2013 Tour in Tennessee and Alabama — What a Trip!

Text and most photos by Lynn Carlson

The UT Arboretum-sponsored garden tour took place on May 16-18 this year. We went to Cheekwood Botanical Gardens in Nashville, and points southeast in Tennessee and Alabama. Twenty-three people participated, counting our intrepid bus driver and 11 (!) Master Gardeners. Although many had visited some of our stops before, there was something new for everyone.

In May, the Cheekwood staff were in the middle of “swapping-out” time—the changeover from spring bulb displays to summer annuals. It was especially complex this year because several areas were off limits due to the ongoing installation of Light, an outdoor art display by British artist Bruce Munro, involving more than 20,000 lights and hundreds of miles of optical fiber.

There was still plenty to see on our docent-led tour of the gardens. Among the highlights was the new Sigourney Cheek Literary Garden, a landscaped stone amphitheater for group poetry or literary readings, or simply for meditation and private contemplation of the spectacular view.

Many dogwood trees were still blooming. Cheekwood has the first garden in Tennessee to be recognized as a member by the North American Plant Collection Consortium for the variety and beauty of its dogwood collection—14 species and 24 cultivated varieties! There wasn’t time to see everything before our elegant lunch at the Pineapple Room, complete with an orchid on every plate. (Continues on page 3)
President’s Letter

Summer is upon us! The humidity and heat are noticeably more intense, and the sun (and sometimes the rain) seem to be unrelenting. We have had a good spring and summer insofar as rainfall is concerned, but the dry days may be here soon enough. Take care of your plants and yourselves. The rules are surprisingly similar...good water, appropriate cover, and don’t overdo it.

I am pleased to report that the UTAS booth at the Lavender Festival was a big success. First, those of us who staffed the booth had a good time. Second, and most importantly, we met a lot of people who came to us and expressed an interest in the Arboretum, and who took membership applications. I am cautiously optimistic that we will see some new members to our organization. Finally, we raised the public profile of the Arboretum and UTAS.

Bob McLaren presented an outstanding workshop on backyard photography on June 22. He discussed how to and photograph wildlife (birds), flowers, and weeds. He discussed equipment from simple point-and-shoot cameras to more sophisticated single lens reflex cameras, and he showed examples of some of his backyard photography setups. Reducing the variables of light and movement that frustrate many of us who try to record the beauty around where we live. Keep in mind that the Arboretum is our backyard, and it is a superlative place for photography. Cool mornings and evenings are the best times to capture birds and wildlife. The morning and evening twilight is soft on bark of trees, adding interesting textures and colors our images, and it is a good, peaceful time to take photos of your friends and family.

I have asked past UTAS President Tom Row to form a nominating committee to fill vacancies of officers and directors on next year’s UTAS Board of Directors. If you would like to serve on the UTAS Board or as an officer, I hope that you will contact Tom (tomhrow@comcast.net). We need energetic, dedicated folks with ideas of how to grow UTAS and how to make it more dynamic and active. We have the support of the Kevin Hoyt, the FRREC Director, and hopefully we will soon have a new auditorium to use as an attraction and a resource. So if you have an interest in influencing the future direction, programs, and activities of UTAS, please volunteer to be on the Board. On the other hand, if Tom calls you and asks you to be on the Board, please respond positively to that vote of confidence that your perspective will be valued as a member of the Board.

November 12, 2013. Reserve the date! November 12 will be the annual UTAS membership meeting. We hope to have a big turnout, a brief business meeting, an interesting program, and other activities.

~Charles Samuels, UTAS President

Director’s Desk

“Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” ~Henry Ford

I believe this inspirational quote has a common thread for all of us connected to the Arboretum as we all continue to work to beautify the grounds, provide educational outreach programs, and build our membership base. Truly, the collaborative team effort being performed by UT Arboretum Society members, the FRREC staff, Center volunteers, allied science-based service groups, UT Extension, and UT researchers continues to sustain our 50-year old legacy, while also providing a catalyst for change and future growth.

