

Quarterly Newsletter

October through December 2022

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Volunteer Spotlight



Above, left to right: volunteers Jerry Goerz and Zinnah Caluag on train duty; SSC KCG Intern Hannah Wells and volunteer Lynette Beighle release a Monarch butterfly; and volunteer Gail Lam and KCG Intern Kaylee Payton offer a craft activity in the KCG on Addie's Day.

Jerry Goerz, a retired electrical engineer and president of the Bluegrass Railroad Club, sat in a well-camouflaged room near the model train track at the Kentucky Children's Garden (KCG), talking over the sounds of fans and recorded locomotive sounds. Several years ago, the staff was having trouble keeping the trains running smoothly, he said. The club investigated and found that the problem was a buildup of dirt that impeded the flow of electricity from the tracks to the locomotive. A club member built a track-cleaning car. Goerz learned how to clean the wheels. The problem was fixed.

His story was interrupted by a signal that there had been a derailment. He hurried out into the sunlight, to a spot where children and adults were looking worriedly at several foot-long cars that had fallen off the track. Goerz righted them. The train scooted down the track, and there were smiles all around. "Sometimes there will be 15 kids all jumping up and running back and forth," Goerz said. "This job doesn't pay anything, but it's the best job ever."

Goerz is one of some 30 volunteers who help ensure that things run smoothly at the KCG, a two-acre garden at the 100-acre Arboretum designed to educate and delight children between the ages of two and 10 and their families. Dawn Bailey, The Arboretum's Education Coordinator, said most of the volunteers are

retirees. But this year, one is a college student. There's also a bright nine-year-old who isn't an official volunteer but shows great enthusiasm overseeing activities involving younger children.

Volunteers are often the first people KCG visitors encounter when they enter the gates. Their jobs as greeters include letting visitors know what educational programming is happening that day, making sure no one gets in who hasn't paid admission, and enforcing the "service animals only" rule. There also are volunteers who work at field trips and special events, doing things such as teaching children basics about plants, butterflies, macroinvertebrates and other environmental lessons.

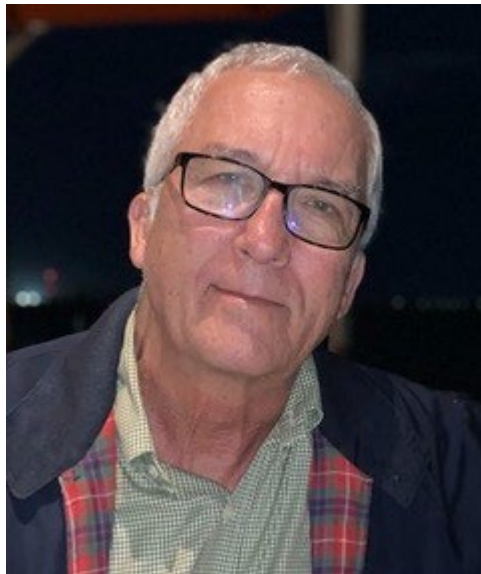
On an already warm morning earlier this season, three people were at work weeding and glistening with perspiration long before children arrived.

- **Nancy McNally**, who has been volunteering since The Arboretum's earliest days, is described as a "go-to" person who can make pioneer dolls for the log cabin, sew donated T-shirts into reusable bags, and even help build a wigwam with grasses grown at The Arboretum. "It's really fun," she said. "And who has ever built a wigwam?"
- **Liz Reucroft** is a Fayette County Extension Master Gardener. During frog-mating season, she might be found near the KCG pond, explaining that tadpoles turn into frogs and what frogs eat. "I love being around children," she said. "They are such eager listeners and learners with all the things we can show them here."
- **Gail Lam**, also a Master Gardener, serves as a greeter and helps with field trips. She admits she is one of those rare people who really enjoys pulling weeds. "It's very satisfying," she said. "It makes me sleep good at night." Lam also said she loves volunteering because it gives her an opportunity to spend time with her granddaughter Evelyn, the nine-year-old mentioned earlier. Evelyn does many things, including refereeing a tug-of-war or talking about cacti and explaining that the prickly pear is Kentucky's only native cactus. "She does an amazing job," said Bailey,

the Education Coordinator. “I think the kids listen to her more because she’s a kid.”

