



ARBORETUM UPDATE!

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

Summer 2021



Photo by Shon Houston

LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



"What a difference a year makes! As I write this, it has stopped raining, and the sun is coming out. This is a nice metaphor for how I feel about life in general, and Cox Arboretum MetroPark in particular. We all know what our community has been through over the last year, and hopefully we are now returning to normalcy, (whatever that is!). Summer is upon us, and our beautiful arboretum is well on the way to fully re-opening all amenities and restoring prior programming. We hope those of you who have been away will find your way back to the arboretum, and the beauty and serenity that it can provide.

We are very grateful to finally have reached this point, and we appreciate our members and Five Rivers Metro Park and staff for keeping our arboretum going as well as they did during this difficult time. For those of you who had events postponed and/or cancelled, we appreciate your patience, and hope that we can reschedule and will be able to host your event in 2021. I also want to thank our former fearless leader, Elise Hafenbrack, who as President of the Cox Arboretum Foundation for the last few years, has led us so effectively through the good times and the challenging ones.

As I begin my term as President of the Foundation, I want to express my appreciation to all who helped me get here and I feel honored to be chosen to lead this organization.

Stay safe, and we hope to see you at the Park on a beautiful day sometime soon.

Alan I. Brown
Cox Arboretum Foundation, Board President

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



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CONGRATS ON RETIREMENT



Beth Redden, Five Rivers MetroParks Chief of Philanthropy and Foundation Liaison announced her retirement beginning July 9. With over 30 years in the philanthropy and fundraising industry, Beth has had a tremendous impact on Five Rivers MetroParks, the Foundation, and community. After the great recession, MetroParks determined additional sources of funding were needed to help support and provide services MetroParks could not otherwise offer throughout the entire park district. As a result, the philanthropy functional area and Development Department was formed. Beth was hired eight years ago as the first Chief of Philanthropy and has been responsible for creating the philanthropy plan and policies and hiring staff to implement them. She also worked with community leaders and professional advisors to establish the Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation, while continuing to work closely with the Cox Arboretum Foundation and Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation. The Cox Arboretum Foundation greatly appreciates her time

and support in helping with the arboretum's membership program and fundraising activities. We wish her the best on her next adventure! If you need to contact the development department, please contact Brenda Cox at brenda.cox@metroparks.org or (937) 277-4839.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BETH ON HER RETIREMENT!

COVID-19 UPDATE

Throughout the pandemic Cox Arboretum MetroPark has and continues to remain open.

In May the Visitor Center lobby and restrooms opened to the public on Saturdays and Sundays. As of June 1, the Visitor Center resumed normal business hours Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm, Saturday-Sunday 11am-4pm. June 7, all drinking fountains opened (reminder the Arboretum has two drinking fountains with water bottle fillers - located at the Resource Center Plaza and back by the south end of the Butterfly House). Facility rentals resumed on July 1.

We will continue to monitor COVID-19 updates and follow the CDC and Health Department guidelines.

Stay healthy and thank you for your continued support.



Conservation Kids - Virtual

Richard Louv first coined the term nature deficit disorder in 2006 in his book *Last Child in the Woods*. Since then, the amount of time children are spending outdoors continues to decrease exponentially and the “symptoms” of nature deficit disorder, such as a feeling of disconnect from nature and a range of physical and mental issues, are becoming more prevalent. Five Rivers MetroParks aims to combat nature deficit disorder by providing outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection with nature, resulting in a vital, active, nature-based community.

During the pandemic engagement with visitors through traditional programming was not possible and even when traditional programming is offered a naturalist cannot always be present when a visitor comes to the park. A platform created by MIT called **TaleBlazer** allows for the creation of augmented reality location-based activities and is helping to allow Five Rivers MetroParks Naturalists to engage with the community. The GPS-based app introduces participants to a wide range of habitats and the biodiversity that MetroParks has to offer while also highlighting unique features through a series of photographs, sounds, text, and videos. Throughout the experience participants are encouraged to take part in nature exploration of their own and appreciate nature ‘in the moment’.

