

Branches

Extending news and information to UTAS members and friends

Issue No 5- Winter 2007

UTAS President's Message

Norm Dobbs reflects on our successes and challenges, looking back on 2006 and ahead to 2007. We've made good progress.

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Stumped? Ask us!

Where can I find facts on hardiness zones and good trees to plant?

Email your questions about trees, woody plants, or wildlife to our Green Thumb experts.

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"Director's Desk" Richard Evans

Richard Evans welcomes the Rogers Group's Founding Gift to the Endowment Campaign and encourages us to keep the momentum going.

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Spring Plant Sale

Save the date! Support UTAS! Featured Plant:

Viburnum

April 20 for UTAS members only
April 22 - public sale

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Rogers Group Gift

The Rogers Group is a very good neighbor indeed, leading the way in our Endowment Campaign with their \$500,000 gift.

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Upcoming Events

Mar 2 Oak Ridge Arbor Day planting

Mar 10 'Searching for Signs of Spring' walk led by Jeff Holt

Mar 31 Holly Work Day/Pruning Demo

Mar TBA Pruning workshop led by Neil Denton and David Vandergriff

Apr 20-21 Plant Sale

June 18-22 Tour Brandywine Valley

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The Rogers Group Leads the Way

The UT Arboretum has a very good neighbor in the Rogers Group. On October 31, 2006, UT President, Dr. John Petersen, and Vice-President for Agriculture, Dr. Joseph DiPietro, hosted a celebration at the Arboretum announcing the Rogers Group's \$500,000 gift to the Arboretum Endowment Campaign. This Founding Gift gets the \$3 million effort off to an excellent start.

The 250-acre UT Arboretum is part of the 2,260-acre Forest Resources Research and Education Center. Its long-time neighbor, the privately owned Rogers Group, is a local business that provides crushed stone, sand and gravel, asphalt, and highway construction in five states.

Rogers Group Vice President David Rechter says, "Supporting the Arboretum is a natural fit for our commitment to the communities we work in. When the University of Tennessee approached us to make a lead gift and seed the \$3 million initiative to endow the Arboretum, we knew we wanted to be a

part of the effort. The Arboretum is an important part of the community and a good neighbor that serves as a resource and outdoor classroom for area schools, Boy and Girl Scouts, university students, and local residents. We're proud to lead the way."

Arboretum director Richard Evans returns the compliment: "We've always enjoyed a strong relationship with Rogers Group. They have a great company ethic when it comes to people, community, and the environment. Because of their leadership and commitment, we're well on our way to ensuring the future and viability of the Arboretum for generations to come."

The Endowment Campaign proposes to expand, enhance, and care for the plant collections and grounds; improve the facilities for public access and enjoyment; hire an Arboretum coordinator; and enlarge education and outreach activities.

Dr. Peterson Speaks



Rogers Group Announces Endowment Gift

To learn more about supporting the UT Arboretum, contact director Richard Evans, (865) 483-3571; UT development officer Rhodes Logan, (865) 974-1928; or UTAS president Norm Dobbs, 865-482-6656. Visit the UT Arboretum Society online at www.utarboretumsociety.org, or the Forest Resources Center at <http://forestry.tennessee.edu>. Find the Rogers Group on the Web at www.rogersgroupinc.com.



President's Letter

Lots of good things are happening for both UTAS and the Arboretum. In 2006 we tried new things to increase public awareness of the UT Arboretum and kicked off the Arboretum Endowment Fund campaign. The highlight of the Endowment Campaign was the announcement of a \$500,000 pledge from The Rogers Group, the Arboretum's longtime corporate neighbor. (See separate articles for more details.)

