The Arboretum’s mission is to showcase Kentucky landscapes and serve as a resource center for environmental and horticultural education, research and conservation.

Legacy Campaign Update

We are pleased to report our fundraising totals as of November 30, 2016 for the Legacy Campaign to expand and renovate the Dorotha Smith Oatts Visitor Center and to establish an endowment for this building.

The first Legacy Campaign fund, the Visitor Center Phase II, has received a total of $1,082,284 in gifts, pledges and matching dollars, leaving $917,716 of the $2,000,000 goal.

The second Legacy Campaign fund, the Dorotha Smith Oatts Endowment, has received a total of $166,844 in gifts, pledges and matching dollars, leaving $33,156 of the $200,000 challenge gift available to match.

We have raised 57% of our $2.2 million goal for the Legacy Campaign. We thank everyone who has contributed to the Legacy Campaign since it launched in August of 2013. Our special thanks to Dorotha Smith Oatts whose generosity enabled us to launch the Campaign.

The Arboretum Annual Report

Many of you (all members of Friends of The Arboretum and donors to any current Arboretum campaign) will soon receive in the mail a copy of “The Arboretum 2015-2016 Year in Review.” This full-color photo-laden report is a first for us, and we hope you will enjoy reading it. The report is also available on our website at arboretum.ca.uky.edu, noted in the right column of the home page under Current News. A limited number of copies are also available in the Visitor Center.

The Arboretum has matured since its establishment 25 years ago. Like other public gardens, we are eager to tell you about all that takes place here. Of course, we know that a single report cannot convey 25 years of information, or even all that happens in a year. However, we have tried to include information and updates about the core purpose for our public garden—plant collections—and how we endeavor to connect people and plants. We think this connection is what draws you to this special place and why you volunteer your time, make financial contributions or simply care about what goes on here.

As many of you know from your visits to other arboreta and botanical gardens, a public garden is always evolving and growing. The staff responsible for The Arboretum wish to thank everyone who has played a part—large or small—in its inception, establishment and growth.

2017 Glories of the Garden Art Exhibit

Artists are invited to submit original artwork to the annual Glories of the Garden Art Exhibit, celebrating the wonderful world of nature. The juried exhibit accepts all art genres with a limit of two pieces per artist and a $5 entry fee per artist.

Important Dates:

Friday, January 20: Deadline for submission of depiction of art work (4” x 6” color photos only)
Monday, January 30: Announcement of accepted entrants made via e-mail
Monday, February 6, 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.: Accepted art to be delivered to the Visitor Center
Weekdays, February 13 — March 3, 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.: Exhibit at the Visitor Center (open to the public)
Sunday, March 5, 2:00—3:30 p.m.: Reception for the artists at the Visitor Center (open to the public)
Sunday, March 5, 3:30—4:00 p.m. Artwork to be picked up following reception

You may obtain a copy of the complete guidelines at the Visitor Center or find them online at arboretum.ca.uky.edu.
From the Friends President
By Nancy McNally

The annual Friends Meeting was held on November 16, 2016 at the E. S. Good Barn. The meeting was well attended and included an informative talk on “Wine at the UK South Farm” by Dr. Jeff Wheeler, UK Oenologist. We elected new Friends Officers and Board Directors and welcome to the Board:

- Harry Clarke
- Sally Horowitz
- Beverly James
- Debbie Johnson
- Susan Umberger

We sincerely thank retiring Board members Berle Clay, John Hartman and Karen Minner for their many years of volunteer service and look forward to their continued friendship and assistance. Also, thank you to Sue Fosson and the Hospitality Committee for the lovely refreshments. The 2015-2016 Annual Friends Report is now available. If you are interested in receiving a copy, email Nancy McNally at: nancymcnally205@gmail.com.

Thank you for your Friends of The Arboretum membership, as your membership gifts continue to help support and grow The Arboretum. In 2017 we hope to increase our membership base significantly. I encourage all of you to give the gift of an annual membership, introduce a new neighbor to The Arboretum and invite guests to participate in one of our many programs. Please enjoy your member benefits by supporting our local partners and visiting the over 200 participating botanical gardens and arboreta across the country who offer free or reduced entrance fees to those with a Friends of The Arboretum membership card.