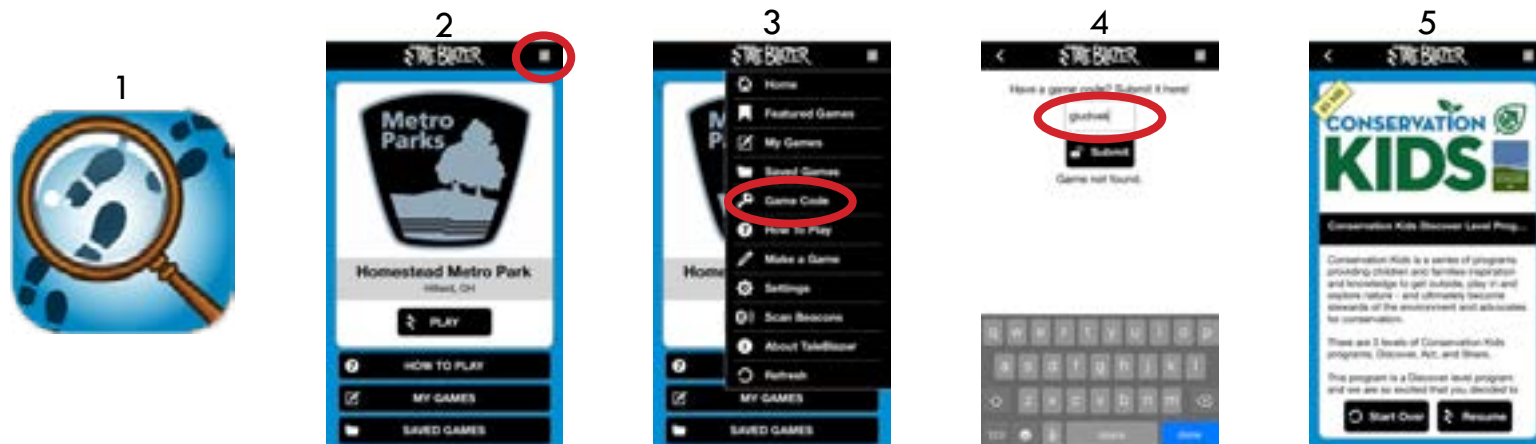


Currently, TaleBlazer activities have been developed for families with children ages 3-13, based off in-person Conservation Kids programming, at Cox Arboretum and Germantown MetroParks.

TO ACCESS THESE TALEBLAZER ACTIVITIES:



1. Download the TaleBlazer app (available for both iOS and Android)
2. Click the three lines in the top right corner
3. Click “Game Code”
4. Enter the unique game code for whichever park location you are at (Cox Arboretum Game Code: giudvek | Germantown Game Code: gycukai)
5. Select “Start” and follow the map to the numbered stations on your screen



OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

The OUTstanding Teacher Award, created in 2014, annually recognizes three exceptional educators from the Greater Dayton Area who have gone above and beyond to engage students with inspiring outdoor experiences that shape positive attitudes toward nature. These educators not only have a positive impact on students but also on their school community. Nominated by students, parents, teachers, administrators, and friends each award winning teacher receives a one-year membership to the Cox Arboretum Foundation and the Environmental Education Council of Ohio, registration fees for the “101 Alternatives to the Chalkboard” teacher conference in October at Camp Kern, a plant kit, transportation for their class to take a field trip to Cox Arboretum, and outdoor education supplies to help in their quest to continue to get students outside and weave nature into the curriculum.

Congratulations to the 2020 Recipients

Lifetime Achievement (20+ years): Brian Brogan, The Antioch School



Brian is in his element in the outdoors and has weekly outdoor classroom days. These days consist of everything from tapping maple trees, building sapling wigwams, practicing archery, digging holes and climbing trees, as students are given time to explore nature freely. Brian also takes advantage of the school’s proximity to the Glen Helen Nature Center and leads weekly hikes for his students year-round. Brian’s dedication to outdoor learning has inspired many of his co-workers to adapt and have more of their classes outdoors.