During 2006, our Society either sponsored or participated in 17 events. I was particularly proud of the reintroduction of some very informative and unusual lectures and events at the Arboretum. These helped attract new people with diverse interests to the Arboretum, many for the first time. I also pleased contributed two guest columns to Oak Ridge's newest weekly newspaper, The Oak Ridge Observer, about the UT Arboretum. Finally, I'm proud to report that UTAS made the first of our semi-annual \$17,500 contributions to the University to help defray the operating expenses of the Arboretum, and our \$5,000 initial contribution to the UT Endowment Fund.

A few of our many challenges in 2007 will be to improve upon our successes of 2006. We'd like more of our members to help us and the University sustain and secure the Arboretum, and to help Richard Evans and UT chart its exciting future. We need many volunteers and it is gratifying to see how much can be achieved through even "baby step" efforts over an extended period. The best recent example is the ongoing rejuvenation of the native planting areas around the Visitor's Center. These dedicated volunteers, led by Lee Ann Dobbs, have put in many hours on this rewarding project. However, Mother Nature transformed this shady area into a sunny one due to a severe storm last June. So if you have sun-loving natives, please consider donating some of them for this area.

UTAS has formed a new Arboretum Plant Collection Committee. Working with Richard Evans, they will evaluate all of the Arboretum's plant collections and propose ways to help replace or add to these collections, over time, to achieve the University's updated master plan for the Arboretum. Lynn Carlson, Marti Salk, and Bob Reed serve on this committee.

We will also need to find new and different events to promote fund-raising, public awareness and UTAS membership. I do not believe we can continue to rely primarily on our traditional plant sales to meet our current annual financial obligations to the Arboretum. I am very pleased with the many initiatives we piloted in 2006, and with the initial efforts of the special committee, led by Richard Raridon, to identify other possible fund-raising opportunities. I challenged our Board members at our January meeting to fill our "dance card" with as many events as we can reasonably accomplish in 2007.

Finally, I am excited to have the six new Directors joining our Board this year. They include Lynn Carlson, Wendy Packan, Hella Peterson, Bob Reed, Stan Richards and Marti Salk, who joined us midway through 2006. I am certain that these Directors, along with our returning Directors, will bring new ideas and will help us – along with you - to achieve our goals. Happy New Year.

Norm Dobbs, UTAS President

nadobbs@bellsouth.net

Director's Desk

This year Halloween took on new meaning at the UT Arboretum. October 31, 2006, the Arboretum hummed with activity as we prepared for a special celebration – or should we say a TREAT slightly veiled by a small TRICK! The printed invitation was to a "Celebration of Fall Color and the Bright Future of the Arboretum," but the people doing the inviting - The UT President Dr. John Petersen and Vice-President for Agriculture Dr. Joseph DiPietro – hinted that this event might be something special.

The last day in October traditionally celebrates the harvest season. This time the Arboretum celebrated the reaping of a \$500,000 golden kernel from a recently planted seed. The 'seed' was the germ of an initiative to establish a \$3 million endowment to support programming and operations that directly contribute to the public's use and enjoyment of the UT Arboretum. Rogers Group, Inc., a local paving contractor and a neighbor to the UT Forest Resources Center, stepped forward on this beautiful fall day to receive the recognition and gratitude of the University and their guests for making the \$500,000 founding gift to establish the Arboretum Endowment. Read more about this event at our web site.

The Rogers Group gift gives momentum to an effort that began two years ago. The concept of an endowment initiative was first discussed with the Arboretum Society Board in 2003-04. It was subsequently announced to members with subdued fanfare as the University and the Society worked in partnership to develop strategies to strengthen the likelihood of success. The most difficult phase of any capital campaign is – getting started! In getting started, it is vital to have a significant cornerstone contribution that demonstrates the sincerity of all parties, and a lead donor willing to take the first step to commit support and lend their name to the effort. We are now well on our way, thanks to Rogers Group's belief in the UT Arboretum's importance to the citizens of Tennessee, and their trust in the goodwill of our community, supporters, and friends.

