

The Arboretum

State Botanical Garden of Kentucky

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

The Arboretum, State Botanical Garden of Kentucky
University of Kentucky | 500 Alumni Drive
Lexington, KY 40503

Fourth Annual Party for the Pumpkins Fall Family Festival

Friends of The Arboretum are pleased to present the fourth annual PARTY FOR THE PUMPKINS FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL on Saturday, October 13, 2018 from 2 to 6 p.m. The event is a wonderful fall activity for the entire family where they can enjoy The Arboretum at its best. This year will include children's crafts, educational nature displays, live music, and event favorites like the Straw Maze and Scarecrow Parade. This year's Pumpkin Walk will again showcase carved and decorated pumpkins created by students from UK and area schools.

All the day's activities are designed to entertain, educate, and encourage both new and seasoned visitors to experience The Arboretum and the Kentucky Children's Garden. The PARTY FOR THE PUMPKINS FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL has also proven to be a fun-filled way to introduce new families, friends, and students to The Arboretum.

Admission price includes:

- Event entrance
- A free pumpkin for each child age 12 and under (while supplies last)
- Crafts and activities including On the Move Art Studio where you can paint your pumpkin

- A refreshment voucher good for one drink and one snack with each admission
- Admission to the Kentucky Children's Garden from 2 to 6 p.m.

The PARTY FOR THE PUMPKINS FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL is a fundraiser for The CAMPAIGN for The Arboretum to expand and improve the Dorothea Smith Oatts Visitor Center. The Arboretum's mission to showcase Kentucky landscapes and serve as a resource center for environmental and horticultural education, research, and conservation will be greatly improved with the completion

of the Visitor Center project. The additional meeting and educational space envisioned for this project will increase and improve our ability to offer educational programming. Thanks to generous PARTY FOR THE PUMPKINS FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL sponsors, donations to The CAMPAIGN (as of August 31, 2018) total \$8,600. Thank you, sponsors, for your generosity!

Advance ticket sales start October 1 (CASH or CHECK only can be accepted) in the Oatts Visitor Center.

We hope to see YOU on October 13th!



Some of our favorite images from the 2017 Party for the Pumpkins event.

Dorotha Smith Oatts Visitor Center
University of Kentucky
500 Alumni Drive
Lexington, KY 40503-0302
(859) 257-6955
<http://arboretum.ca.uky.edu>
email: Arboretum@uky.edu

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Hayley Washington (UK)
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Director's Message

Hello, autumn! I'm ready for cool autumn days, the multitude of changing hues in The Arboretum's diverse landscape, and the final burst of color to be displayed by our fall-blooming plants.

Like nature's change of seasons, the financial nourishment of The Arboretum ebbs and flows each year. You will probably notice this newsletter has been halved to four pages and may wonder why. The two-fold answer is funding and advancements in technology.

Just as one must sometimes endure a drought before the rains return, we are experiencing an unexpected (and hopefully temporary) downward tick in Friends membership revenue.

Times like these can be a positive influence to force us to discover better, more efficient ways of delivering our bundle of goods and services to the community. One tactic we're trying is downsizing the newsletter, thus limiting the associated printing and mailing costs. Did you know that anyone can go to our website (ARBORETUM.CA.UKY.EDU) for a link to each newsletter and to the Calendar tab for up-to-date information? Technology has transformed and increased the ways you can access information about The Arboretum without having to rely on printed material.

A printed newsletter currently is a benefit for all levels of membership—annual, lifetime, or founder. What do you think of the changes you see herein? Comments on the newsletter may be sent to ARBORETUM@UKY.EDU. We value your opinion and will use your feedback to help us determine if this different format will be temporary or permanent.

And now about those finances: Although The Arboretum gratefully receives financial support from both the University of Kentucky Facilities Division and the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, as well as occasional project support from the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG), these sources were never meant to be the only suppliers of revenue. We also depend on self-earned income and donations to operate. Our most longstanding and influential stakeholder group for funding is Friends of The Arboretum. If you are receiving a mailed copy of this newsletter or are reading it electronically after having opted to receive it online when paying your membership dues, you are very likely a Friend.

With your annual dues and contributions to other Arboretum funds, you and your fellow Friends are financial linchpins that allow The Arboretum to fulfill its mission of education, research, and conservation. You know firsthand the satisfaction of observing the native plants in the Walk Across Kentucky, of enjoying the Horticultural gardens and displays, of entertaining your offspring in the Kentucky Children's Garden, and of taking part in The Arboretum's programs and events throughout the year. We are honored to have you as a member of The Arboretum family. We need more people like you, and we are asking for your help.

