

Branches

Extending news and information to UTAS members and friends

Issue No. 34 - Spring 2014

Spring Plant Sale

On April 11 and 12 we'll present another great lineup of plants from 4 local vendors and others, some offered only at our plant sale.

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Stumped?

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



When is a good time to see spring blooms at the Arboretum?

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UTAS Tour

June 26 - 29 is our 'Kentucky Brilliance' tour, put together by Dennis Superczynski. The application is in this issue of *Branches*.

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Bats at the Arboretum!

Bat expert Jerry Middleton will have slides indoors and a bat detector outside. Come and learn more about these fascinating creatures!

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Calendar

- April 5 Holly Work Day
- April 11 & 12 Plant Sale
- April 24 'Let's Go BAT-ty'-at the Arboretum
- May 17 'MOTH-ers Night Out' with Kris Light
- June 21 Lavender Festival
- June 26-29 'Kentucky Brilliance' UTAS tour

Tired of Winter? Our Spring Plant Sale will Cheer You Up with Blooms!

Is your Rosemary roasted? Your Loropetalum looking limp? This winter has been especially tough on plants. Our spring sale is a perfect time to rejuvenate your landscape and your containers. Our Master Gardeners and other knowledgeable volunteers, along with our regular 'Answer Man,' horticulturist Dr. Will Witte, can help you select plants suitable for your needs, including those that are more winter-hardy.



Shoppers ponder their plant choices at the Spring Plant Sale. Photo by Charles Samuels

This is UTAS's 47th annual Spring Plant Sale, and we're providing the best of four local nurseries in one location. Plant vendors offering flowering trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, wildflowers, and edibles include [Beaver Creek Nursery](#) and [Riverdale Nursery](#), Knoxville; [East Fork Nursery](#), Sevierville; and [Sunlight Gardens](#), Andersonville. We'll also have some plants grown by UTAS members and supporters. Dr. Witte will again sell books from his personal horticulture library.

The sale is on **Friday and Saturday, April 11 and 12**, at the UT Arboretum. The **Members Only** sale is from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, April 11, and you can become a member that day. On Saturday the sale is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is open to all. We will sell caps and gardening aprons with the UTAS logo, too. **Dano's Hot Dogs** of Lenoir City will offer hot dogs, chips, and soda on Saturday, so enjoy a bite to eat before you go home and start digging.

The University of Tennessee Arboretum Society is a 49-year-old, nonprofit organization dedicated to furthering the objectives and programs of the University of Tennessee's 250-acre Arboretum in Oak Ridge. Proceeds from this sale and other fund-raising events go toward the operating expenses and the endowment and auditorium funds for the UT Arboretum. To learn more about the Arboretum Society, and our Endowment and Auditorium Funds, visit our website, www.utarboretumsociety.org. ~Emily Jernigan



President's Letter

The Arboretum is spectacular, folks. Flowering trees are budding, early wildflowers are up, and the grasses are reawakening. By the time we have the Spring Plant Sale dogwoods and silverbells should be at peak, trillium, violets, Canada violets, and other wildflowers should still be in bloom. I saw robins, bluebirds, hawks, one owl, and a turkey in the Arboretum in the last month.

The Arboretum staff and the Native Plants Group have weeded and mulched the gardens at the entrance of the Arboretum. They have done a marvelous job. Daffodils and bloodroot are currently in bloom, and other flowers will take their places by the time of the Spring Plant Sale.

So, come to the Arboretum—not just for the Plant Sale, but for a great experience. The walking trails are open. There are a few leaves on the trees and shrubs. In early April the leaves of the trees will be that special green that characterizes this year's new foliage. Soon the canopy will shade the trails, providing respite from the heat that is bound to come. Take your time. Relax on one of the 47 benches on the trails. Enjoy the Elmore Holly Collection. Hollies also bloom and show a very special spring green.

Thank you to all who renewed their memberships, who come to the sale, and a special thanks to those who volunteer at our sale.