Keeping this momentum going forward will involve everyone in the UT Arboretum Society. We appreciate the \$5000 initial contribution UTAS made to the Endowment Fund, demonstrating the collaborative nature of this endeavor. Individual gifts are starting to come in, and other potential contributors are being contacted. You can assist this effort in many ways noted elsewhere in *Branches*.

See our web site for more information:
<http://forestry.tennessee.edu>

~Richard Evans, Director

UTAS-Sponsored Fall Lecture

"Irresistible Gardens and Their Irrepressible Creators"

In November **Carol Reese** and **Jason Reeves**, UT Extension specialists from Jackson, TN, gave a lively, informative presentation to about 100 guests. Many Master Gardeners, members of Friends of the UT Gardens and UTAS attended the 'Coffee with Carol & Jason' at the UT campus. Ms. Reese first discussed plants, structures, and garden art used in whimsical, stunning, and/or ingenious photographs from some of her favorite public and private gardens. Her enthusiastic audience was delighted by her wealth of knowledge and the energy she brought to her subject. The second part of the program was devoted to a lively panel discussion with Ms. Reese and Mr. Reeves answering questions from the audience. **Jan Superczynski** was in charge of refreshments, and **Fran Scheidt** coordinated the event.

Oak Ridge Rotary/UTAS Partnerships

For a second year UTAS supported a Rotary initiative led by **Tom Row** to plant dogwoods in Oak Ridge. Tom and **Richard Raridon** acquired the trees. UTAS benefits financially from this ongoing joint project. We appreciate this, and the opportunity to aid in the beautification of Oak Ridge. **Norm Dobbs**, **Tom Row** and **Bob Reed** planted trees for UTAS.

We also join Rotary and others supporting a Tennessee Department of Transportation *Roadscapes* Grant Program to landscape along state and federally maintained rights-of-way on community entry corridors. **Jeff Holt** is our representative on this initiative.

Carol Reese Selections

Ms. Reese mentioned many plants during her talk. Here are a few of her favorites:

- Weigela Rubidor (Weigela florida 'Briant Rubidor')
- Yucca 'Banana Split' (Yucca recurvifolia 'Banana Split')
- Wax Myrtle (Myrica cerifera)
- Mimosa 'Summer Chocolate'
- Japanese Tree Lilac (Syringa reticulata)
- Swamp sunflower (Helianthus angustifolius)
- Rosemary Willow (Salix rosmarinus)
- Ninebark 'Summer Wine' (Physocarpus opulifoliosus 'Summer Wine')

Fall Wildflower Walk

In September Oak Ridge teacher and naturalist **Kris Light** led over 40 people on a Fall Wildflower Walk to the TVA power line corridor area of the Arboretum. Richard Evans helped identify wildflowers and briefed the attendees on research projects and future plans for this area. The walk highlighted Joe-Pye Weed, Goldenrod, Wild Ageratum and Ironweed along with the many yellow composites that put on a bold, colorful display at the end of a long hot summer. Participants could purchase Kris' nature photos and note cards after the walk, and Kris contributed a portion of her sales to UTAS. **Lee Ann Dobbs** arranged this Walk.



2006 Annual Meeting

Guest Speaker Carol Reese

Over 60 people attended our Annual Meeting on November 7th at the Oak Ridge DoubleTree Hotel. Pat Row arranged for this event with the DoubleTree. President Norm Dobbs presented UTAS' \$5,000 initial contribution to the new UT Arboretum Endowment Fund to Richard Evans. Our featured speaker was the very knowledgeable and witty Carol Reese, UT Extension Horticulturalist from Jackson, TN. Her presentation, 'Nature's Aberrants,' showcased many new plants and creative ways to use them.