Our hope is you will spread the word to your "non-Friend" friends about how they would benefit and could support the place they value by becoming members. You might consider giving memberships to your hard-to-shop-for friends during the holidays, for birthdays, and for other occasions. If your business is an Arboretum supporter, consider giving a membership or a welcoming gift to new clients or customers.

Founding and Lifetime members gave generous gifts in the past to support The Arboretum, and many continue to give to various functions of our operation. We hope that at this time they might consider giving a gift or gifts of annual memberships to others.

A Friends membership form is available on our website (ARBORETUM.CA.UKY.EDU) on the Friends of The Arboretum tab. There you can download a form to return to us.

We hope you agree that not only does our public garden provide an ecological and esoteric benefit but also that there are very practical benefits derived from membership—this newsletter, local garden center discounts, a free magazine subscription, and free admission to 320 fellow public gardens throughout North America.

During our 27 years, The Arboretum has transformed from fields of new, young saplings to groves of majestic, mature trees. You and your fellow Friends deserve much of the credit for this accomplishment. Your ongoing support, for which we are very appreciative, will help ensure that future generations will continue to experience the natural beauty of Kentucky.

Molly Davis

 **University of
Kentucky**
*College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment*
The College of Agriculture, Food
and Environment is an Equal
Opportunity Organization.

On the Grounds

Curator's Choice: The Appalachian Plateau Region

Emily Ellingson, Curator and Native Plants Collection Manager

The Bluegrass region of Kentucky is known for its fertile soils and rolling hills. But one of the amazing, and at times challenging, aspects of The Arboretum is that we grow plants from each of the seven physiographic regions of Kentucky on Bluegrass soil. Since the landscapes of Kentucky are so varied, it can be difficult to recreate the soil, hydrology, and climate of the different regions. Nowhere is this more true than in the Appalachian Plateau (AP) region.

The mixed mesophytic forests of Eastern Kentucky are some of the most biologically diverse in North America. Characterized by acidic soils and greatly varying topography, plants that are found in the AP don't always do well in the Bluegrass because the soil is too basic. This means we sometimes need to amend the soil to successfully grow acid-loving plants such as American holly, rhododendron and azaleas, and mountain laurels.

About 20 acres of The Arboretum is dedicated to the AP. This region boasts 528 total accessions of 135 different taxa of herbaceous and woody plants. Wind-ing through the AP from the Oatts Visitor Center, you'll encounter a mesic forest rich with silver maples, sycamores, and Kentucky cane, and mulched trails lead-ing through pines, hardwood forests of oaks, American beech and magno-lias, and an area representing the moist microclimate that supports an eastern hemlock-dominated forest. The hope-ful future additions of some of those acid-loving plants such as the beautiful mountain camellia, mountain laurel, and various rhododendrons, will add to the sense of place and round out the AP col-lection.

Seed of a mountain camellia (Stewartia ovata) spotted along a streamside in the Daniel Boone National Forest.

Calendar

October 2018

1 MONDAY

PARTY FOR THE PUMPKINS FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL
Advance ticket sales start in the Oatts Visitor Center! **Cash or Check ONLY.**

COST \$7 plus 6% sales tax (\$7.42/person)
\$5 plus 6% sales tax (\$5.30/person) for Kentucky Children's Garden season members
Under 2 years of age FREE

6 SATURDAY

CELEBRATING THE SEASONS: AMAZING AUTUMN!

In the Kentucky Children's Garden (KCG). Discover the joy and wonder of the season with your family and friends. Take home a plant, create a recycled sculpture, and meet local organizations with hands-on activities to share. Call (859) 257-9339 or email jackie.gallimore@uky.edu with questions. The KCG remains open after the event.

TIME 10 am to 1 pm
AGES 2 to 8 years (recommended)
COST Regular admission rates apply, FREE for KCG season members



Bigleaf magnolia (Magnolia macrophylla), giant ironweed (Vernonia gigantea) and wild hydrangea (Hydrangea arborescens) in the Appalachian Plateau (AP) region of the Walk Across Kentucky.



► Office: (859) 257-6955
Kentucky Children's Garden: (859) 257-9339

6 SATURDAY

FRIENDS FALL PLANT EXCHANGE

Bring garden-related items and plants to the overflow (grass) parking lot.

