



ARBORETUM UPDATE!

Spring/Summer 2015

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



Letter from the Board President



On January 30, 2015, our community lost a true friend with the passing of Jean Woodhull. Jean will be especially missed by all of those at Cox Arboretum MetroPark who had the pleasure of working with her.

I first became aware of Jean when her beautiful garden was featured on "A Gardener's Diary" on HGTV. I had just bought my first home and was making my inaugural attempt at gardening. Seeing a garden like that in my own community was an inspiration to me, and it carried me through many hot afternoons spent turning over heavy, clay soil. I later introduced myself to Jean at a community event. She was gracious and funny, and I was struck by her energy. She seemed to be completely unafraid to advocate for her causes. What a wonderful example for a young woman seeking to find her way in the world.

In more recent years, I had the pleasure of serving with Jean on the board of the Cox Arboretum Foundation. Jean had a way of listening to conversations and then getting right to the heart of the matter. She never hesitated to instill her passion for the Arboretum in her fellow board members.

I last saw Jean in September at the Foundation's Founders' Luncheon in the Edible Garden. She seemed as energetic as ever and didn't hesitate to ask me how much time I was spending at the Arboretum, how many new people I brought to the Arboretum as my guests, and whether I was enjoying my time on the board. This is how I will always remember Jean, as a tireless champion of trees and green spaces in our community. I am proud to have known her.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hann Harrison
Cox Arboretum Foundation Board President

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

Contributors

- Beth Burke
- Brenda Cox
- Russell Edgington
- Jennifer Hann Harrison
- Janet Metter
- Beth Redden
- Lauren Stayer Asquith
- Joshua York

FOUNDERS

- James M. Cox, Jr.
- Jean B. Mahoney
- Jean V. Woodhull

The James M. Cox, Jr. Arboretum Foundation

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BOARD LIAISON

Beth Redden

Co-Founder of Cox Arboretum Jean Woodhull



LET'S PLAY ARBORETUM

The first time I met Jean Woodhull she asked me if I honored nature. I knew from that moment she was a special lady. Jean had a passion for growing things and shared her passion with others. She had a conviction that all children should have the opportunity to experience nature. Jean's lead in the creation of Cox Arboretum and the Montgomery County Park District is testament to her resolve.



Jean once told me one of her favorite activities was to sit on the patio behind her house and watch the trees on the hillside swaying in the wind. The Tree Tower at Cox Arboretum MetroPark was created in part out of Jean's commitment to honor trees. The tower stands today as evidence to her devotion to trees. There are 81 steps from ground level to the top of the Tree Tower and with each step visitors have the opportunity to share Jean's love of trees. One of the things I will miss most about Jean are those surprise telephone calls and an excited voice on the other end of the line exclaiming "let's play Arboretum".

