



ARBORETUM UPDATE!

Fall/Winter 2014

A Publication of The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation



Letter from the Board President



As president of The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation Board of Trustees I would like to thank you for your ongoing support of the Arboretum through your foundation membership, your volunteerism and your advocacy on behalf of the Arboretum. This summer has been a busy time at the Arboretum and your support has helped to provide quality programming to thousands of children and adults in our community and a beautiful place for people to visit.

It's hard to believe that 2014 is more than half way over! As the summer season comes to an end and the days become cooler, I encourage you, your families and friends to visit the Arboretum as fall is a great time to explore the grounds to discover the changing season.

As a member of the foundation board, our primary role is to make funding decisions regarding projects and programs facilitated by MetroParks' staff and volunteers. We have the responsibility of allocating resources from the foundation to support the Master Plan and to ensure that the Arboretum remains a premier destination in our community.

This year the Cox Arboretum Foundation provided funding for the major renovation of the Allée and Arbor, preliminary planning for the Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture, the addition of magnolias and lilacs, thousands of bulbs planted on the grounds and potted for the Zorniger Education Center spring display, funding in partnership with the DP&L Foundation for the Butterfly House programming and funding in partnership with The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation for the PLANT school tour program. We are currently working on project plans for next year and I guarantee the new projects will bring a great deal of excitement to the Arboretum!

Thank you again for your support as a member of the Cox Arboretum Foundation and for being an advocate for this community asset.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Hann Harrison', written in a cursive style.

Jennifer Hann Harrison

Cox Arboretum Foundation Board President

ARBORETUM UPDATE!
Is published for the members of The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation

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The James M. Cox, Jr.
Arboretum Foundation

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Beth Redden

Member Survey

This Spring we sent out a survey to current, lapsed and dropped members of the Cox Arboretum Foundation. A total of 74 people completed the survey, which is a response rate of 10%. The results are in and we appreciate everyone who took the time to fill out the survey. The feedback helped us to better understand and communicate with foundation members and donors.

We will use the results from the survey to implement some changes in our communications. Highlights from the survey:

- Donors want to know what the Cox Arboretum Foundation is funding. Read about what has been funded during 2014 on pages 6-7
- Many members indicated they prefer to receive their membership renewal reminders as an email rather than postal mail. To change how you receive your reminder contact Brenda Cox at (937) 277-4839 or brenda.cox@metroparks.org
- Some respondents expressed confusion about the difference between The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation and Cox Arboretum MetroPark.

The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation

The purpose of the foundation is to provide funding to Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Only the foundation has a membership program.

The foundation was established in 1963 with the purpose of providing financial support for Cox Arboretum MetroPark in a unique public-private partnership with Five Rivers MetroParks. The Foundation's priorities are:

- To ensure that Cox Arboretum is a dependable place to learn
- To protect the historic essence of Cox Arboretum through careful master planning
- To restore native ecosystems
- To use resources responsibly

Together, the Cox Arboretum Foundation and Five Rivers MetroParks will use these priorities to guide their work and frame their long-term goals.

83%

members who joined the Cox Arboretum Foundation because of a belief in the mission

"The Arboretum is a great treasure!"

"We are happy to be a member of Cox [Arboretum Foundation]."

"Cox is one of my favorite of the Five Rivers MetroParks. I especially love the butterfly house and the trails."

32%

members who have been a member of the foundation for 10 years or more

"The Arboretum is an important community asset and deserves our support. We love to walk there."

"We should feel privileged to have Cox [Arboretum] in the Dayton area."

"Great community asset"

Pollinator Party

To celebrate the grand opening of the Butterfly House for the 2014 season, Cox Arboretum Foundation members were invited to a members-only Pollinator Party on June 30.

More than 90 guests attended the exclusive event and learned about the monarch migration from Mexico all the way to the United States. Foundation members had the opportunity to put together seed packets to create their own butterfly habitat to help save the Monarch Migration.

Thank you to all the Cox Arboretum Foundation members who joined us!



Volunteers instructed attendees of the Pollinator Party how to plant seed packets to create their own butterfly habitats and help save the Monarch butterflies.



Members of the Cox Arboretum Foundation got a sneak peek of the Butterfly House and learned about Monarchs and other pollinators before the Butterfly House opened to the public.