If you are interested in being a KCG volunteer in 2023, be on the lookout for announcements of training sessions for new and returning volunteers to be held next spring. Potential volunteers have to pass a background check and be willing to commit for a full season.

Volunteers help make possible everything you see and experience while at The Arboretum, State Botanical Garden of Kentucky and the Kentucky Children's Garden. Starting with this issue of the newsletter, we will tell you about each of our four primary volunteer areas--the Kentucky Children's Garden, the Walk Across Kentucky (WAKY) Native Plants Collection, the Horticultural Gardens, and the Demonstration Vegetable Garden. Future newsletters will also tell you more about how to become a volunteer.



Editor's note: *A big thank you to volunteer Andy Mead, a retired Herald-Leader reporter who specialized in environmental issues and is a former Arboretum Advisory Board member, who gladly offered his assistance with these articles. Thank you, Andy!*

Let's Celebrate Arbor Day!



We hope you can join us to celebrate the 31st Annual Celebration of Arbor Day on **Saturday October 22, 2022**. The day's schedule includes:

8 am - Guided Bird Walk | **Pre-registration required.** To register, send an email to Arboretum@uky.edu with your name, number of people attending, your phone number and your email address. Space is limited. If you are unable to attend, kindly inform Visitor Center staff so others may attend.

Plant and Seed Exchange | Bring a plant, seeds, garden tools or other garden-related items, and exchange it for something to take home. No charge or pre-registration required.

8:30 am - Bring your items and meet in the grass/overflow lot next to the paved parking lot.

9 am - Exchange starts

10 am - Opening Ceremony | Mayor's Proclamation of Arbor Day - Recognition of Tree City, Tree Campus, and Tree Healthcare Campus. Meet near the entrance to the Kentucky Children's Garden.

10:30 am - Kentucky Children's Garden opens | Free admission until 5 pm thanks to Presenting Sponsor LG&E/KU Foundation.

11 am - Arbor Day Tree Planting in the Kentucky Children's Garden | Help us dig the hole for the tree, plant, water, and mulch the tree, and spread mulch around it.

2 pm - Callery Pear Workshop & Native Tree Walk | Learn how to identify Callery Pear trees in the fall, learn why this species causes problems in Kentucky landscapes, and take a walk to see some great native tree alternatives for your home landscape.



Educational Programming

OCTOBER

THE KY CHILDREN'S GARDEN IS OPEN!

Wednesday - Saturday | 10 am - 5 pm

Educational Programming: 10 am - 12 noon
Model Trains: 11:30 am-12:30 pm, 1 pm-2 pm, 3 pm-4 pm
Admission: \$3 per person (adults and children age 2 and above)
Cash, Check, VISA and MasterCard accepted

The Kentucky Children's Garden is still open for the 2022 season! The last day of the season will be **Saturday October 29th**.

We will start selling **KCG Membership for the 2023 Season** on October 22, 2022 (Arbor Day) for \$100 (the same price as in 2022), with a 10% discount for **Arboretum Friends**. We will also offer \$5 off the price of \$100 if you were a previous seasonal member and bring your card with you to purchase your 2023 KCG membership--and you can receive one or both discounts!

A seasonal membership is a great holiday gift and provides for up to five admissions per visit to the garden every day we are open in the 2023 season. Your "family" can include grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, friends of your children--any five people in your group who are ages two and above.

The KCG 2023 seasonal membership form will be available on our website on October 24th. You will need to download the form, fill in the information, and mail to us with payment (check, Visa or MasterCard). Alternatively, you can download the form and complete it at home, then bring the form and payment to the Visitor Center. We regret that we cannot take payment information over the phone and we do need the form to be completely filled out.

If you are interested in supporting The Arboretum and becoming an **Arboretum Friend to obtain the 10% KCG season membership discount**, learn more on our website by [clicking here](#).