We also held our first Silent Auction. It raised \$770 for the Society. We appreciate those who either contributed or purchased auction items:

- Hand-Crafted Custom Bird House from Richard Evans & Arboretum Staff won by Ann Arnold
- Bottle-Tree Frame from Norm Dobbs won by Carole Evans
- Hand-Crafted Custom Bird House from Richard Evans & Arboretum Staff won by Pat Hunsicker
- Captain's Quarters B&B stay from Captain's Quarters/Fran Scheidt won by Hella Peterson
- Wooden Folk-Art Cat from Dick & Mona Raridon won by Hella Peterson
- Cedar Bird Feeder and Seed from Mayo's Garden Center/Fran Scheidt won by Jim Cortese
- Photo by Tom Schmidt from Cortese Tree Specialists/Fran Scheidt won by Joann Johnson
- Willow Ridge Gift Certificate from Willow Ridge/Emily Jernigan won by Diantha Pare
- Plants from Stuart Row Landscapes from Stuart Row/Tom & Pat Row won by Diantha Pare
- Garden Fairy Sculpture from Dick & Mona Raridon won by Carol Harris
- Biltmore Estate Wine from Jeff Holt won by Brian Baxter
- Hypertufa Trough from Norm Dobbs won by Brian Baxter
- Large Hypertufa Trough from Norm Dobbs won by Brian Baxter

Fundraising & Program Ideas Wanted

Richard Raridon heads a committee to consider fund raising activities. We have asked Applebee's Restaurant in Oak Ridge to put us on their calendar for a Saturday morning pancake breakfast. UTAS volunteers will serve and UTAS will receive the receipts. Watch for a notice in the Oak Ridger and an email.

The historic reenactment at the Arboretum last summer proved popular; we will try for similar projects. Other possible activities include fitness walks, concerts at the shelter, lectures, storytelling, and photography workshops. If you have suggestions, please contact him –raridon@hotmail.com -or any other UTAS board member.

Arboretum Venue for Weddings

Calling all brides! UTAS will promote the Arboretum as a venue for outdoor weddings with a directory listing in the Knoxville edition of *Premier Bride* magazine and on their web site. We participated in their January 2007 Bridal Show and networking events. The entry, as shown here, provides information to learn more about arranging weddings at the Arboretum. UTAS volunteers have also distributed business cards with this information to businesses in our area. **Lee Ann Dobbs** and **Pat Row** lead this effort.



The UT Arboretum

*The Perfect
Backdrop for Weddings*

University of Tennessee Arboretum
901 S Illinois Avenue
Oak Ridge
(865) 483-3571
www.discoveret.org/utarboretum/weddings.htm

Upcoming Events

Oak Ridge Arbor Day and Tree City USA Ceremony

Friday, March 2 - 10 am, St. Mary's

The UT Arboretum Society and the City of Oak Ridge cosponsor Oak Ridge's 22nd annual Arbor Day Observance. On March 2nd at 10 am we will plant a tree at St. Mary's School. This is the 19th year that Oak Ridge will be recognized as a Tree City USA. **Lee Ann Dobbs** is in charge.



Searching for Signs of Spring

An Arboretum Walk with Jeff Holt

Saturday, March 10, 9 am

The walk will last about 2 hours. Wear sturdy shoes and dress appropriately for the weather.

Holly Work Day & Pruning Demonstration

Saturday, March 31 - 9 am -12

Join us as we prune, fertilize and mulch the Elmore Holly Collection. We will also clean and prepare the area across the road for the Tennessee Holly Collection. **Dr. Will Witte** will demonstrate proper pruning techniques. Enjoy a light lunch and refreshments afterwards. Please bring pruners, shovels, gloves, etc. Questions? Call **Dennis Superczynski** - 675-8502 or **Fran Scheidt** - 584-0467.

Pruning Older Plants- A Workshop with Neil Denton & David Vandergriff

March, date TBA

Neil Denton and David Vandergriff will give an in-depth pruning workshop at the Arboretum. They will emphasize techniques to rejuvenate older plants by pruning old wood. This interactive demonstration will use some plants around the Visitors' Center as 'patients.' Then **Richard Evans** will take interested participants up to the Shade Tree demonstration area to show good and bad tree crown reduction techniques. Watch for more information in local media and an email.