Thanks to the Dayton Power and Light Foundation, the Butterfly House educates nearly 40,000 patrons each year on butterfly and moth cycles and inspires guests to treat their homes as habitats.



Attendees enjoyed the exclusive event as a benefit of their membership in the Cox Arboretum Foundation.



Guided tram tours took guests of the Pollinator Party to the Butterfly House and other pollinator hot spots around Cox Arboretum MetroPark.

Allée

The highly anticipated arbor at Cox Arboretum MetroPark is here!

The Crabapple Allée was a prominent feature in Cox Arboretum MetroPark until the crabapple trees reached the end of their productive years. The remaining trees were removed last year to create the ideal environment for the new Allée.

This spring, double rows of Kousa Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*) trees replaced rows of decaying crabapple trees. As the trees mature, they will develop a graceful vase structure of branches arching over the lawn panel. The flowers, actually bracts, will resemble those of our native Dogwood but will bloom later and have a longer effect. The flowers will be followed by a reddish fruit relished by birds in the fall and winter. As the trees mature, they will develop a beautiful mottled bark completing the four seasons of interest.

The new arbor was installed at the north end of the Allée and is complete with benches, electrical access and surrounded by more Dogwood trees.

The Allée has transformed into a new, gorgeous backdrop for the perfect outdoor wedding or event. The Arbor and Allée trees were funded by the Cox Arboretum Foundation. Thank you to foundation members and donors who provide funds to support the Master Plan at Cox Arboretum MetroPark

Contact JoAnn Wolfenson for more information on rentals at (937) 278-2657 or joann.wolfenson@metroparks.org.





Foundation Funded Projects

Did you know your membership in the Cox Arboretum Foundation supports programs that encourage adults and children to connect with nature? The Cox Arboretum Foundation partially funds the following programs:

PUTTING LEARNING AND NATURE TOGETHER (PLANT) TOURS

PLANT Tours expose children to the wonders of nature through mentored experiences delivered by trained teachers and volunteers. This program is funded by The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation and the Cox Arboretum Foundation. Successes from the 2013-2014 School Year:

- More than 4,500 students explored the grounds of the Arboretum
- 68 schools went on a tour, with an average class size of 80 students
- Students spent a total of 13,599 hours in nature at the Arboretum
- More than 150 volunteers served as trained guides for educators and students

MIAMI VALLEY LEAVE NO CHILD INSIDE SUMMIT

A Partnership between Five Rivers MetroParks and other local agencies develop an annual “Leave No Child Inside Summit” and “Safe Routes to Play Workshop and Youth Access to Nature Bus Tour.” In 2014 the Cox Arboretum Foundation funded the summit’s lunch and speaker. Highlights from this year’s summit:

- The event activated community leaders, educators and child activists to get children outside and grow the movement
- A tour highlighted local examples of nature connections at play facilities, school and community gardens throughout the region
- A total of 168 enthusiastic people participated in the summit, including 48 teachers and 5 school administrators

BUTTERFLY HOUSE

For more than 16 years, the Butterfly House has educated adults and children on the lifecycles of butterflies and moths. This year's theme was "Save the Monarch Migration," which created awareness of the shrinking monarch migration and inspired the public to protect monarch's threatened habitats by starting their own monarch gardens. The Butterfly House is funded by a generous grant from the Dayton Power and Light Foundation and the Cox Arboretum Foundation. Highlights of the 2014 Butterfly Season:

- The season ran July through September with hours from 8 am - 8 pm
- Distributed 500 seed packets filled with milkweed, asters and goldenrods for the community to create their own butterfly habitats
- Developed new volunteer trainings so more visitors could have more access to guided tours
- Held classes teaching how to raise and garden for caterpillars, milkweed and monarch life-cycles reaching 152 families



VISITOR HOSPITALITY CENTER

The Cox Arboretum Foundation board voted to transition the Garden Store into a visitor hospitality center in June to provide nature-based educational opportunities and meet the needs of Arboretum visitors.

Located in the Zorniger Education Center, the new Visitor Hospitality Center currently features tables, seating, and refreshment vending. In 2015 the space will also be used as an education hub and include informational material about Cox Arboretum MetroPark and a children's activity guide to inspire learning.