This year marks the **fifth annual Tree Week**, a celebration of the trees and greenspaces around us with our friends, neighbors and communities. Tree Week 2022 events include tree plantings, tree walks, tours and hikes, educational programs for youth and adults, art, yoga, and much more in communities throughout Kentucky. Please follow public health guidelines in effect in your community. Visit <https://ufi.ca.uky.edu/treeweek> to see the many fun, free, family friendly events that will be happening for Tree Week.

October 12, 2022 | 6 - 7:30 pm - Let's Plant Trees and Make The Arboretum Greener!

This Tree Week event for children and families will include a tree planting, a tree-related craft for kids, and a short tree walk. Meet at the Dorothea Smith Oatts Visitor Center. There is no charge and pre-registration is not required.

NOVEMBER



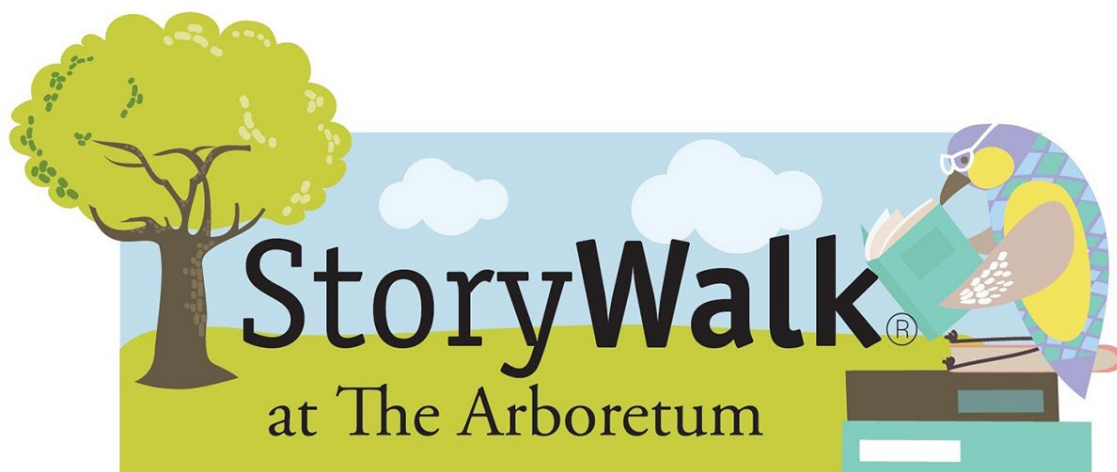
Rob Paratley (Botanist, UK Herbarium Curator, and former member of The Arboretum Advisory Board) leads the Winter Tree Identification program in 2019.

Photo credit: Frank Becker

November 8, 2022 | 4 - 6 pm - Exploring The Arboretum's Nut Trees

Studying the nuts produced by trees is a very good way to learn to identify them. Join Rob Paratley for a tour of many examples from our collection.

Free, pre-registration required. Send an email to Arboretum@uky.edu with your name, email address, phone number and number of people attending. Meet at the Dorothea Smith Oatts Visitor Center.



Children love reading a story related to plants or weather as they follow the **StoryWalk** through The Arboretum's Horticultural Gardens. These stories, chosen by Dawn Bailey, our Education Coordinator, and our partner, the Lexington Public Library, not only encourage reading, but help children connect and learn about the environment around them. The StoryWalk is also a great activity if you visit with children when the Kentucky Children's isn't open.

The StoryWalk panels will display:

- **October - *Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn***
written and illustrated by Kenard Pak
 - **November - *We are Grateful Otsaliheliga***
written by Traci Sorell and illustrated by Frane Lessac
 - **December 2022, and January through March 2023 - *Winter Dance***
written by Marion Dane Bauer and illustrated by Richard Jones
-

Arboretum Advisory Board Spotlight

Starting Small: A Career of Service and Giving Back

As a UK professor of landscape architecture, Ned Crankshaw has always appreciated the education, conservation, and research mission of The Arboretum, State Botanical Garden of Kentucky. But when he committed himself to running more in the spring of 2006, he gained new appreciation for the 100-acre public garden's role and function in the Lexington community.