Plant Sale 2007 Features Viburnum

Friday, April 20, 5-7 pm - Members Only

Saturday, April 21, 9-3 - Public Sale

Featured Plant: Viburnum, a flowering shrub for all seasons with many different species, most of them evergreen

Support UTAS and find an outstanding variety of high quality plants, including many hard-to-find specimens.

Brandywine Valley Tour

June 18-22

Tour eastern Pennsylvania's garden-rich Brandywine Valley with UTAS' merry band of fellow plant enthusiasts. **Dennis Superczynski** has once again come up with a great trip – don't miss out! See the separate sheet with details and application form. Limited to 40 participants. Deadline to RSVP is March 1.

Stumped?

Where can I find facts on hardiness zones and good trees to plant?



The National Arbor Day Foundation's website has a recently updated map. They note that seedlings are particularly vulnerable to changing weather conditions. The new map shows us in Zone 7. www.arborday.org

Email your questions about trees, other plants, or wildlife to UTAS@discoveret.org.

New and Renewing Members- Thanks!

Vivian Abney
 Marion H Alexander
 Debbie Allen
 Bill & Lucretia Atterson
 Ralph & Belinda Aurin
 Jean Bangham
 Donald & Jodie Barbour
 Faye Beck
 Mozelle Bell
 Phillip & Sheila Bills
 Dianne Blane
 Kathy Bracic
 Charles & Marion Burger
 Martha Burnette
 Bill & Judy Busing
 John Byrd
 Lynn Carlson
 Townsend Collins
 Kate Crawford
 Janet & Bob Cushman
 Debbie Cutler
 Dr Hal De Selm
 Laura M Derr
 Warren Devine
 Angie Dobbs
 Norman & Lee Ann Dobbs
 Terry & Betty Anne Domm
 Margaret Dory
 Virginia Douglas
 Bob & Betty Dreyer
 Viola Ergen
 Janet Fisher
 Arissa Garden Club
 Emory Valley Garden Club
 Oak Ridge Garden Club
 Elwood & Roslyn Gift
 David Gilbert
 Mr/Mrs Melvyn L Halbert
 Glenn & Barbara Hammond
 Mary Harris
 Jane Hayden
 Jeff & Lecie Holt
 Charlie & Emily Jernigan
 James S Johnson III
 Marjorie Jones
 Barry Shupe & Noel Kawado
 Jan Kern
 M Ruth Kerr

Jim & Sarah Kolb
 Barbara Landau
 Beth Lawrence
 Peggy W Mahoney
 Cleva M Marrow
 Terry McGown
 Anne McKenzie
 Chet & Jane Morris
 Lori Murphree
 Mr & Mrs Edmund A Nephew
 Jessemæ M Noritake
 Christine Northcutt
 Martha Orrin
 Wendy Packan
 Diantha Pare'
 June E Peishel
 Buford Penland
 Madelon M Perreault
 Jack Pope
 W T Rainey
 Richard & Mona Raridon
 Willow & Bob Reed
 Robert A Reynolds
 Vicky & Stan Richards
 Ginny Rogers
 Atie Rothmeyer
 Fran Scheidt
 William & Muriel Sirett
 Dr Alan Solomon
 Brian & Michele Spalding
 Dr & Mrs Paul Spray
 Joseph & Irene Sullivan
 Dennis & Jan Superczynski
 Paul & Barbara Taylor
 Joan Tomlinson
 Lamar & Emily Toomer
 Rita Trusley
 Fred & Aase Vaslow
 Janice Violet
 Becky & John Waddell
 Sherry A Wagner
 Marie Walsh
 George & Lessie Werner
 Eloise Wheeler
 Eva & James Wike
 Diana Wolfram
 Beverly S Woods
 Anne Wright

Meet Our New Board Members

Lynn Carlson retired in 2004 from her position as a professor of chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, and moved with her husband to a new house on a 7-acre wooded lot on Beaver Creek. She views the Arboretum as a wonderful resource for hands-on learning about the wide variety of plant material that prosper in these (to her) relatively benign climate conditions. She hopes to learn more about native and introduced flowering plants as they reclaim as much as possible of the woodland that was disturbed by their home- building project.