We have some exciting and informative programs coming up, including one on bats and another on moths. June brings the annual tour, this year to 'Bluegrass Brilliance' in Kentucky. More information on these and other offerings are in Branches and on our website, www.utarboretumsociety.org.

The Arboretum is a fantastic place and a wonderful resource. It is incredibly beautiful at this time of year. I hope to see you on the trails, at the Plant Sale, and at the programs and activities of your UT Arboretum Society. Have a great spring!

~Charles Samuels, UTAS President
samuels253@comcast.net, 865-482-3502



Director's Desk

Spring is sooner recognized by plants than by men.

~Chinese proverb

I must say that we all been teased by the impending launch of spring this year given the wide swing in temperatures we have experienced. However, we have an abundance of daffodil and new magnolia collection blooms dotting the Arboretum's entrance. I'm told that the early magnolia bloomers near the office were established in 1966, developed to breed late-blooming cultivars and hybrids that have large showy flowers. These beautiful flowers now greet a multitude of visitors and photographers in spring.

The Arboretum's dogwood cultivar trial garden and research plots will soon be filled with beautiful pink and white flowers. This area, near the program shelter, has over 100 different cultivars of dogwood in various research plantings. Our dogwood collection will be a featured garden during the **Dogwood Arts Festival** later this spring. There are many wildflowers dotting the trails, fields and forested areas of the Arboretum, including Bloodroot, Lady Slippers, and several species of Trillium See Arboretum March-April "Featured Plant" page online or at the kiosk for more information.

The traveling deer herd continues to thrive moving throughout the fields, forests, and gardens. Lately I have seen many turkeys, and the skunks and raccoons have been quite active, making their presence known around the director's house for several weeks.

We co-hosted a program with UTAS focused on four invasive insect species attacking trees in our region, although not yet at the Arboretum. Learn more about this and other programs on our website calendar, <http://forestry.tennessee.edu/>.

Please come out and support the UTAS Spring Plant Sale on April 11 and 12. I'm sure you will find many beautiful plants, and can experience the Arboretum dressed out in a colorful, ever-changing pastoral spring setting!

See our website for more information:

<http://forestry.tennessee.edu>

~Kevin Hoyt, Director

Photo taken January 29, 2014, by Kevin Hoyt

Upcoming Events

Please check our website, www.utarboretumsociety.org, for updated and additional information on our events.

Holly Work Day

Saturday, April 5 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Elmore Holly Collection

The next Holly Volunteer Work Day is Saturday, April 5, from 9 a.m. to noon. We'll perform spring maintenance. The collection will be featured again this year on the **Dogwood Arts** calendar so it is important that we get the area looking its best for our visitors.

Contact **Dennis Superczynski**, 675-8502, jandport@tds.net, for more information or to sign up.

Spring Plant Sale

Friday, April 11, 5-7 p.m. For Members Only. Saturday, April 12 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Open to All Arboretum



We now accept credit cards!

This sale is the primary fund-raiser for UTAS, and we look forward to seeing members and others who come out to get plants and to support UTAS and the Arboretum.

Norm Dobbs chairs the Plant Sale.

'Let's Go BAT-ty' at the Arboretum

Thursday, April 24 7-9 p.m. Arboretum Visitors Center

Curious about these creatures of the night? Want to know what kinds of bats inhabit the Arboretum? **Jerry Middleton**, Biologist III, TN Dept. of Environment & Conservation, Division of Remediation, DOE-Oversite Office, will help us understand more about bats with a talk at the Visitors Center. He'll use slides to discuss his 2-year study of Arboretum bats. Then he'll take us outside and demonstrate his bat detector! This promises to be an outstanding opportunity for all ages to learn more about these elusive and mysterious creatures.

Lavender Festival Booth

Saturday, June 21 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Historic Jackson Square

UTAS will have a booth again this year at the Festival. We'll be selling our aprons and caps, providing membership applications, and promoting the Arboretum and UTAS. Stop by and say hello.