-Russell Edgington, Regional Park Manager - Southeast Zone



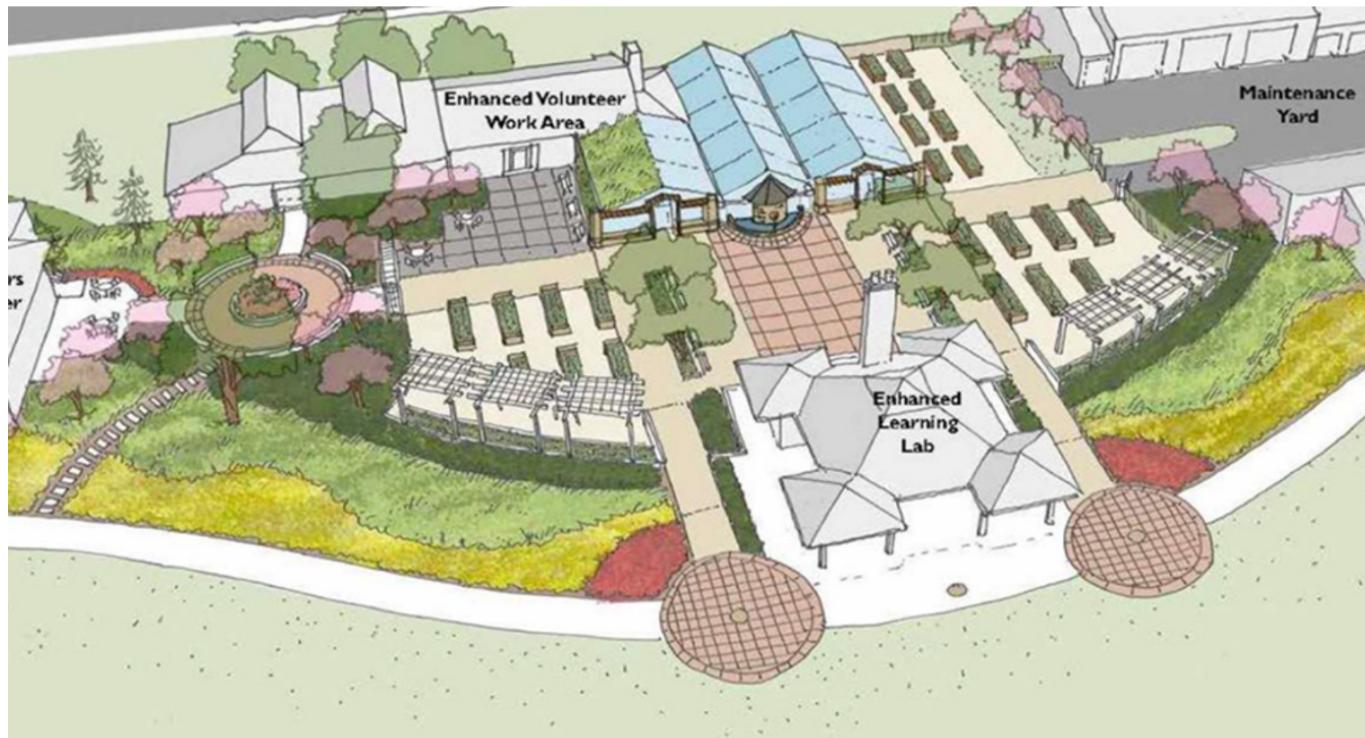
2015 FOUNDATION PROJECTS

The summer season is always busy at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. Public visitation increases in late April with the beginning of high school prom season and culminates in late August with peak Butterfly Season. In addition to this human element, summer is the season when most outdoor construction projects are initiated and completed due to favorable weather conditions.

Summer 2015 will be a season of change at the Arb. Four major projects are scheduled for the season and each will have a tremendous impact on our future. Each of these projects is a component of the Master Plan. They include: The Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture, Loop Path, Monet Bridge replacement and Water Garden renovation.

Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture

The Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture is a major project that is more than ten years in the making. The Center is not just a greenhouse or a building. The Center will change the culture at the Arb making sustainability our guiding principle. Physical elements of the Center will include the renovation of the greenhouses and upgrades to the buildings in the Zorniger complex resulting in increased volunteer and visitor access. The Center's programming emphasis will highlight two prominent MetroPark conservation initiatives, the Forest Foster tree program and the Arboretum based Woodland Wildflower rescue and propagation program. Opportunities for experiential education will encourage park visitors to take the sustainability message home for practical application.



Artist rendering of the Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture. Features: permeable paver pathway leading to the Kettering Learning Lab (KLL), ADA accessible ramps on either side of the KLL down to the greenhouses, greenhouse glass replaced with multi-layer acrylic and tempered glass, rain water harvesting system, additional cold frames, updates to the volunteer work areas, and double doors to the middle greenhouse.

Water Garden Improvements

The Monet Bridge replacement and water garden renovation will both take place in late August. The bridge replacement will result in increased accessibility. The water garden renovation will focus on the removal of nearly 30 years of accumulated silt and will assure this prominent feature is enjoyed by visitors to the Arb for years to come.



Loop Path: Phase I

The Cox Arboretum Master Plan calls for a loop path. The path will lead visitors on a half-mile loop past the major features of the Arboretum. The specially colored permeable paver path will be a simple reminder to visitors that they are on the right track and will be safely returned to the buildings. This year's construction from the main parking lot to the Butterfly House will be the first of two phases. Phase two, slated for the 2016 construction season will complete the loop from the Butterfly House to the Kettering Learning Lab.



STOP IN AT THE ARBORETUM OFTEN, OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS, TO CHECK IN ON THE PROGRESS ON EACH OF THESE EXCITING PROJECTS.

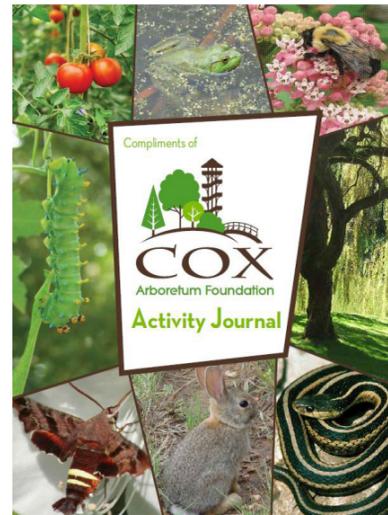
EDUCATION AT THE ARBORETUM

Adventures await when you visit the new interpretive area opening at Cox Arboretum MetroPark made possible through funding from the Cox Arboretum Foundation.

No matter the time of year there is always something new to discover at Cox Arboretum MetroPark. With the transformation of the visitor hospitality area inside the Zorniger Education Center into an interpretive area, these discoveries will be easier to make. Visitors of all ages will enjoy spending time interacting with the seasonal displays and Arboretum highlights. Whether you have an hour to spend or an entire day, the *Adventure Bud* will be the place to begin. From this area select those must see destinations, share in the conservation efforts underway, or pick up fun activities for the kids to do while visiting.