As we complete our 25th anniversary celebration, I look forward to a busy, productive and exciting year for the Friends and The Arboretum.

Volunteer Engagement Program

Volunteers at The Arboretum contribute hundreds of hours of service each year in our gardens and in the Visitor Center, for which we are always grateful. Such work should be rewarding for all involved – both for staff who are helped by the volunteer’s having worked, and for the volunteer who contributed the hours.

We want to be sure that our small staff does the best job possible to coordinate the efforts of our volunteer force in order to achieve that sense of reward. Arboretum staff are carefully considering how to make our procedures more beneficial to all – less time consuming for our limited staff, and more productive and satisfying for the volunteers. We want there to be more consistent and better training for volunteer jobs, more uniform scheduling, and a better procedure for determining the alignment of available volunteer interest and needed job skills.

While we are revamping our Volunteer Engagement Program, your suggestions on how to improve the experience are invited. Please send them to us in an email to molly.davis1@uky.edu.

Native Plant Workdays will continue on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. during the coming months. We have scheduled a Volunteer Fair on Saturday March 11, 2017 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at which new and revised opportunities will be presented. We hope you will put it on your calendar and plan to attend.
Wet Meadow Demonstration Area
By Marilyn Mroz

Can water runoff from an asphalt parking lot really quench the thirst of native plants and create a new Wet Meadow (Short Grass Prairie) Demonstration Area in our Arboretum? Yes, but only with much collaboration.

In 2015, The Arboretum partnered with UK’s Departments of Landscape Architecture and Horticulture, UK Physical Plant Division, UK Horticulture Club and UK Student Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects to propose a project for UK’s Sustainability Challenge Grant process. The project was awarded $21,000 and involved designing and constructing a wet meadow and a permeable ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible entrance created from recycled pavers for the 2015-constructed standalone bathroom facilities near the entrance to the Kentucky Children’s Garden.

This September, 2,400 grasses, milkweed and wildflower seedlings were planted on the half-acre Wet Meadow Demonstration Area. Jesse Dahl, Arboretum Horticulturist and Chris Sass, UK professor of Landscape Architecture selected the seedlings. Design concepts were created by students in the Department of Landscape Architecture, and students in the UK Horticulture Club grew the plants from seeds. Twenty-seven students from the UK Landscape Design Studio helped Arboretum staff plant the seedlings.

Come back next summer and you will see greening natives, and in August of 2018, you will see the new area at its prime. This area will infiltrate rainwater and enhance the treatment train process already established in The Arboretum. The project includes a new landform design, tree protection, and will also include educational signage.

This project promises results that are functional and beautiful. It offers an opportunity for educational demonstration using ecological principles to manage water in the landscape while creating insect and animal habitat and a pleasing aesthetic.

Kentucky Children’s Garden in 2016
By Jackie Gallimore

At the beginning of the 2016 season we hired three Education Assistants: Katie Morrison, Noah Abercrombie and Catherine Wu as well as a Horticulture Intern, April Lamb. In September, Katie Morrison was promoted to Lead Educator, a new position at The Arboretum.

Volunteers helped us throughout the season by manning tables at outreach opportunities and special events, running our model trains, teaching during field trips, helping to maintain the garden and warmly greeting guests as they entered the Kentucky Children’s Garden. Nearly 500 volunteer hours were donated to the KCG this season (see article, p. 6).

The Kentucky Children’s Garden served 19,286 people (ages two and up) during First Friday Fun Days and regular KCG hours. This is consistent with attendance in 2015, which was 18,687. We were free to the public for three events: Arbor Day, Addie’s Day and Countdown to Kindergarten.

According to a survey that ticket takers and volunteers asked exiting patrons to complete, our average satisfaction rating was 4.8 out of 5. According to the same survey, the favorite features of the garden include the stream and water, the model trains and the gardens.