Although change sometimes drives uncertainty and fear, we are ultimately forced to experience change all the time at the Arboretum. Whether it is the immediate effect of a severe weather event, or the potential long-term impact from invasive plant species, continuous change is part of everyday life here. However, positive change this past year has created lasting value for UTAS members, visitors, and the Oak Ridge community at large. We have collectively completed the information Kiosk project, added two new artificial wetlands, initiated a forest access road/sedimentation demonstration project, installed several Boy Scout & Girl Scout community outreach projects, added a new Day Lily collection, and recently completed the final phase of the new Viburnum collection.

The programming aspect of the Arboretum continues to change too. We have worked together to plan, set up, and host many highly attended programs and workshops this year. Building on the success of past programs, coupled with several new programming ideas, we have been able to attract new visitors to the Arboretum and members to the Arboretum Society. The expansion of the Arboretum Society Lecture Series, featuring UT researchers and professional resource managers, has given members and the community a unique learning forum during the cooler weather months.

We hope that sometime soon we will realize the grand vision of the Arboretum Endowment Campaign by breaking ground on the new UT Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Auditorium. As I have said before, I truly believe the Auditorium will be the catalyst to drive positive change, launch innovative education programs, provide a much needed revenue stream, and ultimately build our membership base. At the end of the day our continued progress and success comes down to teamwork, a shared vision, and an openness to embrace change.

See our website for more information: http://forestry.tennessee.edu

~Kevin Hoyt, Director
Continued from Page 1: From Cheekwood we moved on to a very different kind of adventure: to visit Don Shadow, a true Tennessee treasure. At his family nursery in Winchester, TN, Don was ready to talk about his Japanese maple collection. His words, “I’ll show you something…” always led to a rare, stunning maple and an amusing story about his adventures in Japanese nurseries.

No visit to Shadow Nursery would be complete without a visit to his conservation herd of alternative livestock.

We only had time to visit the Bactrian camels, shown here with Don, which charmed everyone with their heavy coats and long eyelashes. Look for “All Things Acer” at http://www.shadownursery.com/, for a more detailed overview of the maples and the nursery.

For many of our members, the visit with ‘Shada-san,’ as Don is known in Japan, was the highlight of the trip. His tales stirred our acquisitive instincts but, sadly, we usually couldn’t buy the plants we were so excited about because the plants were not in production yet. Still, on offer were some choice plants of other types, so we went away pleased if not fully satisfied.

In Huntsville, a Saturn V rocket led us to our hotel. The Huntsville Botanical Garden was only a short distance away, and we were ready to meet our docent the next morning.

At Huntsville, there is a great emphasis on children’s activities. “Big Garden, Little Me” was the theme of a major exhibit. Here children could wallow in oversize sprinklers, climb inside giant flowerpots, and sit in mammoth Adirondack chairs, enjoying themselves outdoors with little restraint. We saw several groups of school children climbing on playhouses, on their bellies netting fish at the water garden, or just running around in the open air.

There were plenty of spaces to please the most ardent gardeners, too, including many display gardens (the snapdragons were amazing) a beautiful butterfly house, and a wildflower garden that could have taken our entire morning. Occasional sprinkles did not deter the group from exploring as much as possible in the time available. Our tour members’ reactions: “That’s what a public garden should be.”

But we had miles to go, to the next stop: Birmingham Botanical Gardens for lunch and a docent-led tour. Here our weather luck ran out. The garden was a study in muted colors because it rained on us for almost the entire visit.

The leaders of this public garden interpret their mission with a very different concept from Huntsville’s; it was much more an arboretum. Reforestation of the urban landscape is a major goal, and we saw a huge expanse of flats of seedling trees for the city parks.

There were many display gardens as well. The Enabling Garden is designed with accessible raised beds, and is a haven of serenity. The formal rose garden is a major trial garden for roses that can tolerate the Southeast weather, and a wildflower garden rambles up a hill that was once part of a quarry.

The red gate at the entrance to the Japanese Garden was a bright note on a gray day, although, as might be expected, the Japanese garden itself was a study in greens and neutrals with the focus on spare design.

There were other garden spaces, but it was time to head home. On the way, our yearning for new plants was satisfied in part with stops at Signal Mountain Nursery and Mouse Creek Nursery. The bus was crammed with greenery to keep us busy as spring rolls into summer.