'MOTH-ers Night Out' with Kris Light

Saturday, May 17 7:30 p.m. Arboretum Visitors Center

We'll have moths in May to add to our night creature features. Learn about moths and their habitats. Kris is an outstanding naturalist and educator and this event is a special treat for everyone. Bring your camera to capture moths that show up on the black-lighted sheets that Kris puts up.

Events Roundup

SMART Stormwater Management Lecture

Dr. Daniel Yoder, professor of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science at the University of Tennessee, presented a program on "The SMART Approach to Stormwater Management" on February 25. The UT Agriculture Institute's SMART Center (Stormwater Management Assistance Research and Training Center) is a partnership of the University of Tennessee, multiple agencies, and industry and community partners whose mission is to meet the informational needs

of the entire stormwater management community through assistance, research and training. We had almost 30 attendees at this informative meeting.

'Healthy Trees - Healthy Tennessee' Talk

Alex Wyss, East Tennessee project director with the Tennessee Nature Conservancy, spoke to about 40 people on March 13 in the City Room at RSCC. Trees are an important economic contributor by increasing property values, reducing pollution, reducing storm water runoff, and mitigating climate change. He mentioned 4 potential or current threats to trees in our area. They are the Asian Longhorn Beetle, Emerald Ash Borer, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, and the Gypsy Moth. The Thousand Cankers Disease results from the Walnut Twig Beetle and a fungus collaborating to cause this disease.

Alex and the Nature Conservancy ask that we become aware of these threats. Learn more about these invaders and report any findings of them to Tennessee officials by calling 615-837-5520 or going to <http://protecttnforests.org>. They request that you photograph your findings and share these, too.

Committee Reports

Native Plant Group

This group meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. They keep the beds around the Visitors Center and those on the Sides Azalea hillside looking neat and tidy, and work in the parking lot beds. The beds are freshly mulched and ready for spring visitors. Contact **Lee Ann Dobbs** at 482-6656 or leadob@bellsouth.net.

Welcome, New Board Member

Linda Kimmel has lived in Oak Ridge for over 34 years and has worked as Director of Public Relations at Ridgeview Behavioral Health Services for 26 years. A former high school English teacher, she has a Bachelor's degree in English and Communications from Arkansas State University. Linda loves nature and the out-of-doors. She serves as executive director of Keep Anderson County Beautiful. She is a lifelong home gardener, birdwatcher, and hiker, and shares her interests with her children, grandchildren, and friends.

'Bluegrass Brilliance' Kentucky Garden Tour June 26 - 29

Travel with UTAS to visit some of Kentucky's select public and private gardens. The application and complete information are in this issue of *Branches*.

Dennis Superczynski, UTAS Tour Coordinator

Stumped?

When is a good time to see spring blooms at the Arboretum?

Spring has already arrived at the Arboretum. We have wildflowers, magnolias, and more right now, with dogwood and azalea blooms coming right up. Read the President's and Director's columns in this issue of *Branches*, and go to the Arboretum website's Spring Bloom Guide, <http://forestry.tennessee.edu/bloomguide.htm>, for photos and upcoming attractions.



Email questions about trees, woody plants, or wildlife to our Green Thumb experts at utarboretumsociety@gmail.com

'Bluegrass Brilliance' Kentucky Garden Tour June 26 – 29

~Dennis Superczynski

The University of Tennessee Arboretum Society 2014 annual garden tour will feature Kentucky's finest gardens, historical homes, a thoroughbred stallion farm, and an optional tour to one of Kentucky's famous distilleries.

Our four-day bus tour begins in Oak Ridge, with our first visit at the home and gardens of Kentucky landscaper Jon Carloftis near Berea, Kentucky. Jon will take us on a tour of his garden that is being developed to be the first Proven Winners Botanic Trail in the United States, along Wilderness Road. Here we will enjoy a gourmet lunch on his terrace overlooking the Rockcastle River. After lunch we leave for Lexington to tour Jon's [Mt. Brilliant Horse Farm](#) followed by cocktails and a tour of his urban home, [Botherum](#), and its gardens. A group welcome dinner is planned for the evening at [Dudley's On Short](#) in Lexington.