Thank you for your patronage and support for this worthy endeavor. We look forward to the 2017 season!
Winter Calendar of Events
Events and classes meet at the Dorothy Smith Oatts Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.
Pre-registration is required for all workshops unless indicated.
Please call 859-257-6955 or email dmbast@uky.edu

**ADULT & FAMILY PROGRAMS**

**Recognition of 2017 Bur Oak Society Members**
Wednesday, February 8, 7:00 p.m. at Gluck Equine Center

**2017 Founders Lecture Series**
The first of two Friends of The Arboretum’s Founders Lectures
Wednesday, February 8 (immediately following the awarding of the Bur Oak Society’s 2017 inductees)
“Trees found while Building a Neighborhood Arboretum,” featuring Michael Hayman, retired Courier-Journal photographer and Seneca Gardens arborist.

In 2015, Mr. Hayman was recognized for his many years of tree planting and tree advocacy in Louisville with The Partnership for a Green City’s annual Joan Riehm Memorial Environmental Leadership Award.

Cited for his “unbridled enthusiasm” for planting trees and making sure they are properly maintained, he was described as someone who has set an example of environmental stewardship for others to follow, and who worked tirelessly without seeing the spotlight.

He described his work for Seneca Gardens, a Louisville community of 300 homes severely impacted in a 1987 storm event as creating a “de facto arboretum in the front yards.”

Mr. Hayman has been praised by former Louisville official Katy Schneider for his “incredible knowledge of trees and his determination and tenacity to start planting in areas where they were needed,” and his willingness to seek out other tree planting partners.

**Glories of the Garden Art Exhibit**
Weekdays, February 13—March 3, 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Exhibit at the Visitor Center (open to the public)

**Glories of the Garden Art Reception**
Sunday, March 5, 2:00—3:30 p.m.
Free and open to the public

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**CHILDREN & FAMILY PROGRAMS**

**Winter Life**
Saturday, January 14, two sessions: 10 - 11 a.m. & 2 - 3 p.m.
What do animals do during the winter? Are trees still alive?
Learn the answers to these questions and more during our Winter Life program. Make sure to dress for the outdoors.
Cost $1 (cash only). Pre-registration is requested but not required.

**Little Sprouts (Ages 3-5 years)**

**Weekdays in March (March 8, 15, 22)**

**Session One:** 10:00—10:45 a.m. (maximum 30 children)

**Session Two:** 11:00—11:45 a.m. (maximum 30 children)

Cost: $3 per child per session (cash only). Pre-registration is required.

March 8, Raindrops All Around
Celebrate the rainy weather of the season! Make a rain cloud craft, enjoy a story and take a hike to experience the spring weather!*

March 15, Spring Flowers
Spring bulbs and ephemerals are peeking out of the ground. Make a flower craft, enjoy a story and take a hike to learn the different flowers around The Arboretum.*

March 22, Get Ready to Garden
It’s officially spring! Help us plant veggies in the Kentucky Children’s Garden, make a garden decoration using natural materials and plant seeds to take home.*

*Please dress appropriately. Hikes are weather dependent.

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2017 Kentucky Children’s Garden Season Passes make great gifts!
$90 ($75 for Friends of The Arboretum) for a family/household of five
Season is March 30—October 29
Visit our website for more information: arboretum.ca.uky.edu

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2017 Bur Oak Society Nominations Requested
The selection committee is accepting 2017 nominations for the Bur Oak Society. The society honors individuals who, “through their professional expertise, have made significant and continuous contributions to the development and growth of The Arboretum.” Since its inception in 2003, the Bur Oak Society has honored dozens who have shared their knowledge and talents with The Arboretum.

Deadline for nominations is Friday, January 6. Please address nominations, detailing reasons for your support, to Bur Oak Society c/o The Arboretum or email janet.cabaniss@uky.edu. The 2017 recipients will be announced and honored at the first 2017 Founders Lecture, Wednesday, February 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the Gluck Equine Center.

