

# BRANCHES

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE ARBORETUM SOCIETY

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**4TH ANNUAL BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL - AUGUST 3, 2019**

**10AM - 1PM @ UT ARBORETUM**

**SAVE THE DATE!**



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## HIGHLIGHTS

- MONARCH RELEASE
- INSECT ZOO
- LOCAL ARTISANS
- FOOD VENDORS
- FACE PAINTING
- CHILDREN'S CRAFTS
- DULCIMER MUSIC
- PRESENTATIONS BY:
  - STEPHEN LYN BALES
  - DR. BILL KLINGEMAN
  - DR. SHIRLEY RAINES
- ONE FREE POLLINATOR PLANT PER FAMILY WITH A CHILD

## HOW TO FIND US

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# SAVE THE DATE!

## 4TH ANNUAL BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL - AUGUST 3, 2019

10AM - 1PM @ UT ARBORETUM

SUMMER 2019

### Monarch release, UT Insect Zoo, speakers and children's activities are highlights

The University of Tennessee Arboretum Society will present its fourth annual Butterfly Festival on Saturday, August 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the UT Arboretum Auditorium and surrounding grounds, **901 S. Illinois Avenue in Oak Ridge.**

**The charge is \$5 per carload.** This is a change from previous years. The gate will be open at 9:30 a.m. The event will take place rain or shine.

Co-sponsored by the UT Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center, the event, which drew hundreds of area participants in 2018, is designed for children and adults of all ages. Ample parking is in designated areas of the UT Arboretum adjacent to the event.

**The day's highlight will be the release of 300 butterflies promptly at 12:00 p.m., noon.** Please plan enough time for arrival and parking before the release. It is suggested that butterflies be purchased early in the day due to limited supply, on a first come first serve basis. Children are invited to help release the monarch butterflies, which will be offered at a cost of \$10 per butterfly to cover costs. Cash or credit cards will be accepted. For the safety of all, the use of butterfly nets at this event is strictly prohibited.

Three speakers will give presentations in the air-conditioned UT Arboretum Auditorium.

From 10:00 – 10:45, **Stephen Lyn Bales**, retired senior naturalist at Ijams Nature Center will present, "From Egg to Migration: The Natural History of the Monarch Butterfly."

At 10:45 until 11:15, **Dr. Bill Klingeman**, professor of Plant Sciences at UT will discuss "Pollinators in Our Landscape."

For children and adults, at 11:15-11:45, **Dr. Shirley Raines** will present, "Butterfly, You are Free."

Children of all ages will enjoy experiencing UT Insect Zoo, a traveling exhibit of insects. The goal of the Insect Zoo is to have fun while sharing knowledge of insects with others to help them appreciate the important role of insects in our environment. The Insect Zoo showcases preserved and live insects and arachnids (scorpion, tarantula, etc.) found in Tennessee and throughout the world. There will also be two tents set up to view monarchs and painted ladies up close. Two butterfly viewing tents will be open for a closer look at monarchs and other native butterflies.

The festival will feature six local artisans and one native plant vendor, **Lori McAllister** of Tennessee Naturescapes ([www.tennesseenurescapes.com](http://www.tennesseenurescapes.com)) from Clinton. Lori will be bringing a large selection of locally sourced nectar and larval plants for butterflies and other pollinators. While supplies last, McAllister will give away one free pollinator plant (Joe Pye weed) per family with a child.

Food vendors include **Dano's Hotdogs**, featuring hotdogs, hamburgers and lemonade. **Mediterranean Delight** will offer Middle Eastern fare and **LB&S Snowballs** will offer over 40 Flavors of the refreshing icy treats. Sliders and fries will be offered by **Forks on the Road Food Truck**. Please bring refillable water bottles. Dulcimer music will be played by UT graduate student **Allen McBride**.

Children's craft activities will be available at a cost of \$1 ticket per activity or \$5 for six tickets. These include face painting and tattoos, decorating cookies, making picture frames, decorating butterfly magnets and more.