When Ned arrived at UK in 1990, The Arboretum was just an idea. The Departments of Landscape Architecture and Horticulture were conceptualizing plans for a new public garden on UK's campus and working with a landscape architecture firm to create a master plan. The University began by planting trees, and the City contributed by building the loop trail through what would become the Walk Across Kentucky Native Plant Collection.

Though Ned's service to The Arboretum wouldn't come for another few years, he started doing student design projects there, erecting large, temporary structures. He appreciated that visitors could experience the great work that students were doing in the department in a visible location.

In the late 90's, Ned began volunteering at The Arboretum, helping especially with design work on the Kentucky Children's Garden. Then, in 2010, when he became Landscape Architecture Department Chair, he joined The Arboretum's Advisory Board. "I got a fuller sense of what it took to operate The Arboretum, financially and logistically," says Ned.

Over the years, Ned learned more about the ways people interact with The Arboretum. "Some people visit The Arboretum specifically to learn more about plants," says Ned. "For example, a wonderful place to learn about native plants

of Kentucky is in the Walk Across Kentucky, which represents plants and landscapes from the seven physiographic regions of Kentucky. And many people go for the aesthetic experience. It's a beautiful place. It doesn't matter that people don't know what species everything is, they are still getting a strong dose of nature out there."

While overt education is frequently the goal of visitors—The Arboretum staff conduct workshops and tours and many UK classes meet there and conduct scientific investigation—Ned believes that by using The Arboretum in a passive recreational manner, folks are advocating for the importance of nature in urban spaces. "They are valuing the natural environment," says Ned. "Where else can you have such a healthful place in Lexington, free of the dangers of cars?"

Since becoming a grandfather, Ned (*pictured below with his granddaughter*) and his wife Vickie have enjoyed bringing their granddaughter to the Kentucky Children's Garden, a two-acre garden designed to share the joy and wonder of nature and plants. It's a place where children can interact with natural materials and use their imaginations.



Recently, Ned finished his second 6-year term as chair of UK's Landscape Architecture Department and began his transition to the role of Acting Dean of the College of Design.

In 2014, Ned became UK's co-chair of The Arboretum Advisory Board. He will step off the board in December 2022 and he will be greatly missed. As lifelong supporters of environmental organizations, Ned and Vickie had always donated to places and programs that they believed bettered the world around them. He began donating to The Arboretum through UK's monthly payroll deduction program, which is available to all UK faculty and staff. "I was up there a lot, giving a lot of time," says Ned. "We decided to start giving a monthly amount that, over the course of a year, would add up to a sizeable donation. As a UK employee, the payroll deduction plan makes it easy to make a donation with each paycheck."

Through his many years of service to The Arboretum, Ned understood the needs of The Arboretum and had seen firsthand the power of the work that

happens there. It made giving back an easy decision. “The Arboretum is a place I genuinely love,” says Ned. “Why wouldn’t I want to support it?” Having been at UK for over 30 years, Ned realizes that he could have started supporting on-campus programs and units much sooner in his career. He encourages folks to start with regular and pain-free donations, however small.

“Don’t wait to be the big hero,” says Ned. “Do something small, but meaningful, now.”

If Ned Crankshaw's story of giving to The Arboretum resonates with you, please consider making a one-time or recurring donation to The Arboretum. Much of our work and what we are able to provide is possible by the support of those who cherish The Arboretum. You are always welcome to contact Arboretum director Molly Davis. She would be delighted to discuss ways for you to support The Arboretum, a place that has importance and meaning for people across the Commonwealth.

UK Philanthropy makes it easy for UK Staff and Faculty to set up recurring gifts to many worthwhile programs, units, and departments via payroll deduction through your **myUK portal** <https://myuk.uky.edu/irj/portal>

Click on **Employee Self Service**, click on **Giving**, and then click on **UK Gift - Payroll Deduction**.

Thank you for your gift of support!

Donor & Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

Donors and Volunteers--our Arboretum Friends--mark your calendars for a return to our annual appreciation brunch!

Saturday February 11, 2023 at the E.S. Good Barn

We are delighted to be able to return to an in-person gathering to honor our valued and much-appreciated active Volunteers and Donors. This is The Arboretum's and our staff's way of saying thank you for your support and help. More details will be provided in our next newsletter.