Leader (10-20 years): Suzanne Mitolo, Primary Village South (PVS) Art Teacher



Elements of nature can be found scattered around Suzanne’s classroom, as she knows nature sparks creativity in her students. Suzanne was instrumental in creating and maintaining the school’s multi-sensory garden and encourages her students to use this space and other natural spaces at Primary Village South to grow their art and observation skills through the use of a nature journal. Suzanne provides rich, meaningful experiences for her students to understand the connection between themselves, art and nature.

Rising Star (<10 years): Patricia Lewis, Roosevelt Elementary, 2nd grade



Patricia shares her love and appreciation of nature with her students. Recently, she and her students created the “Roosevelt Garden”, which consists of raised beds for flowers and vegetables, grapevine and a fruit tree. The creation of the garden challenged the students critical thinking skills as they decided which plants would thrive in their garden. When not caring for the garden, Patricia’s students can often be found having outdoor picnics as they read books, using nature to explore new concepts such as measurements or observing and caring for the classroom pets and plants.

If you know an OUTstanding Teacher who incorporates nature into their classroom be sure to watch for the 2021 noiminations opening in October 2021.

PARK ENHANCEMENTS

(YOUR DONATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP DOLLARS AT WORK)

Nature Play

This summer work will begin on the creation of a new nature play area at Cox Arboretum. The nature play will be located between the butterfly house and wildflower garden, just west of the paver pathway.



Zorniger Education & Visitor Center

This spring the Huffman Gallery received new flooring, replacing the original slate installed in 2006.



Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture

A shade cloth system was installed outside the last greenhouse at stage five of the propagation process at the Barbara Cox Center for Sustainable Horticulture. The shade cloth will help protect the trees from the hot summer sun as they await their final planting at one of the Five Rivers MetroParks. Additionally, irrigation has been adjusted to attach to the shade cloth polls to evenly distribute the watering of the trees.



PARK ENHANCEMENTS CONT...

(YOUR DONATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP DOLLARS AT WORK)



Bird Netting

Earlier this year bird netting was added underneath the Edible Landscape Garden (ELG) Pavilion roof to deter the nesting of birds. The netting helps keep the pavilion area cleaner with less maintenance needed.

Bipolar Ionization System

The Zorniger Campus buildings (Education and Visitor Center, Kettering Learn Lab, Resource Center and Operations) recently received upgrades with the installation of a bipolar ionization system. Bipolar ionization systems cleanse and purify building air moving through a HVAC system by reducing airborne pathogens, particles, and odors. The positive and negative ions created by the Bipolar Ionization system causes these suspended irritants to start to cluster together (think “dust bunny” under your bed) and become trapped in the filters in the HVAC system and removed from circulation by a rate of greater than 90%. Additionally, the system is extremely energy-efficient and maintenance free.

BUTTERFLY HOUSE



The Butterfly House at Cox Arboretum will remain closed for 2021. The process to plant and cultivate the variety of plants needed to support the Butterfly House involves hundreds of hours in the greenhouses in late winter which Five Rivers MetroParks could not sustain in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, MetroParks traditionally collects chrysalises at the end of the house’s season; due to precautions in fall 2020, this collection effort didn’t happen and it’s against the agency’s conservation mission to purchase chrysalises.

There are other areas within Cox Arboretum where visitors can frequently find butterflies and other pollinators, such as the Edible Landscape Garden, the Conservation Corner’s prairie, near the Tree Tower and in the gardens around the Butterfly House.