Wendy Packan graduated from the University of Tennessee with a degree in Botany and minor in Biology. She is currently working as a Research Specialist II for the Department of Surgery's Vascular Research Lab in the UT Graduate School of Medicine at UT Hospital in Knoxville. Their research is currently focused on atherosclerosis. Previous jobs have included plant nursery sales and maintenance, Laboratory Manager for Upper School science at Webb School of Knoxville, and Senior Research Technician through UTK to ORNL's old "mouse house". Wendy has been a member of UTAS for around 15 years and is a native Oak Ridger. Wendy likes to collect recipes, bake, and garden. She and her husband Daniel Claus live in Knoxville.

Hella Peterson graduated from UT with a degree in Business Administration and retired in 2003 after working in Transportation as a District Sales Representative for more than 20 years. She has lived in Oak Ridge for 37 years. Her gardening interests go back to early childhood during World War II in Germany. She followed along, as her mother tended her vegetable garden, picking wild flowers and keeping them in spent ammunition shells she used as vases. Since that time she has been interested in flowers and plants, especially the unusual. Her first seven years in the US, in Florida, she gardened with cacti. Now she enjoys her Tennessee hillside garden, which contains many plants from the Arboretum plant sales.

Bob Reed is retired from the Environmental Sciences Division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He was a project leader and technical analyst for preparing environmental documentation on energy and defense projects to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. His education includes a BA in Botany from Duke University and a Ph.D. in Botany / Plant Ecology from Washington State University. Before coming to Oak Ridge in 1977, he taught botany and plant ecology at the University of Ottawa in Ontario. Bob's projects at ORNL have required travel to a wide variety of areas in the U.S. as well as Antarctica. The Reeds split their time between Oak Ridge and their cabin on the Cumberland Plateau, maintaining 15 acres of oak and pine forest, enjoying the native plants and wildlife of the region, and gardening.

Marti Salk grew up in Michigan and majored in biology at Albion College where she was introduced to the subject of plant ecology. She did graduate work in plant ecology at the Universities of Iowa and Louisville before coming to Oak Ridge in 1975 when she joined the Environmental Sciences Division at ORNL. Marti is especially interested in native plants, particularly those that are threatened or endangered. She is a founding and life member of the Tennessee Native Plant Society, and a life member of UTAS. She and her husband Gary have now visited all seven continents. She has a collection of plant pictures from each of them, even though she doesn't always know what the plant is!

Stan Richards has always had an interest in trees. He was raised in southern Indiana on a small farm surrounded by large federal and state forests. His grandfather and uncle owned and operated a sawmill in his town. He spent a lot of time in the forest, hunting and fishing, and learning the local native trees by both their bark and leaves. Since coming to work in Oak Ridge, he has acquired a small farm in Morgan County with 10 acres of new growth forest. He's trying to determine which trees are native to Tennessee to return the forest back to a natural mix of native trees and brush. Stan's education includes a BSME at San Diego State University, an MSAE at the University of Cincinnati, and an MBA at Xavier University. He also served 6 years in Navy Nuclear Submarine Service as a Nuclear Reactor Operator. He is looking forward to working with UTAS members, and says that the Arboretum is a wonderful benefit to the community and to Tennessee.

Eye on the Forest by Jeff Holt

The UT Arboretum White Pine Trail in Winter

Jeff Holt, UTAS board member since 2005, is a long-time Oak Ridger. He has a BS in Forest Management the University of Tennessee and is a Society of American Foresters Certified Forester. Jeff has worked in the forests of Tennessee and California for thirty

years. In this column he gives us a hint of what we might find when he leads a 'Searching for Signs of Spring' walk at the Arboretum on Saturday, March 10.