Day two continues in Lexington with a morning visit to the private garden of Lois Anne Polian. From here we tour the historic home and gardens of Henry Clay Estate, [Ashland](#), with lunch at their Ginkgo Tree Café. After lunch we visit [Gainesway Thoroughbred Stallion Farm](#), proud to be located on some of the finest bluegrass in Kentucky.

In the afternoon, we continue to Louisville for a tour of the Historic Landmark [Locust Grove](#) home that displays artifacts of the American Revolution and the life of George Rogers Clark.

Spend two evenings in Louisville, Kentucky, with dinner on your own. Saturday morning we tour [Yew Dell Botanical Gardens](#) in Crestwood, Kentucky. Paul Cappelletto is executive director of Yew Dell Gardens and co-author of *Dogwoods*, the book he wrote with Don Shadow; both men are good friends with Tony Avent of Plant Delights Nursery in North Carolina. UTAS professional garden connections have now gone full circle, touring in Tennessee, North Carolina, and now Kentucky.

Board our coach for lunch at [Isaac's Café](#) and a brief tour of [Bernheim](#) Arboretum and Research Forest in Clermont, Kentucky, followed by a tour of [Jim Beam American Stillhouse](#). Both locations are near each other, allowing guests an option to tour Bernheim and Jim Beam, or to remain at Bernheim for a more extensive afternoon tour of the arboretum before returning to our lodging for the evening.

Sunday morning we begin our return journey, first with a morning shopping stop at a premier garden center near Crestwood, Kentucky. We continue home, taking the scenic route through central Kentucky through Bardstown and Danville, with a brief stop at the Carloftis-designed garden at The University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg.

*The tour is limited to 40 participants, and is offered at this price with a minimum of 20 people. Please return the attached registration form by **April 20, 2014**, to secure your registration including a **\$100 nonrefundable deposit per person** in the form of a check made payable to UTAS. Please send to*

PO Box 5382, Oak Ridge TN 37831-5382, Attn: "Bluegrass Brilliance Kentucky Garden Tour." Final payment is due on or before May 15, 2014.

The tour includes round trip coach transportation from Oak Ridge, admission to all attractions and gardens, Thursday lunch on the Carloftis Terrace, welcome dinner at Dudley's On Short in Lexington, Friday lunch at Ginkgo Café, Saturday lunch at Isaac's Café, and three overnight accommodations including breakfast.

The cost of the tour is outlined below for double occupancy. A \$50.00 discount is available to UTAS members. If you are not a member and you wish to join, please complete the membership application with your remittance.

Tour Cost per Person

Tour cost Per Person	\$700.00 Transportation, lodging, lunch, garden fees
UTAS member discount	<u>– \$50.00</u> UTAS Members discount
Cost with member discount	\$650.00 Double Occupancy
Single supplement	\$175.00

Reservation Form “Bluegrass Brilliance” Garden Tour	UTAS 2014 Membership Application
Name _____ Phone _____	Name _____ Phone _____
Additional members in your party: _____ _____	Address _____
Address _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	E-Mail _____
E-Mail _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Society Friend \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$45
Amount enclosed \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$500 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$30
_____	Contribution \$ _____ (All memberships and contributions are tax deductible.)
_____	_____
Mail with your deposit, by April 20, 2014, to: UTAS, P.O. Box 5382, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5382	Mail, with a separate check, to: UTAS, P.O. Box 5382, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5382

Email & Membership Notes

We need your email address so that you don't miss out on important notices from UTAS. We never share your address. If we don't have your email, please email emily@jernigans.net and we will add you to our database.

If your **email or mailing address changes**, notify emily@jernigans.net.

Renew now! Check your *Branches* label for your membership expiration date! You'll get a reminder, or download a form at www.utarboretumsociety.org.

View Branches Online

Look for an email reminder from UTAS with a link to *Branches* on our website. There, you can see it in color and link to websites, etc. You can also see what else is going on at the Arboretum and UTAS. Just go to www.utarboretumsociety.org and check it out any time.