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If your address or email address has changed:
Please call us at 859-257-6955 or email janet.cabaniss@uky.edu so you can continue to receive communications from The Arboretum.
Curator’s Choice: *Pinus strobus* (white pine)
By Todd Rounsaville

Gymnosperms may be less diversified and more primitive than flowering plants (by over 200 million years), yet they hold some rather impressive titles. Conifers in particular are by far the longest living plants on earth, with Californian bristlecone pines (*Pinus longaeva*) exceeding 5,000 years of age. Also in California are the world’s largest tree (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*, 27 feet diameter) and the world’s tallest tree (*Sequoia sempervirens*, 380 feet tall), both conifers. In eastern North America, our tallest tree is the Kentucky native white pine (*Pinus strobus*), some of which approach 200 feet tall.

The size and straight growth of white pine made them highly desirable lumber trees in colonial America, thus few (if any) pre-settlement specimens remain. Kentucky is close to the southern extent of white pine’s contemporary range, where it is generally found in the eastern (Appalachian) region. Three additional pine species (pitch pine, shortleaf pine and Virginia pine) grow in eastern Kentucky as well and are also economically important. White pine is readily distinguishable from the other species by its needles (leaves), which occur in “bundles” (fascicles) of five (vs. two and/or three). The slender, elongated cones of white pine are distinct from the other native species whose cones are more spherical/broad.

Although central Kentucky is devoid of conifers (save for eastern red cedar), all native pines (particularly white pine) perform quite well in the Walk Across Kentucky collection. We currently have 34 white pine accessions that have established quickly and grown at rather astonishing rates in the Appalachian Plateau and Cumberland Mountain regions. These trees provide year round (evergreen) interest, act as a screen on the border of the WAKY and help provide an aesthetic that is uniquely “eastern Kentucky.” Additionally, these pines provide food and shelter for a number of birds and small mammals. Winter is an excellent time to study and appreciate Kentucky’s conifers, most of which are evergreen.

2016 Party for the Pumpkins Fall Family Festival
By Nancy McNally

The Friends supported The Arboretum in many ways this fall season. Our greatest triumph was the second annual Party for the Pumpkins Fall Family Festival on October 15, 2016. The sunny afternoon event was attended by nearly 1,600 guests, many of whom were visiting The Arboretum for the first time. Pumpkin crafts and activities were abundant and costumed creatures welcomed children to the Kentucky Children’s Garden. Other festivities included a straw maze and live owls and raptors. Music by Los Latinos entertained young and old. The highlight was the huge pumpkin display tent with close to 400 carved and decorated pumpkins. We appreciate the outstanding UK and area students who decorated pumpkins and volunteered with event set-up and activities.

We thank our many sponsors for their generous financial support and the staff and volunteers who helped to make this year’s Party for the Pumpkins a huge success!
The StoryWalk Continues
By Jane Dreidame

Last summer the StoryWalk, a series of weatherproof panels displaying children’s picture books with environmental themes, began as a joint venture between The Arboretum, the Lexington Public Library and Jessamine County Public Library. The StoryWalk continued throughout the summer with a new book each month until the Kentucky Children’s Garden closed for the season on October 31.

During the winter months, the StoryWalk tells a different kind of story. As you stroll the paths starting at the Visitor Center and ending at the entrance to the Kentucky Children’s Garden, the panels illustrate The Arboretum Timeline, recounting its development since its inception more than 25 years ago.

When the Kentucky Children’s Garden reopens in the spring, the StoryWalk will again feature children’s books, combining literacy and movement to help children and adults alike learn more about environmental themes.

Saying “Thank You” to KCG Volunteers
By Katie Morrison

Elizabeth Andrew said, “Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.” This is especially true of the wonderful individuals who volunteered their time in the Kentucky Children’s Garden (KCG) this 2016 season. Volunteers are vital to our success. They help us every day in greeting patrons as they enter and exit the garden and by running the beloved model trains. Additionally, volunteers assist with field trip days in the spring and fall and with special events, manning educational booths and interacting with the public. Having put in nearly 500 hours this year, our volunteers are extremely dedicated.