FIFTH THIRD ROOM KITCHEN APPLIANCES

One of the ways to support the Cox Arboretum Foundation is to rent the facilities available at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Many rentals take place in the Zorniger Education Center where caterers utilize the kitchen in the Fifth Third Room. Due to frequent use, the microwave and refrigerator were in desperate need of replacement.

During 2014, the Cox Arboretum Foundation funded new kitchen appliances including: a stainless steel refrigerator with French doors and a bottom freezer and a new microwave. Staff, volunteers and caterers use the new kitchen appliances in support of programming and events located at Cox Arboretum MetroPark.



TREE-MENDOUS DAY

The Cox Arboretum Foundation partially funded the sixth annual Tree-mendous Day in partnership with Cox Arboretum MetroPark, Ohio State University Extension and Harold Schnell Elementary at Cox Arboretum MetroPark.

Students who participated in the program learned about the important role that trees play in our environment through hands-on group activities. At the end of the day, students adopted a tree on the Arboretum grounds and will monitor its progress throughout the school year.

Programming at Cox Arboretum

Cultivate Your Interest in Science and Horticulture with Specialized Programs Presented by MetroParks at Cox Arboretum



TRAM TOURS

Whether it is the delicate pinks and whites of Dogwood blossoms in the spring or the red, orange, and yellow leaves of the Sweet Gums in the fall. Cox Arboretum MetroPark is a treat for the senses year-round. Experience the Arboretum in a new light on a guided tour lead by knowledgeable docents.

Learn about Cox Arboretum MetroPark's history, the pivotal role it plays in reforestation along with other conservation initiatives of Five Rivers MetroParks. The tour covers the formal grounds of the park, taking in highlights and seasonal blooms.

Group tours are available by request April - October and are perfect for garden clubs, seniors, or organized groups. Reservations must be scheduled at least three weeks in advance, call Bernadette Whitworth at (937) 276-7056. Tours are currently free of charge, however donations to the Cox Arboretum Foundation are appreciated.

CAFÉ SCI

Do you want to be more science savvy? Cafe Scientifique (Café Sci) is an international phenomenon in which people of any background congregate for scientific discussion in a non-academic, social setting. All attendees are encouraged to participate, share their thoughts, and ask questions. Typically, Café Sci begins with a brief presentation by a speaker to introduce a given topic. Questions are held until after a short break, allowing time to fetch snacks, coffee, tea and wine. The floor is open for questions and group discussion follows.

Café Sci meets on the first Wednesday of each month (with the exception of dates which fall on a holiday) in the Fifth Third Conference Room at Cox Arboretum at 6:30 pm. Discussions conclude between 8:00 and 8:30 pm.

November 5- ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING (3D PRINTING)

Additive manufacturing, or 3D printing, is cutting-edge technology now employed by many industries to make a variety of materials. Learn the science behind it and discuss the ways in which it might be applied in the future.

December 3- MINE RECLAMATION

The ecological impact of mining coal and minerals is significant and long lasting. Coal mine reclamation is a particularly relevant issue in Ohio. We'll discuss how scientists study these sites and current restoration methods.

January 7- POLLINATION ADAPTATIONS

Plants and animals have complex relationships, animal pollination. Learn and discuss some of the fascinating ways in which plants have adapted to attract animals to their flowers and animals have come to depend on certain plants.

CONSERVATION KIDS

MetroParks introduced an age-based series of nature-based programs for kids. The program helps kids discover nature, take part in conservation projects, and eventually conduct gatherings in their community where they get their peers exploring nature. The program is divided into three different age groups: Tikes, Explorers and Voyagers.

Cox Arboretum MetroPark hosted a series of successful Conservation Kids programs throughout 2014:



TIKES AGES 3-5

Frog Watch - June

25 kids explored Cox Arboretum MetroPark and surveyed the frog population

Caring for Caterpillars - June

This group of 38 kids explored the value of pollinators, learned how to create their own pollinator garden at home and how to conduct a "Pollinator Party" for their friends!



EXPLORERS AGES 6-9

&

VOYAGERS AGES 10-13

Backyard Naturalist Training - July

Kids learned what it takes to be a naturalist and how to get their peers excited about the Earth. Kids received a naturalist guide pack they will use to lead their own nature hike for friends.