The forest in winter is a symphony in grays and browns. It is the best time of year to go looking for the textures and detail of trees that may go unnoticed when the trees are in full leaf or you are looking for vibrant wild-



flowers. Other colors are not absent from the winter forest, but require some looking to find and enjoy. A recent walk on the White Pine trail at the University of Tennessee's Oak Ridge Forest and Arboretum lead to some observations about this particular winter forest. The White Pine trail starts right at the Arboretum's administration building and leads you along an easy, gently sloped trail through a forest of hardwoods and pine.

Along this trail, there are a number of fascinating colors and textures. Look first for the American beech (*Fagus americana*) trees that are common along this trail, remembering that one of their common names is copper beech. American beech retains its coppery brown leaves through most of the winter and it's easy to see them in an otherwise treeless landscape.

Beech also has distinctive "tight" or close gray bark that often has spots or blotches of pale green to silvery hued lichens growing in patches on their trunks. Think of them as the painted pony of the tree world. On one of the beeches where the White Pine trail reaches its highest point and turns toward the southeast, there is an interesting silvery and quite round lichen growing that is almost four inches in diameter. It is distinctively different from the other light colored lichens, and circular rather than irregular in shape. As you hike, see if you can find other colors or lichen shapes. The buds on beech branches are also distinctive for they are thin, copper-colored and very pointed. Contrast these with the robust thickness of hickory buds and the "bishop's mitre" profile of yellow poplar buds. Finally, look at the root buttresses of the beech trees along parts of this trail and compare them to the other species in which the lowest part of the stem is either cylindrical or a little swollen.



There are two species of pine trees along this trail. The first you come to are Virginia pine – a species you will often see in old fields that are not being kept open and along the margins of property where folks have stopped mowing. Its gently curving darker brown trunks can help you recognize Virginia pine here. The bark above the first few feet is typically made up of numerous small (quarter size) scaly bark plates. The foliage of Virginia pine is also very lacy. This laciness allows a lot of light to reach the ground under Virginia pines and, although not seen on this trail, you can often find the wildflower pink lady's slipper under stands of Virginia pine. Look for recent cones of the Virginia pine to enjoy the dark magenta and brown colors on the inside of cone scales. The other pines along this trail are the White pines that it is named for. White pine is a majestic tree usually growing very straight and tall. It is no wonder that in colonel days America's first environmental regulation was then King George's reservation of the best New England White pines for use as Royal Navy ship masts. Compare the Virginia pine and White pine as you look at them and think that

the Virginia pines and White pines are likely close to the same age. While this age in Virginia pine equates to senility, the White pines present are just getting a good start and could live another 300 years.



Stop for a moment at the bench at the top of the hill and face up the slope. If you look a little to your left you can see evidence of the deer in the neighborhood that have rub most of the bark off of a young White pine. Sit for a while and study the detail of the forest. Look for colors, textures, and patterns that leaf profusion or wildflowers color may have obscured for you. See you at the arboretum.

Photos by Jeff Holt

Editor's Note- Email

We need your email addresses so that you don't miss out on important information. We never share your email address with anyone else. Additionally, when we send out an email, members see only their own address so we do not share this information even within our membership.

If you're not receiving email reminders from us and would like to, please send an email to emily@jernigans.net and I will add you to our database. If your email address changes, please notify me of that. You may need to add us to your address book so our emails don't get sent automatically to 'junk' or the trash.

Membership Renewals

Check your Branches label for your membership expiration date!