We arrived in Oak Ridge in a pouring rain. Unflappable hosts Dennis and Jan Superczynski had managed to keep 22 gardeners on task for three days, a notable feat, but one we have come to expect from our tour planners. We all scurried about sorting our new acquisitions, packing the cars with wet luggage and dripping plants, eager to take advantage of the rain to put them in the ground.

It must have been a good trip, because over lunch on Saturday a heated discussion arose concerning where we should go in 2014. There will be many more pictures on our web site at http://www.utarboretumsociety.org/ Check them out!

LITAS Tours are offered for the enjoyment of its membership at reduced prices. This tour was planned by Dennis and Jan Superczynski.

2013 Tour Participants: Debbie Allen, Faye Beck, Lynn Carlson, Norm and Lee Ann Dobbs, Doug and Sally Gross, Chuck and Lynda Haynes, Joann Johnson, Mary Mishu, Peggy Mahoney, Joanna Partain, Hella Peterson, David and Mary Ann Piper, Jim Reca, Fran Scheidt, Dan and Katie Steinhoff, Dennis and Jan Superczynski.

Master Gardeners, left to right: Joann Johnson, Lee Ann Dobbs, Hella Peterson, Dan Steinhoff, Faye Beck, Mary Mishu, Fran Scheidt, Peggy Mahoney, Don Shadow, Joanna Partain, Lynn Carlson. Photo by Dennis Superczynski.
Upcoming Events

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

NOAA Weather Station Talk & Tour

Monday, July 22  7 - 8:30 p.m.  Arboretum Program Shelter

Have you ever wondered why the weather in East Tennessee can change so quickly? Did you know that the NOAA weather station monitors and collects thousands of files of data daily?

The program will begin at the Outdoor Shelter with Dr. Tilden Meyers speaking for about 15 minutes. With a full moon as a back drop on the 22nd, he will then walk participants to the weather station to talk about the actual equipment. The walk (about 15-20 minutes) consists of approximately 1000 feet beginning on a gravel drive and then onto a mowed area. It will end between 8:30 and 9:00 p.m.

Dr. Meyers, Deputy Director, Atmospheric Turbulence and Diffusion Division of NOAA. A scientist with NOAA for nearly 28 years, he has worked on issues related to acid deposition, air quality and climate change. Much of his research is focused on land-atmosphere interactions, particularly the role of how various land surface types (grasslands, forests, crops) play in both the water and carbon cycles and how these are affected by significant climatic events such as droughts and extreme temperature events.

The climate monitoring station at the UT Arboretum in Oak Ridge, Tennessee was installed in the summer of 2007. Criteria for long term climate monitoring stations are critical for maintaining a climate record that minimizes biases in the temperature and precipitation records caused by local disturbances. Because of the need for climate data in our area, the Arboretum offered several excellent locations.

The system has the same instrumentation and station architecture as those used in NOAA’s national climate monitoring network (the U.S. Climate Reference Network, https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/crn/). For critical observations of air temperature and precipitation, there are identical sensors on each system. This is necessary to eliminate biases and errors in the data. At this particular site, wind speed and wind direction at 10 m, along with incoming solar radiation, relative humidity and surface or “skin” temperature are also monitored. In addition soil moisture and soil temperature are observed at depths of 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 cm. This information is important for monitoring soil water status and assessing drought impacts. For more information on the NOAA or any other Society workshop call the Arboretum at 865-483-3571 or visit the UTAS website http://utarboretumsociety.org/.

Geocaching Workshop for Kids with Janet Bigelow

Friday, August 9  9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  Arboretum

This is an introductory class on geocaching, the worldwide treasure hunting game. We will learn the basics of using a GPS device, determining your location, inputting waypoints, following a short course, hiding a cache, and finding caches hidden by others.

Arboretum Society board member Janet Bigelow will be teaching this workshop with assistance from other UTAS members. She is a retired middle school teacher with 38 years of indoor and outdoor classroom experience.