The *Adventure Bud* is so named because of the many exciting things to explore while visiting Cox Arboretum MetroPark and *Bud* has a double meaning for the location of the space within the Zorniger Education center and of course for those plant buds. Planning is underway, look for renovation to begin in the coming months.

The completed area will offer a place to rest and enjoy the surroundings with low seating by the windows. Changing displays and educational material will be available. This will be one of the points for visitors to start their exploration of the Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture.



First phase of the *Adventure Bud* was the creation of complimentary Activity Journals - to start your adventure of discovery on the Arboretum grounds.

CONSERVATION KIDS

In today's world, with our planet facing many challenges, kids growing up with a conservation ethic is critical to human survival. However, many children in the Miami Valley are not getting outside, thus disconnecting with what gives us life. Although nature has been an integral part of childhood development for nearly all of human existence, today's children are living manufactured lifestyles, and are unaware of their influence on Earth.



A group of budding conservationists explore amphibian life around the pools.

Conservation Kids, a program developed by Five Rivers MetroParks, aims to help kids discover their place in nature, as well as build confidence and leadership skills amongst today's youth. Thanks to LexisNexis Employee Cares Fund and the Cox Arboretum Foundation, MetroParks is hosting programs throughout 2015 that help kids build Conservation Parties at their home. These programs empower them to

talk with their peers about the importance of protecting nature, and vary in topics from creating their own Backyard Bird count, attracting moths to the backyard for a *Moth Party Sleepover*, searching for spiders, and even leading their own nature hikes for their friends! Kids get tools to help them conduct their parties, and are asked to come back at a later date to share their successes with other kids getting ready to conduct parties themselves.



Kids gather for a native seed planting, which will later be planted in Conservation Corner.



Norah Tempus, 2014 Conservation Kid - now a volunteer, helps kids develop their Bird Party.

Today, kids constantly hear about the destruction adults are causing on the planet, but are given little hope or opportunity to do anything about it. However, conservation action knows no age boundaries, and we believe that today's kids can change the world. **Conservation has a new face: The face of a child.** Join us in this new era where kids take ownership of the planet, and protect the nature that gives us life. To get started visit metroparks.org/kids and be a part of Dayton's Youth Culture of Conservation!

To date: eleven children have completed all levels and earned their Conservation Kids Protector of Nature Sweatshirts, since the program's inception in 2014.



Current Visitor Hospitality Hub - transformation into the *Adventure Bud* will begin June 2015.



OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

With generous funding from the Cox Arboretum Foundation through a grant from The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation, Five Rivers MetroParks was able to create the OUTstanding Teacher Award! This award recognizes three exceptional educators from the Greater Dayton Area who have gone above and beyond in bringing engaging environmental experiences that inspire students to shape attitudes and actions for nature. These teachers are catalysts in facilitating a vibrant school community, encouraging teachers and parents to get kids active in nature. It is important Five Rivers MetroParks supports and recognizes these educators, because they support our mission to provide outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature.

Educators were recognized in three categories: Rising Star (10 years experience or less), Leader (10-20 years experience), or Lifetime Achievement (20+ years experience). Nominations came from fellow teachers and colleagues, friends, students, and parents in the form of five-minute videos. The videos showcased the differences teachers make in the lives of students by seeing them in action as well as hearing the passion in their voices. Thank you to everyone who nominated an educator. A seven-member panel, which included a Foundation Board Member, volunteer, and staff, judged the videos based on the criteria for submission.

Each recipient received a plant kit for the school, membership to the Environmental Education Council of Ohio, fees for a conference, and \$500 of materials for their classroom. Total prize package valued at \$800.

AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Rising Star



Katie Henry,
Brookville Local Schools
4th grade

Leader



Robert Erwin
Centerville High School
Environmental Science

Lifetime Achievement



Becky Stroh
Ruskin Elementary
3rd grade



Special thanks to the Woodworker
Volunteer Group for creating the
award plaques!



SPRING UPDATE BREAKFAST



Foundation members enjoy a breakfast buffet and catching up with friends before the presentation.



Mandy Goubeaux,
Foundation VP, registers
attendees.



Beth Redden, FRMP
Director of Development,
kicks off the presentation.



Jennifer Hann Harrison, Foundation President,
welcomes members and shares a brief history of the
Arboretum and Foundation.



Five Rivers MetroParks Conservation and Nature
staff share with members program opportunities
available to children and adults.



Russ Edgington, FRMP Regional Park Manager
shares the Foundation funded projects for 2015.

MEMBER/VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

Marjorie Gillingham



Foundation member for 43 years and MetroParks volunteer for 16.