UTAS Resources

Board of Directors

Officers

President: Norm Dobbs
 Vice-President: Dick Raridon
 Secretary: Diantha Paré
 Treasurer: Pat Row
 Past President: Dennis Superczynski

Joann Johnson
 Wendy Packan
 Diantha Paré
 Hella Peterson
 Bob Reed
 Stan Richards
 Marti Salk
 Don Searle
 Marie Walsh

Board Members

Lynn Carlson
 Jeff Holt
 Pat Hunsicker
 Emily Jernigan

Ex Officio
 Evelyn Lorenz
 Richard Evans

Branches Editor Emily Jernigan

Help Wanted

Ongoing

- **Native Plant Group** meets the third Wednesday most months. Lee Ann Dobbs, 482-6656 or leadob@comcast.net
- **Tour Guides** assist groups visiting the Arboretum. Richard Evans, 483-3571.
- **Weddings** at the Arboretum require volunteers. Contact Lee Ann Dobbs, 482-6656 or leadob@comcast.net or Pat Row, 482-9096, pdrow@comcast.net
- **Publicity** is handled by Joann Johnson, 457-1913.

Special Events

- **Spring Plant Sale** – help with set-up or work during the sale. Contact Dick Raridon, 483-4843/ raridon@hotmail.com or Norm Dobbs, 482-6656/ nadobbs@comcast.net

Thanks

We will miss board members **Fran Scheidt** and **Katie Cottrell**. Fran has a zest for life, a passion for hollies, and a gift for gardening. She has contributed countless hours to UTAS, the Arboretum and to the Elmore Holly Collection through her many years of service. Although she's no longer on the board, she will continue her work with the holly collection. Katie has similar expertise in the bird and raptor realm, and brought bird walks and owl prowls to the UTAS activity agenda. We appreciate all of your efforts.

Welcome!

New board members include Lynn Carlson, Wendy Packan, Hella Peterson, Bob Reed, Stan Richards and Marti Salk, who joined us in mid-2006. Read their bios on page 5.

How to Find Us

On the WorldWideWeb: www.UTArboretumSociety.org

Email: utas@discoveret.org

Via GPS: 901 S. Illinois Ave, Oak Ridge, TN 37830
 35.9995, -84.2259



Looking to the Future...

The UT Arboretum Endowment Campaign

A \$3 million endowment campaign has been initiated to secure future funding for the UT Arboretum. The UT Institute of Agriculture Development Office, Arboretum Director, Arboretum Society President, and several Arboretum Society members have been working in partnership for many months to lay a foundation for a successful campaign.

The **Rogers Group** was recently honored for its \$500,000 Founding Gift to the Endowment. **UTAS** made a \$5,000 initial contribution, continuing its strong support of the Arboretum.

Now it is time to engage everyone in this endeavor to fully achieve our goal. You can assist this effort in many ways:

- Become an ambassador for the Arboretum and spread the word about the Endowment
- Include the Arboretum Endowment in your estate planning
- Help the campaign partners identify potential donors
- Talk about how much the Arboretum has meant to you, your children and the community
- Honor loved ones with memorials to the Endowment

This endowment will fund critical features of a grand vision for the future of the University of Tennessee Arboretum that will include:

- Expanded collections of plants
- Creation of an Arboretum coordinator position
- Improved facilities for public access and enjoyment
- Enhancement of the grounds, displays, and trails
- Perpetuation and care of existing plant collections
- Creation of vibrant education and outreach programs

If you have questions, need more information, or wish to share your idea for funding the UT Arboretum Endowment, please contact:

- UT Institute of Agriculture Office of Development- Rhodes Logan - 865-974-1928
- UT Arboretum -Richard Evans - 865-483-3571
- UT Arboretum Society -Norm Dobbs - 865-482-6656

For more information on Planned Giving visit this University of Tennessee website:

www.utalumni.utk.edu/givetout/planned_giving/index.shtml



P.O. Box 5382
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5382

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Oak Ridge, TN

Rogers Group Gift Kicks Off Endowment Campaign



Upcoming Events

March 2 Oak Ridge Arbor Day planting

March 10 'Searching for Signs of Spring'
walk led by Jeff Holt

March 31 Holly Work Day/Pruning
Demonstration

March TBA Pruning workshop led by
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