The workshop is open to rising fifth through eighth graders. Do NOT bring a GPS device as we will all be using identical devices. Snacks, drinks, and small “treasures” will be provided, but participants need to bring a sack lunch and rain gear. Cost is $10 and is payable in advance. Visit our website, http://www.utarboretumsociety.org/, for details. Advance registration is required, and there is a limit of 16 participants.

Contact Janet Bigelow at 865-675-3822 or janet_bigelow@tds.net, or visit the UTAS website, www.utarboretumsociety.org, for more info.

Butterflies and Insects with Kris Light

Saturday, August 31  10 a.m.  Arboretum

The UT Arboretum Society will host a “Butterflies and Insects Workshop” in and around the Visitors Center. The informative event, led by naturalist, educator and photographer Kris Light, will have an interpretive slide program and a field exercise focusing on the life cycles and identification of common Tennessee insects.

Fall Wildflower Walks

Saturday, September 14  10 a.m. and 2 p.m.  Arboretum

Wildflowers in the fall? Yes! We offer two opportunities to spend some time outdoors to see fall wildflowers again this year. Due to high demand, we’ll have a 10 a.m. walk with Kris Light and a 2 p.m. walk with Charlie Samuels. This is a great family friendly activity and an opportunity to spend some time outdoors. You need to call the Arboretum office, 483-3571, to register for one or the other. Both walk leaders can help you discover plenty of wildflowers. Bring a camera.

Fall Plant Sale

Saturday, October 12  9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  Arboretum

Plant Sale chair Norm Dobbs will have another great selection of plants from various vendors and from UTAS supporters. Fall is often the best time to get your plants in the ground because it gives them an opportunity to establish their roots before their primary growth season in the spring. Look for more details in the next Branches and on our website and Facebook page.

Events Roundup

Huey Sides, Azalea Expert

Huey Sides and his wife, Barbara, put on an excellent program about growing and hybridizing azaleas to a group of about 40 people. We met at the shed at the Arboretum. Huey not only brought azaleas and photos to the talk - he also brought a number of pies that he’d baked to share with us! Huey and Barbara open their yard to the public every spring and have donated many unique azaleas that are now planted on the Arboretum grounds.

Plant Sale a Big Success

Norm Dobbs led UTAS’s Spring Plant Sale and had a lot of help from many volunteers and plant growers. This is our major fund raising effort every year, and all proceeds are used to support the Arboretum.

Very special thanks goes to all volunteers who worked more than one shift and one day. Also, we owe special thanks to UT Arboretum Director Kevin Hoyt and the UT Forest Resources Center Headquarters and Cumberland Forest staffs. Without their help our plant sales would not be possible.

MOTHers Night Out with Kris Light

Kris Light attracted a crowd of about 40 visitors along with moths for this workshop. They learned about moths and other night insects from a slide presentation and then went outside to see what would land on the sheets Kris had hung outside.
Wildlife and Nature Photography with Bob McLaren

Local photographer Dr. R. E. McLaren led a photography workshop in June focused on wildlife and nature. He discussed cameras and settings, editing, and the optimal techniques for capturing flowers, birds, and other wildlife with a camera. He also talked about ways to get wildlife to cooperate and be available for you to take their picture! Bob is an avid nature photographer and enjoys sharing his expertise with others. We appreciate his willingness to share it with UTAS.

Committee Reports

Native Plant & Plant Collections Collaborate

In late May twelve Society members took four truckloads of mulch and transformed the Viburnum planting area into a showcase of possibilities for home landscapes. This collection offers possibilities for a screen, springtime flowers and fragrance, berries, and fall color while using these special native plants. This project has been guided by Lynn Carlson and the Plant Collections Committee for the past three years. Over sixty plants are in the collection and all were planted with the help of the Native Plant Group, headed by Lee Ann Dobbs. Now that it is completed a walk down Valley Road has become a tour of the Viburnum Valley. Please see the Fall and Winter 2012 editions of Branches, available on our website, www.utarboretumsociety.org, for more information about this collection.

Those who worked on the mulching were Norm Dobbs, Dennis Superczynski, Ken Farrell, David Alspaugh, Lee Ann Dobbs, Lynn Carlson, Joan Johnson, Pat Hunsicker, Janet Bigelow, Marti Salk, Huey Sides, and Peggy Mahoney.