Celebrating 54 years in 2019, this program is one of many activities that will be offered this year by the UT Arboretum Society. The program is cosponsored by the UT Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center.

The Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2014, is one of ten outdoor laboratories located throughout the state as part of the UT AgResearch system. AgResearch is a division of the UT Institute of Agriculture. The Institute of Agriculture also provides instruction, research and public service through the UT Herbert College of Agriculture, the UT College of Veterinary Medicine, UT AgResearch and UT Extension offices, with locations in every county in the state.

To learn more about the Arboretum Society, go to [www.utarboretumsociety.org](http://www.utarboretumsociety.org).

For more information on the program, call 865-483-7277 or [mcampani@utk.edu](mailto:mcampani@utk.edu).

Thanks to our Monarch level sponsors

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SUMMER 2019

## RECENT SOCIETY EVENTS



### WHAT CAN WE DO?

**Dr. Martin Knoll**, a professor of geology and hydrology at Sewanee: The University of the South, spoke to a packed audience at the Arboretum on June 6 about **"Raising Public Awareness of the Importance of Water Quality and Microplastics in the Tennessee River."** As project manager for the Tenneswim in 2016, Dr. Knoll directed the most detailed analysis of Tennessee River water quality ever conducted. During this project, Knoll and his colleagues found the highest levels of microplastics recorded in any river of the world to date. His lecture compared the Tennessee River to the Rhine River in Europe. The two rivers are similar in many ways except that the Rhine River watershed has five times the population of the Tennessee River watershed but about 1/80 the amount of microplastics in the top two feet of water. If you missed this fascinating lecture, check out his article entitled "Tennessee: River of Plastic" [www.sewaneewater.com](http://www.sewaneewater.com). Dr. Knoll ended his lecture with some ways that we as consumers can help reduce the amount of microplastics in our water.

### DON TAKES HIS DONATIONS SERIOUSLY!

In March of this year, our newest Board member, **Don Searle**, informed UTAS that he was the **recipient of an ORNL grant for volunteerism**. Called *10,000 Days of Giving Back in 2019*, the program lets those ten active community volunteers whose names are drawn select an organization to receive their \$1,000 grant. Don chose the UT Arboretum Society, and he and Michelle Campanis are pictured here receiving a check from Dr. Thomas Zacharia, Director of ORNL. Don reflects below on what the UT Arboretum means to him to explain why he chose to give his grant money to UTAS:

*A little anecdote occurred to me yesterday as I was reflecting on the event Michelle and I attended. When I first moved into the west Knox and Oak Ridge area and I discovered the Arboretum's trails, it became my place of solitude. I was oblivious to what was required to maintain it. A friend of mine bought me a membership as a Christmas present, and from then on I was no longer the anonymous trail walking man. I think it was Pat Row who first reached out to me and asked if I would support an activity, a booth at the Secret City Festival. From that time on you could say I was brought into the fold, no longer suffering from the misconception that the Arboretum either runs itself or gets help from woodland elves. I know the Arboretum is in the capable hands of you fine folks (and a host of people behind the scenes), but the inexorable task of raising funds is ever present. As I said yesterday, I was so happy to be chosen as a conduit for this grant to find its rightful place, and I know it will be wisely put to proper use.*

This generous grant from **Don and ORNL** will be used for our educational programs.

**Thank you, Don!**



The **2019 Minton Sparks Writing Workshop** was held in the inspiring space of the UT Arboretum Auditorium. Twenty attendees were guided by internationally-acclaimed performance artist, **Minton Sparks**, to write about themselves or family members, and then share and discuss their work in small groups over the course of the 3-hour workshop. This is the second year that the Arboretum has hosted Minton's workshop in conjunction with the Flatwater Tales Storytelling Festival, which took place this year on June 1 at the Historic Grove Theater.





The Spring Plant Sale was another great success! Thanks to Norm Dobbs and the many volunteers that it took to pull this together.



