Extending news and information to UTAS members and friends

UTAS President's Message

Dennis Superczynski discusses our new fall festival, ArborFest, plus dogwoods and a UTAS update. Page 2

Stumped?
Ask us!

Email your questions about trees, woody plants, or wildlife to our Green Thumb experts. Page 3

“Director’s Desk”
Richard Evans

A new name for the research center, a Dogwood Field Day, plane crashes courtesy of Patricia Cornwell, Herman Postma Solway bridge naming ceremony,- find out more. Page 2

ArborFest
October 14 & 15

Our new fall festival. Plants, dogwoods, crafts, demonstrations, food, music, children's activities, and much more. Page 1

Annual Dinner

Save the date. Tuesday, November 1 at the Doubletree in Oak Ridge. Join us! Also, be prepared to vote on new membership dues and categories proposed by the UTAS board. Page 3

Don Shadow

Internationally known dogwood expert will speak Thursday, October 13 and Friday, October 14 and will sign copies of his new book, Dogwoods. Page 2

Our vendors and supporters include

- Ridge Greenhouse & Florist
- Beaver Creek Nursery
- Sunlight Gardens
- Nantucket Nursery
- Erin’s Meadow Herb Farm
- Farm House Nursery
- Brent and Becky’s Bulbs
- Ruth Pardue
- Natural Resources Recovery
- Haw Creek Forge
- Bath Thyme
- Buds and Bugs Photos
- Jam Creations
- Earth in Bloom
- Creative Art and Clay
- Ridge Handicrafts
- Hillside Bakery
- Karen Oland Honey
- Jericho Farms
- KFC
- Paula Keefe & Sandra Herrera
- ORNLFCU & Dogwood Arts
- Starbucks Coffee
- TN Bank

Demonstrations and Talks

Friday:
1:00 Don Shadow “Dogwoods”

Saturday:
11:00 Ruth Pardue “Planting Bulbs”
12:00 Ridge Greenhouse “Transition Your Containers”
1:00 Natural Resources Recovery “Mulch and Compost”
Oak Ridge High School String Ensemble

Saturday Children’s Activities
10-2:00 Face painting and tattoos
1:00 Make a giant spider web in the trees

Visit our web site for complete details www.utarboretumsociety.org
President’s Letter

The UT Arboretum Society continues its 40th anniversary celebration with the new, expanded fall plant sale and fundraiser, ArborFest. We are pleased that ArborFest is a Dogwood Arts Festival sanctioned event with support from the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce and ORNLFCU, as well as the UT Arboretum.

Thursday, October 13 at 7 pm, and on Friday, October 14 at 1 pm, join us to hear Don Shadow discuss “Dogwoods.”

Friday, October 14 from 1-6 ArborFest gives area residents an opportunity to purchase unique garden and garden-inspired accessories and numerous plants including dogwoods developed at UT and propagated by Shadow Nursery. UTAS will also sell bulbs, singly and in collections, chosen by daffodil expert and gardener extraordinaire, Ruth Pardue.

On Saturday, October 15 from 9-3 craft and food vendors, demonstrations, music, and children’s activities will round out the festivities. Come by and enjoy ArborFest with your family and friends. Remember- your purchases help support the UT Arboretum!

We are indebted to our UTAS volunteers for all their hard work for ArborFest and our many other activities. We hope you enjoy this new newsletter format, Branches. A more technical journal published separately by the University is in the planning stages. Don’t miss the ‘new and improved’ look outside the Visitor’s Center. An intrepid group of UTAS volunteers has done wonders for those beds!

Your membership is very important to the Arboretum. Please renew when you receive your reminder in November. And let us know what we can do to improve our organization.

Please visit our updated web site, www.utarbortumsociety.org, for complete details about ArborFest and other Society information.

~Dennis Superczynski

Director’s Desk

There’s a lot to report on from the Director’s desk. First is our new name. On September 20th, the UT Forest Resources Research and Education Center and Arboretum celebrated its new name in a sign unveiling ceremony. Eighty-five members of the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce and other invited guests attended this memorable event. The new name more accurately reflects the broad range of the Center’s mission of research and education.

We were honored to host another name-change ceremony in July. The “Dr. Herman Postma Memorial Solway Bridge” was dedicated at an event attended by state and local dignitaries, as well as family members and friends of the former Oak Ridge National Laboratory Director.

Next, it’s an “All About Dogwoods” Field Day on Friday, October 14, 8 am – 2 pm. Dogwoods are the leading crop in Tennessee’s burgeoning nursery industry; they are prized ornamentals for home landscapes; the dogwood is threatened by new disease; and UT has made substantial contributions to the development of new dogwood cultivars that are both disease resistant and horticulturally desirable. At 1 pm Don Shadow, nurseryman, plantman, and one of the nation’s foremost authorities on dogwoods concludes our program.

And finally, the crashes! We are a dedicated partner in advancing the University’s mission, and sometimes we receive some strange requests. When the highly regarded UT National Forensic Academy asked us to assist with a crime scene investigation-training program, we said yes. For two days in July a small portion of the Arboretum was transformed into a training venue for fighting crime. Patricia Cornwell, author of The Body Farm and supporter of the UT National Forensic Academy program, highlighted the program as she graciously engaged the press and dignitaries. The Forest Resources Center & Arboretum has many dimensions to its program, and sometimes we “explode” into the headlines.