Adopt-A-Daylily Bed! The Native Plant Group is looking for some help with the daylily bed in the parking area. The beds are mulched so it’s easy to identify plants that don’t belong. If you, your Garden Club, or your company would like to spend a few hours a month tending the daylilies contact Lee Ann Dobbs at 482-6656.

Membership Committee

The committee led the UTAS effort to have a booth at the Lavender Festival after an absence of several years. We sold some of our aprons, T shirts, and caps, and talked with many people attending the Festival. We hope that this outreach will pay long term dividends for UTAS. Those of us who spent a few hours there had a great time, too. The Membership continues to meet regularly and welcomes anyone with ideas for enhancing members’ experiences, growing our membership, or involving more members in our activities. Please contact Emily Jernigan, emily@jernigans.net or 482-4836.

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee has been formed and new members will be elected at the Annual Meeting in November and will begin their respective terms in January 2014. The 2014 slate will be announced in the fall edition of Branches.

If anyone is interested in serving on the board please contact Tom Row, tomhrow@comcast.net or 482-9096.

Stumped?

How can I find out what might be good plants to photograph now at the Arboretum?

Go to the Arboretum website, http://forestry.tennessee.edu/, and look for the ‘Plants’ tab. There you can find ‘Featured Plants’ that indicate by month some plants that are blooming, have great autumn foliage, fruit, etc. You can also find a Tree Identification Guide that will help you locate specific trees, and look at the Photo Galleries to see pictures of trees, shrubs and vines, ferns and allies, and wildflowers.

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

Book Donations from Fran Truex, Eileen Neiler

Fran Truex, a native of Lake George, New York, has had a lifelong passion for learning, gardening, and the importance of soil mulching. Fran was introduced to the joy of nature and the outdoors by her father when she was young. Mother to 2 children, grandmother to 5 and great grandmother to 10, she now lives in Clinton. Fran generously donated a number gardening related books to the FRREC reference room located at the Visitors Center. Thank you, Mrs. Truex! We also want to than Eileen Neiler, the UTAS Historian, former board member and avid volunteer. Eileen helps keep our records straight and has also donated a number of books and publications to our library.

Plant Sale Volunteers - Thanks!

| David Alspaugh       | Wendy Packan |
| Janet Bigelow        | Hella Peterson |
| Debi Boody           | Susie Peterson |
| Kathy Bracic         | Dick Raridon |
| Barbara Bunting      | Joanna Partain |
| Lynn Carlson         | Susan Reed |
| Julie Carey          | Bob & Willow Reed |
| Jim & Carol Cortese  | Bob Reynolds |
| Bob & Janet Cushman  | Stan & Vicky Richards |
| James Day            | Debbie Roberts |
| Norm & Lee Ann Dobbs | Tom & Pat Row |
| Terry Domm           | Gary & Marti Salk |
| Ken Farrell          | Charlie Samuels |
| Stacey Fuller        | Gene Sanslow |
| Harvey Goranson      | Don Searle |
| Chris Hamilton       | William Siret |
| Lynda Haynes         | Melanie Staten |
| Jeff & Leic Holt     | Randy Stewart |
| Pat Hunsicker        | Irene Sullivan |
| Charlie & Emily Jernigan | Dennis Superczynski |
| Larry Landau         | Marie Walsh |
| Evelyn Lorenz        | Will Witte * |
| Peggy Mahoney        | Beverly Woods made the calls to schedule all the volunteers. |
| Sara Melton          | |
| Mary Mishu           | |

* Beverly Woods made the calls to schedule all the volunteers.

Issue No 31 - Summer 2013
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 already have your email, please send an email to emily@jernigans.net and we will add you to our database.

If your email address changes, please notify emily@jernigans.net.

If your mailing address changes, please notify emily@jernigans.net. The Post Office charges us for returned mail.

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 and More 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.

You can also check out our Facebook page for photos, updates about events, and reminders. Please ‘Like’ us when you go there.