Marjorie (Marge) Gillingham has had a love for the Arboretum for many years, after her late husband and she started attending the Spring Plant Sale. Marge became a supporter long before she was a volunteer. After she retired, long-time volunteer and good friend Roberta Sharp encouraged her to become a volunteer. Roberta was persistent and after about five years, Marge agreed to give it a try. She has always regretted not saying "yes" the first time. The longer Marge is a volunteer, the more important she feels the Foundation is to the Arboretum. There is always something new to see and experience. The education campus, Tree Tower and the new arbor are some of her favorite attributes, along with the lovely grounds. Marge calls the Arboretum her happy place and her joy infects everyone she meets. She explained, "You drive off hectic 741 and there's a little slice of heaven. That has to make you feel good."

Ken Snavely



Foundation member and MetroParks volunteer for 35 years.

Ken Snavely came to the Arboretum looking for an interesting place to volunteer after he retired. Ken has always loved plants and digging in the dirt so the Arboretum seemed like a good match. One day staff asked him, "how'd you like to be our grass guy?" Ken was told that grasses were going to be the next wave and the Arboretum needed someone to start a grass garden. He told staff he didn't know anything about grasses, but he could learn and then he would be the expert. And what an expert Ken has become! Through his association with the volunteer program and his belief in the mission, Ken eventually

wanted to start giving back to the organization that had brought him so much pleasure and satisfaction. Ken expressed "the Arboretum is one of the best things that ever came along in my life. It has given me something to do, it has kept my interest, and it is good for the community".



FOUNDERS SOCIETY

- Jon Bossong
- Jean Cacioppo
- Barbara Fryburg
- Hal and Sonja Gegel
- Mandy Goubeaux and Mark Webster
- James P. and Jean M. Graham
- Mr. and Mrs. John C. Gray
- Carl Gross
- John and Helen Haddick
- Jennifer and Rol Harrison
- Tony & Pokey Huffman
- Jean B. Mahoney
- Ruth C. Mead
- Barbara Nichols O'Hara
- Marvin and Christine F. Olinsky
- Caryl Philips
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- Burnell and Karen Roberts
- Paul and Patti Stoll
- Lois and Roger Sutherland
- John and Connie Taylor
- Sherry and Hans Tschudin
- Jim and Tami Whalen
- Alex & Sue Willimas
- 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.

Tributes

Tribute gifts given through October 2014 - April 2015

In memory of Sandra Drain

- Bernard and Susan Bacevich
- Ingrid Basset
- Berns Garden Center Beaver Creek
- Jean Cacioppo
- James and Deborah Chase
- Sophia Cohen
- Cox Arboretum MetroPark-Rock Garden Volunteer Group
- Frank and Susan Fiore
- Thomas and Mary Ellen Griswold
- Jim and Judy Herd
- Dan and Pam Horine
- Nancy Hutchins
- Ron and Susan James
- Nels (Pete) Johnson
- Carl Ludwig
- Barbara McCartney
- Linda McCloskey
- Frank and June O'Neil
- Patricia and Kenneth Rigney
- Amanda Starling
- Jean Stogdill
- Peter Strange
- Pam Watts
- Jack and Sharon Zimmerman

In memory of Winifred S. Dynes

Hans and Sherry Tschudin

In memory of Lesley Ingrams-Owens

Paul and Linda McCartney
Douglas and Beverly Reno

In memory of Eleftherios Karkadoulis

Gale and Stratis Stamatakos

In memory of Glen Penquite, Sr.

David Garrison
Paul and Ruth Rab
Larry and Sharon Rab

In memory of Gayle Price

Robert and Nora Newsock

In memory of Martha Spinhirne's mother

Robert and Nora Newsock

In memory of Veeda F. Whitt

Adele Wess

In memory of Ruth Wiseman

Penbrooke Garden Club

In memory of Jean Woodhull

Bruce and Paige Benedict Family
Rick and Jean Donaldson
Kimberly Duncan
Jean Mahoney
Ruth Mead
Robert and Nora Newsock
Hans and Sherry Tschudin

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 October 2014 - April 2015

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Angela Evans | Daniel Ryan | Kathryn Tchorz |
| Caelan Ford | Eric and Lisa Sauer | James and Kimberly Watson |
| Kristen Jackson | Josh and Lauren Sickinger | Melissa West |
| Janet Landis | Mari Skinner | Sydney Wiltshire |
| Linda McCloskey | Liz Snider | Mark and Amber Windle |
| Paul Merenski | Bill and Bernice Stephen | Debra Young |



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

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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

SAVE THE DATE

Pollinator Party

July 30, 2015

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

This year's butterfly house focus is a continuation of the Monarch migration, encouraging the community to plant pollinator plants to keep these butterflies in our community. The Pollinator Party will include a special evening guided tour along with a light dinner and short presentation. Invitations will be mailed to members in June.