Photo by Aparo Price at Looking Glass Images



COX ARBORETUM

Wedding & Event Venue

Celebrations • Family/Corporate Gatherings •
Holiday Parties • Recognition Events • Receptions
• Rehearsals • Retirement Parties • Retreats •
Reunions • Showers • Weddings



For more information call
(937) 278-2657



New Members

November 2020 - June 2021

Cody Alliss
 Brian Brogan
 Nicolle Carnes
 Patricia Lewis
 Maria Lopez
 Nicholas Madden
 Danielle Patton

Derek Wiedenheft and Kirsten Gilbert
 John Wightman and Leslie Timperman



Perennial Society
 Leave a lasting legacy for generations to come with a planned gift to the Cox Arboretum Foundation.
 For more information call (937) 277-4369

PERENNIAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

Barbara Anthony*
 Margaret Barnhart*
 Martha Boice
 Jane Compton*
 Lewis & Ruth Cummings*
 Patricia Edmonson
 John & Louise Haley
 Lou & Millie Homan
 Bruce & Sue Howorth
 Samuel Maimon*
 Markita Murdock
 Charles Niehaus*
 Cynthia Shook*
 Edda Wagner*
 Alma Walther*
 Joyce Wolfe*

The Perennial Society are members who have named the foundation in their estate plans or will.

*denotes deceased

FOUNDERS SOCIETY

Joseph Bockelman and Barbara Driehaus
 Jana Collier
 Stephen Fryburg
 Hal and Sonja Gegel
 Carl Gross
 Tony and Pokey Huffman
 Margaret Klein
 Steve and Lou Mason
 Ruth Mead
 Barbara Nichols O'Hara
 Marvin and Christine Olinsky
 Caryl Philips
 Rich and Carol Pohl
 Don and Joyce Porter
 Rick and Jane Schwartz
 Lois and Roger Sutherland
 John Taylor
 Nancy Zeller

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

Tributes

November 2020 - June 2021

**denotes tribute tree or bench*

In memory of Evangeline 'Ethel' Baxter
 Michael DeVault

In memory of George H. Mead, Jr.
 Mead Whittaker

In memory of Shelly Charles
 Bob and Nora Newssock

In memory of Charlotte Pernik
 Sue Meyer

In memory of Dr. Harley Ellman
 Bob and Nora Newssock

In memory of Jill Schacht
 Kristine and Ricki Haseltine

In memory of Ellen Elovitz
 Bob and Nora Newssock

In memory of Les Swanke*
 Trena Swanke

In memory of David W. Fischer*
 Laura and Greg Horvat

In memory of Carol Levitan
 Bob and Nora Newssock

In memory of Kenneth Foster*
 Jim Foster

In memory of Audrey Margolis
 Book Club
 Hammerman, Graf, Hughes & Co.
 Gayle Moscovitz
 Bob and Nora Newssock
 MJ Whalen

In honor of Susan Gruenberg
 Bob and Nora Newssock

In memory of Claudia Hendricks
 David and Carey Dunbar
 The Jafee Family
 The Jones Family
 Michael and MC Manchester
 Bonnie McMurray
 Pam Wurster

In memory of Pam Watts
 Kevin and Ellen Ahlfeld
 Nanette Burton
 Cheryl Felton
 Ingrid Fischer
 Donald and Patricia Quigley
 Robert Stelzer
 Ronald and Lillian Stogdill
 Transplants Garden Club
 David and Carol Trombley

In memory of Eileen Rose Lucente
 Gary and Nancy Strassel

In memory of Eugene Mayleben
 Charles and Irene Bricker

In memory of Nancy Zorniger
 Bob and Nora Newssock
 Mark and Susan Schlueter

In memory of Thomas McCray
 Martha & Philip Reding

Honor someone you love with a tribute gift at Cox Arboretum MetroPark

For information call (937) 277-4839





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

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Organization
U.S. Postage
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PARK HOURS

APRIL - OCTOBER 31

8am - 10pm

NOVEMBER - MARCH 31

8am - 8pm


ZORNIGER VISITOR 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.



"There's no such things as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end."
— Scott Adams