Dr. Martin Knoll (left) meets Dr. Robert Hatcher (right). The two geology professors both gave fascinating lectures to large audiences at the Auditorium recently. Dr. Hatcher spoke on "Living With East Tennessee Geology and Earthquakes."



UTAS Treasurer Randy Stewart (right) hands Arboretum Director Kevin Hoyt (left) a mid-year check for \$10,000 for his operations budget. This is money generated from UTAS fund raisers, primarily from the spring plant sale.



Positioning water bars on our eight miles of hiking trails is no easy task. At a trails work day on March 30, Don Williams, Tim Bigelow, Les Hook, and Jim Given discuss the best way to position the cedar log before securing it.

Jeff Holt explains about dogwood trees to a hiker attending one of our popular 3rd Saturday hikes. Thanks so much to Jeff and th Hella Peterson for being wonderful and knowledgeable hike leaders!



Kris Light leading her very popular spring wildflower hike at Haw Ridge Park. She will be leading a fall hike on Saturday, September 21, from 9:00-11:00 on the Haw Ridge trails. Join us for a wonderful experience by an incredibly knowledgeable leader!



Reed Bishofberger and Lynda Haynes in front of the newly installed flagpole by the Visitors Center. Lynda spearheaded the move to acquire the flagpole.



Terumi and Ian Watson pause to rest a moment at this year's first holly work day on April 6. Ian is the new leader of the Holly Task Force, replacing Dennis Superczynski, who oversaw the collection for more than a decade. Thanks to the 13 volunteers who tirelessly pulled invasive plants for several hours at the work day!



Dwayne Estes, Professor of Biology at Austin Peay State University, presented a fascinating lecture on June 13 on the Southern Grasslands Initiative.



Thanks to Dr. Andrea Ludwig and all the student and UTAS volunteers who helped to finish phase 2 of our beautiful rain garden.



SCARBORO CREEK CLEANUP

On March 28, Lynda and Chuck Haynes completed their spring cleanup as an ongoing part of our Adopt-A-Stream commitment. They picked up four bags of trash consisting of car parts, paper, and plastic, all of it coming from littering on South Illinois Avenue. The good news is that they found insignificant amounts of litter from walkers in the Arboretum. We thank Lynda for initiating this.

CALENDAR

**August 3: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Butterfly Festival**, 10:00-1:00, Auditorium and Program Shelter (volunteers needed)

**September 21: Fall Wildflower Walk** by Kris Light, 9:00-11:00, Haw Ridge trails

**September 27: "Behind the Scenes Tour of the Arboretum"** by UTA Staff and UTAS Board, 5:00-7:30, Auditorium (Soup Kitchen soup & bread for \$25(UTAS)/\$30 charge; volunteers needed)

**October 15: Annual Dinner/ Membership Meeting/Silent Auction**, 5:30-8:30, Oak Ridge Calhoun's (\$30 (UTAS)/\$35 charge)

**October 19: Fall Plant Sale** by Norm Dobbs, 9:00-2:00, Program Shelter (volunteers needed)

**October 25: Bat lecture** by Pandy English, 7:00-8:00, Auditorium

**November 2: Trails Work Day by Don Williams**, 8:00-12:00 (volunteers needed)

**November 7: "Owl Prowl"** lecture by Ranger Monica Johnson from Cumberland Mountain State Park, 7:00-8:00, Auditorium

**November 14: Bear Photography** lecture by Chris Norcott, 7:00 - 8:00, Auditorium

**December 6: Work on UTAS float for Oak Ridge parade**, 9:00-1:00, Shop (volunteers needed; lunch provided)

**December 7: Walk with float in Oak Ridge parade**, 6:00-8:00, Staging area (volunteers needed to walk/give out candy)

**\*This is a tentative calendar of events. The best way to receive timely information about events is to be on our email list. Contact Michelle Campanis @ mcampani@utk.edu to be added to the list. If there is a charge for an event, the price listed is for UTAS members. Contact Janet Bigelow at janet\_bigelow@tds.net to volunteer.**