Arboretum Friends Advisory Board Members Elections

With The Arboretum's donor and volunteer recognition program launched in July 2020, **Arboretum Friends are all active Arboretum volunteers and donors**. The Arboretum Advisory Board's members includes two Arboretum Friends, and it is time to nominate and elect representatives. Elections will take place at the Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Brunch on **Saturday February 11, 2023**.

A BIG thank you is owed to **Zinnah Caluag** and **Kent Barker** who were elected in February 2020 and have served almost three years. Their two years' of service was extended to three years' due to the COVID pandemic, and was approved by vote of the Advisory Board.

Nominations are open, now through February 1, 2023, for two (2) Arboretum Friends to serve on The Arboretum Advisory Board for a two-year term starting February 11, 2023.

Schedule and Next Steps

- **February 1, 2023** – Nomination forms are due by this date. They may be submitted via email to Arboretum@uky.edu or mailed to The Arboretum, University of Kentucky, 500 Alumni Drive, Lexington, KY 40503.
 - The fillable nomination form is attached to this newsletter.
 - The fillable nomination form will be available on our website at <https://arboretum.ca.uky.edu/friends-representatives> after Tuesday September 27, 2022.
 - Hard copies will be available in the Visitor center after Tuesday September 27, 2022, during regular office hours.
- **February 3, 2023** - Nominations will be announced at <https://arboretum.ca.uky.edu/friends-representatives>
- **February 6 to 10, 2023** – Arboretum Friends who are not able to attend the event on February 11, 2023 may vote for their preferred candidate at the Visitor Center from 9 am to 4 pm (Monday through Friday). *Note: must show Friends Benefits card to vote.*
- **February 11, 2023** – Arboretum Friends may cast their vote for their preferred candidate in person at the event. All votes cast in person at the Visitor Center and at the meeting shall be tallied at the meeting and announced at the end of the meeting.

The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will serve on the Advisory Board as the voting representative and the candidate with the second highest number of votes will serve as the second Arboretum Friends representative. Both representatives are expected to attend Advisory Board meetings.

Arboretum Staff Updates

Dawn Bailey's last day working at The Arboretum and in the Kentucky Children's Garden (KCG) will be Friday October 28, 2022. In the three years that Dawn has worked as Education Coordinator, she has brought an abiding concern and interest in ensuring that children from all walks of life experience all that is offered in the Kentucky Children's Garden.

In addition to programming responsibilities, she was successful in two grant application cycles to the Fayette County Conservation District and thus greatly increased our insect educational programming opportunities. She also successfully made a presentation to UK's Student Sustainability Council who provided funding for us to hire Hannah Wells and Isaac Jarboe for the 2022 KCG season. The presence of Hannah and Isaac in the garden this summer has greatly added to the overall experience of every visitor!

Dawn has been involved in every project with an educational dimension, both in the KCG and The Arboretum, including Kissing Balls, Terrarium Kits for Kids, Monarch butterfly releases, Facebook live sessions during the pandemic, and more. She has become our social media expert-in-residence and the person behind the camera for filming for educational programming (see our youtube channel for examples of her work!)

We are sad to see Dawn leave, but wish her the very best as she takes her passion for Environmental Education to her new work in Florida. Thank you and good luck, Dawn!



Photo credit: Matt Barton

Plan Your Visit

- The Visitor Center is open **Tuesday through Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm through October 29, 2022.**
- Starting **October 31st**, the Visitor Center will be open **Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm.**
- The Kentucky Children's Garden is open **Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm through October 29, 2022.** Admission must be purchased in the Visitor Center by 4 pm.
- **Events at Kroger Field** (e.g. football games, concerts, etc.) have the potential to impact your ability to access The Arboretum from Alumni Drive and/or to park here. Check the calendar of events for Kroger Field if you have questions.

Stay Connected!

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter. If you know of someone who would like to receive it, please ask them to send an email to arboretum@uky.edu to let us know they wish to be added to our listserv.

The Arboretum [website](#) continues to be our primary resource of information and contains a wealth of information.



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October-December 2022 Arboretum Newsletter

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