TIME 9 am (bring items)
10 am (exchange starts)

COST FREE for Friends members (must show membership card); \$2/person plus 6% sales tax (non-members)

6 SATURDAY TO 14 SUNDAY TREE WEEK

The Urban Forest Initiative presents Tree Week, a celebration of Lexington's trees and the ways trees impact our lives. This week celebrates and synthesizes the roles trees play through creative, informative, and fun-filled activities focusing on tree planting, tree care and benefits, trees in art and culture, and trees' roles in our bodies, minds and spirits. Tree-themed events and programs will take place throughout the week at various locations, including The Arboretum. Check with event sponsor for pre-registration. Go to tinyurl.com/treeweeklex for more information.

TIME Check with event sponsor
TOPIC Trees and nature
AGES All ages
COST N/A

9 TUESDAY

AUTUMN TREES AT THE ARBORETUM: TREE TOUR AND PLANTING

Help The Arboretum team plant a tree for Lexington's first Tree Week! Then, join Curator and Native Plants Collection Manager, Emily Ellingson, on an hour-long walking tour of the Arboretum to highlight the Autumn season and celebrate all things trees. This tour will meander through The Arboretum's 80 acres of native plants, known as the Walk Across Kentucky. Meet at the Oatts Visitor Center and plan to walk outside, rain or shine. This event is free, and **pre-registration is requested.** Call (859) 257-6955 to let The Arboretum know you'll be there!

TIME 5:00 pm (planting)
5:30 to 6:30 pm (tour)
TOPIC Native Trees
AGES 12 and up
COST FREE

13 SATURDAY

PARTY FOR THE PUMPKINS FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

TIME 2 to 6 pm
AGES All ages
COST \$7 plus 6% sales tax (\$7.42/person)

\$5 plus 6% sales tax (\$5.30/person) for Kentucky Children's Garden season members
Under 2 years of age FREE



Dorotha Smith Oatts Visitor Center
University of Kentucky
500 Alumni Drive
Lexington, KY 40503-0302
Address Service Requested

Calendar (continued)

October 2018

13 SATURDAY

KENTUCKY CHILDREN'S GARDEN OPEN FROM 2 TO 6 PM ONLY! Admission price to Party for the Pumpkins includes Kentucky Children's Garden admission.

28 SUNDAY

LAST DAY OF 2018 KENTUCKY CHILDREN'S GARDEN SEASON Purchase admission in the Oatts Visitor Center until 4:30 pm.

TIME 1 to 5 pm
COST \$3 plus 6% sales tax/person
Children under 2 years FREE

29 MONDAY

OATTS VISITOR CENTER CHANGES TO WINTER HOURS October 29, 2018 to March 2019 (date TBD)

WEEKDAYS 8:30 am to 4 pm
SATURDAYS Closed
SUNDAYS Closed

November 2018

18 SUNDAY

FRIENDS OF THE ARBORETUM ANNUAL MEETING Current and prospective members are invited!

TIME 2 to 4 pm
LOCATION Weldon Suite, E.S. Good Barn
PARKING Good Barn parking lot or UK Orange lot

Kentucky Children's Garden

Admission (must be purchased in the Visitor Center)

Children under 2 years FREE
\$3.18 per person
\$10.60 Family of 4 or 5 people
\$95.40 Season membership (up to 5 people/visit)
\$79.50 Season membership (discount for Friends of The Arboretum)

Fall Hours*closed Sept. 29 and Oct. 20 (days of UK football home games).

August 30 to October 28
Thursday - Saturday 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday 1 to 5 pm
Admission closes each day at 4:30 pm

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*

Kentucky Children's Garden Visitation

The Kentucky Children's Garden (KCG) continues to be a favorite attraction at The Arboretum. During 2018 from March 5 to July 31, a total of 5,619 visitors enjoyed its attractions:

- 2,410 people attended using season member passes
- 1,106 Kindergarten through 2nd graders visited for school field trips
- 2,103 daily visitors enjoyed the KCG

For this period, 231 families and/or individuals were KCG season members. The KCG remains open through most of October, so these numbers state attendance for only a part of the season.

The KCG is Kentucky's GARDEN FOR CHILDREN and includes misters, a stream for wading, a garden scale train, places to sit and to frolic, as well as daily educational programming in a safe environment. If you've not yet had the opportunity to visit the KCG, come and see what you are missing!