Wetland Exploration - August

This group got wet and muddy searching for frogs, turtles, insects and other creatures at Cox Arboretum MetroPark while exploring the marsh.

Volunteers

This year nearly 300 individuals and 20 groups volunteered their time and talents at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Thanks to our volunteers who make the Arboretum a beautiful and engaging place to learn and explore nature.



Many volunteers are involved in ongoing native plant propagation activities that follow land stewardship practices.



Each year volunteers spend time collecting seeds for propagation projects.



This year volunteers worked in the Edible Landscape Garden and harvested nearly 2,000 pounds of produce which was donated to the Food Bank.



Throughout the year volunteers help maintain the gardens and grounds at the Arboretum.



Educational volunteer guides share their knowledge with students, teaching them the wonders of nature.



Volunteers help with grounds and building maintenance and repair projects such as weather-coating tribute benches.

FOUNDERS SOCIETY

Jon Bossong
Wilma Jean Cacioppo
Barbara S. Fryburg
Hal & Sonja Gegel
James & Jean Graham
Joanne Granzow
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Gray
Carl Gross
John & Helen Haddick
Jennifer & Rol Harrison
Tony & Pokey Huffman
Jean B. Mahoney
Ruth C. Mead
Marvin & Christine Olinsky
Caryl Philips
Carol & Rich Pohl
Don & Joyce Porter
Carole Remick
John & Barbara Rion
Burnell & Karen Roberts
Greg & Kimberly Robinson
Charles D. Shook
Paul & Patti Stoll
John & Connie Taylor
Sherry & Hans Tschudin
Mark Webster &
Mandy Goubeaux
Jim & Tami Whalen
Jean V. Woodhull
Nancy H. Zorniger

The Founders Society is a group of individuals who are committed to the long-term goals of the Cox Arboretum Foundation, and give an annual gift of \$1,000 or more

TRIBUTE PROGRAM

Making a tribute gift is a thoughtful way to honor someone you love and leave a lasting impact on the Arboretum. We offer a range of giving options, including tribute benches and trees, as well as general donations. All tribute gifts will be recognized in future issues of the Arboretum Update.



== Tributes ==

Tribute gifts given through June 2014 - September 2014

In memory of George Miracle & Keith Miracle, Jr.

Donna Miracle
Elaine Miracle
Lorraine Miracle

In honor of Hanspeter Tschudin

Bill & Gloria King

In honor of Bob & Kathy Toia

Chrissie Lukuch

In memory of Harold Seale

Sue, Vicky, Diana, & Kathy

In memory of Bill & Carol Waaland

Beth Heggeness
E. Kim Waaland

In memory of Roberta Draves

Anonymous
Cal Crim, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP

Your membership in The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation allows us to grow, much like the trees we care so deeply about. All gifts, large and small, help us advance our mission of connecting people with nature.

== New Members ==

New Members as of June 2014 - September 2014

Joyce Audas
Katherine Blazyk
Alan Brown
Rhonda Harman
Beth Heggeness
Daniel Horine
Sharon Luster

Rachel Pauling
Connie Rigling
Corinne Smith
Joseph & Beth Sprouse
Catherine Tape
Andrew Wagner
Nicole White



The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation
6733 Springboro Pike
Dayton, OH 45449

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Dayton, OH
Permit No. 609

Park Hours

NOVEMBER—MARCH 31

8am—8pm

APRIL—OCTOBER 31

8am—10pm

Zorniger Education Center Hours

Monday—Friday 8am—5pm

Saturday—Sunday 11am—4pm

MISSION

To support educational, scientific, civic, and cultural programs and activities relating to the advancement of arboriculture, horticulture and related fields by providing support for the Cox Arboretum as a free arboretum/museum for the benefit of the general public



Fall Bulb Planting

ZORNIGER FAMILY GRANT

Each year the Foundation receives a generous grant from the Zorniger Family Fund at The Dayton Foundation, which the Cox Arboretum Foundation matches. This grant supports the planting and maintenance of bulbs on the Arboretum grounds and potted bulbs in the Huffman Gallery. Each fall area school children, youth groups, volunteers and staff plant the bulbs resulting in a spring blanket of beautiful color.

If you are interested in volunteering with fall planting contact Janet Metter at 937-277-4133 or janet.metter@metroparks.org.