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

~Richard Evans

Don Shadow Knows...

his dogwoods! Thursday, October 13 at 7 pm he’s coming to Oak Ridge to talk to us about them. Don will present a lecture featuring his new book, Dogwoods. Come to the City Room at Roane State Community College, Oak Ridge campus, and hear this internationally known award-winning nurseryman and plant propagator. UTAS presents this talk free of charge as a public outreach activity. We will serve refreshments after the lecture, and Don will sign copies of his book.

You may purchase copies of the book from UTAS. Members receive a 10% discount. Anyone joining UTAS as a new member Thursday night, or any time during ArborFest, will be entered in a drawing for a free copy of Dogwoods.

According to Timber Press, “…the authors provide more than two hundred stunning photos to help with the daunting tasks of identification and plant selection. They offer helpful details on cultivation, combating pests and diseases (including the dreaded dogwood anthracnose), and the fundamentals of breeding and selection. Based on years of research, first-hand observation, and interviews with dozens of specialists and nurserypeople, Dogwoods is an unprecedented guide to the diversity of plants available in nurseries today. Written in engaging and informative prose, this book will be treasured by generations of gardeners.”

Friday, October 14 at 1 pm Don will speak again at the UT Arboretum. This event will kick off ArborFest and conclude the Field Day presented by the Forest Resources Research and Education Center. Much of the work done on the improved, anthracnose resistant dogwoods has been conducted at the UT Agricultural Experiment Station. Don Shadow has been instrumental in propagating these plants, and in bringing them into the marketplace. Many thanks to Fran Scheidt who, with Dennis Superczynski and Richard Evans, helped make this event possible. This is a great collaboration, and we’re very happy to have Don with us!
Annual Membership Meeting and Dinner

T uesday, November 1 at the Doubletree Hotel

Featured speaker: Neal Denton, UT Extension Director and Agent, and popular guest on WBIR’s “Live at Five” and “Morning Show.”

Also on the program: UTAS business meeting including highlights of the past year and plans for the future by Dennis Superczynski and Richard Evans; a membership vote on proposed changes to UTAS bylaws regarding membership dues and categories; and election of the 2006 UTAS officers and board.

Invitations will be mailed mid-October with more specifics and RSVP information.

We hope to see you there. ~ Norm Dobbs

Holly Work Day

November 12th 9-11 am at the Elmore Holly Collection, UT Arboretum.

Main Tasks: prune, fertilize, & plant new hollies

Bring: gloves, and, if you choose, shovels, pruners, loppers, saws, garden forks

Rewards: outdoor fun and exercise with a great group of fellow garden enthusiasts plus BRUNCH!

Brunch: provided at the site by UTAS for our volunteers after we complete our tasks

Help us care for our outstanding collection of these special plants!

RSVP to Fran Scheidt 584-0467, francy@esper.com or Dennis Superczynski (675-8502, jandport2@aol.com)

Stumped?

What weather conditions promote the best fall leaf color?

Stumpy says: A growing season with ample moisture followed in autumn by warm, sunny days and cool but not freezing nights gives trees their most spectacular fall finery.

Email your questions about trees, other plants, or wildlife to us at utas@discoveret.org.

Don Shadow Lectures

Thursday, October 13 7 pm City Room, Roane State Community College, Oak Ridge

Friday, October 14 1 pm UT Arboretum

ArborFest

Friday, October 14 1-6 pm

Saturday, October 15 9 am-3 pm

TV appearances for ArborFest

Friday, October 7, 7:15 pm & Tuesday, October 11, 1 pm - Channel 12, Knoxville

Wednesday, October 5 and 12, 5 pm - Channel 12, Oak Ridge

Sunday, October 9, 8 am - WBIR

Annual Meeting and Dinner

Tuesday, November 1, Doubletree Hotel, Oak Ridge

Holly Work Day

Saturday, November 12, 9-11 am

New and Renewing Members

Glenn & Barbara Hammond
Tom Insalaco
M. Ruth Kerr
Dan Mushett & Family
Bill & Ruth Pardue
Willow & Bob Reed
Nelson Van Wie
Ben & Martha Burnette
Oak Ridge Garden Club
Susan Gawarecki
Dollyann Myers
Wendy Packan
Buford Penland
Richard & Mona Raridon
Brian & Michele Spalding
Joseph & Irene Sullivan
Joan Tomlinson
Fred & Aase Vaslow
Wackenhut Services Inc
Jackie Wilson
Ms. Jessemae M. Noritake
Sarah Sheppeard / Ben Alford

Editor’s Note

I’m Emily Jernigan, editor of the new UTAS newsletter, Branches. Although I am not new to the Society, I am new to the board and to this position. The primary goal of Branches is to provide our membership with timely information about Society events and activities. I encourage you to give me feedback regarding both the content and the format of Branches via email at utas@discoveret.org.

My husband, Charlie Jernigan, and I will assume responsibility for the UTAS web site on November 1. Although the old web address is still valid, our new name, www.utarboretumsociety.org is operational and more accurately reflects who we are. Please check in often, as we plan to update it frequently with Society information.

We will also send out email reminders about upcoming events and activities. Please add your name to our list by sending us a note with your email address at utas@discoveret.org.
Highlights include

- Thursday, October 13  7 pm  Roane State Community College City Room, Oak Ridge  Don Shadow lecture and book signing
- Friday, October 14  1 pm  UT Arboretum Field Day and ArborFest  Don Shadow lecture and book signing
- Friday, October 14  1-6  UT Arboretum  ArborFest  Plants, garden furniture & accessories, bulbs
- Saturday, October 15  9-3  UT Arboretum  ArborFest  Above plus crafts, music, food, demonstrations, children’s

Don Shadow Lectures
October 13 & 14