Choose Email-Only Branches

If you'd like to receive only an electronic copy of *Branches*, send an email to emily@jernigans.net. Confirm that you no longer want us to mail you a paper copy of our newsletter. Be sure to include the email address you'd like us to use. If you change your mind, just let us know that, too. This is a *greener* option and helps UTAS conserve our fiscal resources.

New & Renewing Members - Thanks!

Jean Bangham	Robert Reynolds
Faye Beck	James Rome
Kathy Bracic	Murray & Mimi Rosenthal
Lynn Carlson	Jewell Tabor/David Scanlon III
Terry & Betty Anne Domm	Don & Vickie Searle
Margaret Dory	Alan Solomon, MD
Betty Dreyer	Kathy & John Sullivan
Art Dworkin	Rita Trusley
Carmen & Josie Gianforte	Fred & Aase Vaslow
Elwood & Roslyn Gift	
Christine Lee	* Denotes Society Friend

Photo Competition Winners

UTAS held a photo competition for the Camera Club of Oak Ridge. The photos had to be taken in the Elmore Holly Collection. We had 2 first-place winners: **Carolyn Slay**, *Ilex aquifolium* 'Harlequin', entry #3, and **Alice Reed**, *Ilex decidua* 'Memphis Belle', entry #2. Congratulations to both of them! Look for their winning photos in the next edition of *Branches* and on our website and FaceBook page.



Azaleas and more at the Plant Sale will brighten your landscape.
Photo by Charles Samuels.

UTAS Membership Application

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

New ___ Renewal ___

Society Friend \$100 ___ Patron \$500 ___

Family \$45 ___ Individual \$30 ___ Student \$15 ___

Yes, I want to make an additional Contribution:

UTAS General Fund \$ _____

Elmore Holly Collection Fund \$ _____

All memberships and contributions are tax deductible.

Yes, I'd like to help with Society committees, special events or other needs. _____

___ Please send only an electronic copy of the quarterly newsletter, *Branches*.

Mail this form with your check to:

UTAS

P.O. Box 5382

Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5382



UTAS Resources

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Thanks!

Dr. Daniel Yoder spoke about the "SMART Approach to Stormwater Management."

Alex Wyss gave a talk about 'Healthy Trees – Healthy Tennessee.'

How to Find Us

On the WorldWideWeb: www.utarboretumsociety.org

Email: utarboretumsociety@gmail.com

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

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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 **Rogers Group** has fulfilled its pledge of a **\$500,000** Founding Gift to the Endowment. The **UT Arboretum Society** has contributed over **\$70,000** to this effort, continuing its longstanding support of the Arboretum. We have received pledges for more than **\$700,000** for the Auditorium and think we will break ground soon.

Now we need to engage everyone 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

The 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 information, or wish to share your idea for funding the UT Arboretum Endowment, please contact:

UT Institute of Agriculture Office of Development: **Robin R. Haefs**, 865-974-5779. Email UTIAadvancement@tennessee.edu.

UT Arboretum - **Kevin Hoyt** - 865-483-3571

UT Arboretum Society - **Charlie Samuels** 865-482-9096

To contribute to the Endowment or Auditorium Fund, make your check payable to the "University of Tennessee Foundation" and indicate in the memo line that you want your contribution credited to either the **UT Arboretum Endowment Fund** or the **Arboretum Auditorium Gift Fund**. Mail it to the UT Institute of Agriculture, Office of Institutional Advancement, 114 Morgan Hall, Knoxville, TN 37996.

For more information on Planned Giving visit this University of Tennessee website at <http://www.utf.org/give-now/planned-giving>.



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Check the mailing label for your membership expiration date.



A 'Venus' dogwood (*Cornus kousa*) bloom. They can be over 6 inches across! Photo by Charlie Jernigan.

Upcoming Events

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- April 11 & 12** **Plant Sale**
- April 24** **'Let's Go BAT-ty'**
 at the Arboretum
- May 17** **'MOTH-ers Night**
 Out' at the Arboretum
- June 21** **Lavender Festival**
- June 26 – 29** **'Bluegrass**
 Brilliance' Kentucky Tour