New & Renewing Members-Thanks!

| Sandra M. Barry | Dan & Eva Robbins |
| Dianne Blane   | Betsy Robinson |
| Barbara Bunting| Shannon & Debbie Salyer |
| Charles & Marion Burger | Gene & Marsha Sanslow* |
| Lesley Cusik   | Jewell L. Tabor & David H. Scanlon III |
| Ruth Ewald*    | Don & Vickie Searle |
| Roger & Maria Goetz | Sandi Langston & John Skinner |
| Doug & Sally Gross* | Dave Snider |
| Karen Johnson  | Dan Steinhoff |
| Clarence & Lynn Juneau | Randy & Ann Stewart |
| Manfred O. Krause | Barbara & Bob Stone |
| David Mabry    | Julie Watts & Robert Devault |
| Joseph A. Mallard | Valerie Widgren |
| Cleva M. Marrow | Cathy Wieland |
| Mary Mishu*    | Beverly S. Woods |
| Linda Nelson*  | * Denotes Society Friend |
| Wendy Packan   | |
| Margaret A. Phares* | |
| Marian Poteat  | |

Yvonne Hitchcock Recognized for 30 Years of Service

Yvonne Hitchcock currently serving as a senior field worker at the UT Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center (FRREC), was recently recognized for reaching the milestone of working for 30 years at FRREC. According to the FRREC website, Yvonne, “... continually distinguishes herself as an employee who can be relied on to give whatever it takes to get the job done.

Yvonne’s artistic abilities have also proved to be extremely valuable in setting up the FRREC’s annual fall plant sale and holiday entry sign decorations. She is also known around the Center as the “Animal Whisperer” as we sometimes have pets abandoned at the Center, which has included anything from cats and dogs, to floppy eared rabbits. Often these frightened animals seek shelter up in the woods around the office and Center Director’s residence. She has been known to stand in the parking lot or by the road, and “encourage” the animal to come down. And with her generous heart, many times she ends up paying their vet bills herself, and works hard to find loving homes for them. And those she can’t place become part of her own “pack.” She is truly a valued employee who works hard to keep the Arboretum facilities and grounds in tip top shape for our researchers, community partners, and visitors.”

The UT Arboretum Society also knows that Yvonne is always willing to help out with our activities at the Arboretum, including with Holly Work Days, special events like the Plant Sales, workshops, and more.

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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. ______

Mail this form with your check to:
UTAS
P.O. Box 5382
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5382

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Help Wanted

- **Native Plant Group** meets the third Wednesday most months. Lee Ann Dobbs, 482-6656 or leadob@bellsouth.net
- **Plant Collections Committee:** Lynn Carlson, lbcarlson@alumni.indiana.edu
- **Elmore Holly Collection Task Force** meets several times a year. Dennis Superczynski, 607-8512 or jandport@tds.net

Thanks!

Huey and Barbara Sides put on a wonderful (and tasty!) talk about azaleas.

Norm Dobbs organized the Plant Sale.

Beverly Woods recruited volunteers for the Plant Sale.

Kris Light gave us Moths and more at her workshop.

Bob McLaren led another excellent photography workshop.

Dennis and Jan Superczynski organized another UTAS tour.

Fran Truex and Eileen Neiler donated books to our library.

How to Find Us

On the WorldWideWeb: [www.utarboretumsociety.org](http://www.utarboretumsociety.org)

Email: utarboretumsociety@gmail.com

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

Design, writing, and editorial services donated by Emily Jernigan, WordsWorth

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 $55,000 to this effort, continuing its longstanding support of the Arboretum. We have received pledges for more than $556,000 for the Auditorium.

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 UTIAdvancement@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.utfi.org/give-now/planned-giving](http://www.utfi.org/give-now/planned-giving).
Upcoming Events

July 22      NOAA Weather Station Talk and Hike
August 9    Geocaching Workshop for Kids
September 14 Wildflower Walks with Kris Light & Charles Samuels
October 12   Plant Sale
October 26   Owl Prowl

Check the mailing label for your membership expiration date.

Huey Sides talks to an avid group of gardeners at the UTAS-sponsored workshop at the UT Arboretum Shed. Photo by Emily Jernigan.

UTAS board member Debi Boody, her daughter and her grandson are ready to shop at the Plant Sale. Photo by Emily Jernigan.