes each day at 4:30 pm

Fall Hours*..........closed Sept. 1, 15, 22 and 29; and Oct. 20 (days of UK Football home games).
August 30 to October 28
Thursday - Saturday 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday 10 am to 5 pm
Admission closes each day at 4:30 pm

Activities meet at the Dorotha Smith Oatts Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.

Daily Events (except Sunday)
Each day the KCG is open, there is educational programming at.............10:30 am**
1 pm
3 pm
The model trains run from.............11 am to noon**
1:30 to 2:30 pm
3:30 to 4:30 pm

*For your safety, we close during inclement weather and if we see lightning or hear thunder. Hours of operation are subject to change without notice.

**Except Sunday

For more information, see the Calendar or go to:
http://arboretum.ca.uky.edu

Celebrating the Seasons: Sizzling Summer!
Join us in the Kentucky Children’s Garden (KCG) on July 21st to discover the joy and wonder of the season with the whole family. Make a boat to float down the stream, take a flower or vegetable home and meet several local organizations with hands-on activities to share. Regular admission to the garden applies; free for KCG season members. See Calendar for details.

KCG Member Appreciation Party
As a special thank you for being a member of the Kentucky Children’s Garden, we will host a Member Appreciation Party for members and their guests on August 17th. Activities will include a photo booth, picture frame making and more. The KCG will close from 5 to 5:30 pm for event set-up. KCG members are invited to bring a picnic to enjoy outside the KCG and to meet other members before the event.

Insect Safari
Join us for a family-friendly night of insects, spiders and science with UK’s Department of Entomology. Be sure to bring a flashlight for the outside portion of the event.

StoryWalk
The StoryWalk continues this year with a new selection of children’s books provided by the Lexington Public Library and Jessamine County Public Library.

Lexington Family Nature Club
The Lexington Family Nature Club partnership continues this summer at two outside venues. Please contact these organizations for further information:

CITY LIFE
DATE July 14
TIME 10 am to noon
PLACE Living Arts and Science Center

ANIMAL TRACKING
DATE August 11
TIME 10 am to noon
PLACE McConnell Springs
July 2018

4 WEDNESDAY
Visitor Center and Kentucky Children’s Garden closed for Independence Day.

6 FRIDAY
New StoryWalk book: Over and Under the Pond, by Kate Messner.

7 SATURDAY
Walking Tour with the Curator: Friends and KCG members receive 1 FREE tour per membership (must show card for free tour).
► (859) 257-6955 or email emily.ellingson@uky.edu.

February 28 SATURDAY
Kentucky Children’s Garden Volunteer Training
► (859) 257-9339 or email jackie.gallimore@uky.edu.

March 28 SATURDAY
Yoga at The Arboretum: All levels welcome, bring your own yoga mat and meet at the Visitor Center.
TIME 7 to 8 am
AGES 13 and up
COST $10/person

April 3 SATURDAY
Kentucky Children’s Garden Volunteer Training
► (859) 257-9339 or email jackie.gallimore@uky.edu.

May 3 SATURDAY
Yoga at The Arboretum: All levels welcome, bring your own yoga mat and meet at the Visitor Center.
TIME 7 to 8 am
AGES 13 and up
COST $10/person

May 20 FRIDAY
K to 12 Educator Workshop
► (859) 257-9339 or email jackie.gallimore@uky.edu.
Learn how to use Project WILD and Project Learning Tree curricula to make science come alive outdoors. Each curriculum has dozens of hands-on activities that can help K-12 teachers meet academic standards and non-formal educators fulfill their organization’s mission.
TIME 9 am to 4 pm
AGES K to 12 teachers
LIMIT 15 participants, pre-registration required.
COST $30/formal educators, $45/all others (includes cost of both resource guides and workshop materials).

May 21 SATURDAY
Celebrating the Seasons: Sizzling Summer!
Kentucky Children’s Garden. Call (859) 257-9339 or email jackie.gallimore@uky.edu with questions.
TIME 10 am to 1 pm
AGES 2 and up
COST Regular admission rates apply, FREE for KCG members.

May 26 THURSDAY
Pre-K to 2 Teacher Workshop
► (859) 257-9339 or email jackie.gallimore@uky.edu.
TIME 9 am to 12 pm

July 4 WEDNESDAY
Visitor Center and Kentucky Children’s Garden closed for Independence Day.

August 2018

4 SATURDAY
Walking Tour with the Curator: Friends and KCG members receive 1 FREE tour per membership (must show card for free tour).
► (859) 257-6955 or email emily.ellingson@uky.edu.

6 SATURDAY

14 TUESDAY
Yoga at The Arboretum: All levels welcome, bring your own yoga mat and meet at the Visitor Center.
TIME 7 to 8 am
AGES 13 and up
COST $10/person

15 WEDNESDAY
Friends on the Farm: RSVP by Aug. 8 by sending an email (including the number of guests in your party) to Nancy McNally at FRIENDSONTHEFARM2018@GMAIL.COM
TIME 6:30 to 8:30 pm
AGES Adults only
COST FREE for members of Friends of The Arboretum and their guests

17 FRIDAY
Kentucky Children’s Garden (KCG) Member Appreciation Party. Call (859) 257-9339 or email jackie.gallimore@uky.edu with questions.
TIME 5:30 to 7:30 pm
AGES members only
COST FREE for members

September 2018

1 SATURDAY
UK Football home game: visitor parking not available, but the grounds are open.

3 MONDAY
Visitor Center closed for Labor Day.

6 THURSDAY

12 WEDNESDAY
Taking Great Portraits at The Arboretum: for Beginners! Bring your cell phone or camera and meet at the Visitor Center.
TIME 5:30 to 7 pm
AGES 13 and up
COST $15/person
LIMIT 15 participants, pre-registration required.

15 SATURDAY
UK Football home game: visitor parking not available, but the grounds are open.

22 SATURDAY
UK Football home game: visitor parking not available, but the grounds are open.

Like us on Facebook! Our official name is The Arboretum, State Botanical Garden of Kentucky
Give the Gift of a Friends of the Arboretum Membership!

The mission of the Friends of The Arboretum is to stimulate interest in The Arboretum, to encourage participation in its educational and recreational aspects and to raise funds to assist in its development. Your gift is tax deductible.

Enclosed is my annual membership gift
(membership runs for 12 months from payment date)

______________________________________________________________________
My name
______________________________________________________________________
My address                                                                  City                                State             Zip
______________________________________________________________________
My email address                                                         Phone
______________________________________________________________________
I prefer to receive The Arboretum quarterly newsletter ☐ online  ☐ by mail
______________________________________________________________________
This is a gift membership for
______________________________________________________________________
Address                                                                  City                                State             Zip
______________________________________________________________________

Annual Membership Categories
☐ Student..............................................$10
☐ Individual .........................................$35
☐ Family/household or non-profit..............$50
☐ Supporting member................................$100
☐ Sponsoring member...............................$250

Payment Information
☐ Cash
☐ Check (payable to The Arboretum)

Amount $______________ (enclosed)

Charge:
☐ Visa          ☐ MasterCard
☐ Discover

Amount $______________

Card No.____________________________
Exp.________________

Card Holder Name
______________________________________________________________________
Your phone__________________________

Return this form with payment to:
Dorotha Smith Oatts Visitor Center
University of Kentucky
500 Alumni Drive
Lexington, KY 40503-0302