To say thank you, the traditional Volunteer Appreciation Potluck was arranged in November and all KCG volunteers were invited to come together and celebrate the end of a great season and each other. Several volunteers were awarded at this event:

- Sally Horowitz: Volunteer Excellence Award for her commitment to the KCG.
- Nancy McNally and Dawn Bazner: Dynamic Duo Award for their positive energy and commitment.
- Lynette Mitchell: New and Engaged Award for being our most involved new volunteer.
- Marvis Hartman: You Make a Difference Award for giving time and commitment directly from the heart.
- Joan Haas: People Helping People Award for lending a hand, showing compassion and making our corner of the world a little bit better.
- Jerry Goerz: Volunteer of the Year Award for his commitment of 242.5 hours of service and enthusiasm this season. In addition to this award, a new model train was dedicated to Jerry (see p. 7 for more information).

We cannot thank our volunteers enough for all their hard work this season. If you are interested in volunteering in the KCG for the 2017 season, email jackie.gallimore@uky.edu for more information.
Volunteer of the Quarter: Jerry Goerz
By Sylvia Ahrens

If you happen to see a gentleman in a Stetson straw hat with visions of trains dancing in his eyes, you are probably looking at Jerry Goerz.

Jerry is one of the train engineers in the Kentucky Children’s Garden. His exploits involving Thomas and Percy, trains from the popular children’s television show *Thomas and Friends*, continue to delight children and adults alike. During the three years the trains have been in action, Jerry has participated in all aspects of maintenance and train management: arriving early for overall inspection, using a track cleaning car developed by Norman Severin (another volunteer) to eliminate dirt buildup, removing any nuts or litter left by the squirrels and raccoons and freshening up the train wheels for another day of fun.

A retired electrical engineer (a career choice declared at age six), Jerry admits that trains have always been “a bit of an obsession.” Joining the Bluegrass Railroad Club in its early years, Jerry now serves as president. He enjoys sharing his knowledge of trains and seeing the wonder and glee on young faces, calling his time in the Kentucky Children’s Garden “the most fun job I have ever had!”

Besides helping at The Arboretum (nearly 250 hours this year!), Jerry is also the leading blood donor in Kentucky for the Kentucky Blood Center. If you plan on visiting the Southern Lights at the Kentucky Horsepark, you will find Jerry manning their model train! He finds volunteering “extremely rewarding” and urges others to get involved.

If you are interested in working with the trains or in other areas of the Kentucky Children’s Garden, please contact Jackie Gallimore, Children’s Education Coordinator, at jackie.gallimore@uky.edu.

Congratulations, Jerry!

Phyllis MacAdam has served as editor of The Arboretum Quarterly Newsletter for many years. She is currently taking a leave of absence. We are very grateful to Phyllis for all of her hard work and dedication over the years.

Get Ready for the 2017 Season!
March 30 - October 29
2017 Spring Hours (March 30 through May 25)
Thursday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday: 1 - 5 p.m.
Daily Admission
$3 per person (under 2 years FREE)
$10 per family/household (up to 5 people)
Season Pass
$90 (up to 5 people)
$75 for Friends of The Arboretum
*KCG tickets are sold and season passes may be purchased at the Visitor Center*

Thank you, Tom Pirone

It won’t be the same around the Rose Garden now that Tom Pirone has decided to let someone else coordinate the Adopt-a-Plot rose lovers with whom he has worked for so many years. We are currently looking for a replacement for Tom Pirone as Rose Adopt-a-Plot Committee Coordinator so that Rose Adopt-a-Plot can continue uninterrupted in the spring of 2017. If you are interested, email Molly Davis at molly.davis1@uky.edu.

Tom’s many years of loyalty and service are remarkable. We wish him and his wife Sherill many more years of happiness and adventure.

Phyllis MacAdam has served as editor of The Arboretum Quarterly Newsletter for many years. She is currently taking a leave of absence. We are very grateful to Phyllis for all of her hard work and dedication over the years.
Give the Gift of a Friends of the Arboretum Membership!

ENCLOSED IS MY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP GIFT (membership runs for 12 months from payment date)

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES
□ Student—$10
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□ Supporting member—$100
□ Sponsoring member—$250

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.

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