Arboretum Monarch Waystation Designation

Emily Jernigan

Former UTAS board members Stacey Fuller and Jeff Holt proposed development of a Monarch waystation at the Arboretum to help preserve the habitats of these amazing migratory butterflies. Lee Ann Dobbs, chair of the Native Plant Group, suggested that we apply to have the area around the Visitors Center designated as a Monarch Waystation by Monarch Watch. They just approved our application based on plants already in this area, including a lot of milkweed and other Monarch-friendly plants, and other requirements.

According to their website, www.monarchwatch.org, “Monarch Watch is a nonprofit educational outreach program based at the University of Kansas that focuses on the monarch butterfly, its habitat, and its spectacular fall migration.”

The organization encourages creation of waystations/habitats to help ensure that the Monarchs have the resources they need to survive their migrations. Their website has information about Monarchs and how individuals, schools, gardens, etc., can help. Recommended plants for the butterflies pre- and post-emergent needs include varieties of milkweed, coneflowers, Joe Pye Weed, Scarlet Sage, and zinnias. We have a sign in the area noting its Monarch Waystation designation.

This is a worldwide effort to sustain the Monarchs whose survival is threatened by loss of habitat (2.2 million acres per year in the US), increased pesticide use, industrial farming, and deforestation. According to a June, 2014 article in Science Daily (www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/06/140604203056.htm), “Planting milkweed in the south and central United States would provide the largest immediate benefit [to Monarchs].” Willow Ridge Garden Center in Oak Ridge recently hosted a Monarch butterfly release and they, along with other area nurseries, offer an array of butterfly friendly plants.

We want to create another butterfly area at the Arboretum before long.

We hope the Monarchs visit our new, official Waystation at the Visitors Center soon, and that many of you will stop by, too, to see them in the area so beautifully maintained by the UTAS Native Plant group and Arboretum staff.
President’s Letter

It’s summer, and it’s HOT! The almanacs agree that this summer will be a bit hotter and drier than normal. So, let’s talk about hot weather and the Arboretum—no, not about how the trees tolerate the hot weather, but what you can do to weather the hot weather.

The first thing is basic: come to the Arboretum. It is a great summertime place. Many of the trails are under a double canopy of foliage, so the air temperature near ground level is cooler than in the open. The forest also seems to catch the breezes, giving added relief from the heat. You can walk the trails and take advantage of one of our 47 benches for a break or some rest.

The Arboretum also has quiet, sheltered places like the dwarf juniper collection along the entrance road. This collection needs some attention, but you can sit on one of the benches within the ring of trees and shrubs and be sheltered from both sun and noise from the outside, and somehow the breeze comes inside. It’s a great place to rest and an easy one to reach. The Program Shelter also is an excellent place to escape the heat and for bird watching.

When you stay safe and take care of yourselves! Here are a few commonsense suggestions:

Take plenty of liquids. Most of the folks I see on Arboretum trails have no water or other liquid. Your body needs hydration even for short walks during the heat of the summer. If you are going to hike one or more of the Arboretum’s seven miles of trails, respect them as you would a hike in the Smokies. Take along sufficient liquid to keep everyone in your group hydrated. And please carry the container out with you.

Protect yourself from the sun. Even though you are in the shade, the sun can still tan or burn your skin. Use sunscreen or long-sleeve shirts and long pants.

Know what poison ivy looks like and avoid it. “Leaves of three; let them be.”

Watch your steps, and stay on the trails. “Mr. Grabber,” the root or stone that pops up to trip you, lives on every hiking trail that I have ever walked. Be careful. There are a number of unseen and unforeseen hazards off the trails—this is a forest.

So, come to the Arboretum often this summer. Take a few basic precautions to keep yourself protected and safe, and respect the place and its inhabitants. You will enjoy the summer there at any time of day, and will probably experience wonderful and unusual sights and sounds. The Arboretum is such an exceptional resource and is truly “A Place for All Seasons.”

~Charles Samuels, UTAS President

samuels253@comcast.net, 865-482-3502

Director’s Desk

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.
~James Dent, Good Housekeeping, August, 2009

Now that summertime has finally arrived I am reminded of the beauty, solitude, and comfort that the season brings – and the amount of grass mowing and bush hogging that our staff is tasked with. That being the case it is still amazing to me that our staff spends over 50% of their time in the summer mowing, weed-eating, bush hogging, and debris pickup/removal to keep this magnificent place in tiptop shape for our visitors and clientele. In fact, we are still picking up and removing debris from the recent 15-minute microburst weather event. Some of the major areas affected by the storm were the Heath Cove, Tulip Poplar, Oak-Hickory, Backwoods, and Lost Chestnut Trails. So far we have removed and disposed of over a dozen large truckloads of woody debris, limbs, and small firewood logs. We will remove several truckloads of saw logs and haul them to the sawmill in the coming weeks to fully use the downed trees from this destructive event. Hopefully, we will complete cleanup by the beginning of next week and all of our trails will be safe and open for the public again.

On a more positive note, it looks like the UT Arboretum auditorium project will be moving forward this summer. The call for bids was advertised in late May and we recently hosted the pre-bid contractors meeting last week up at the program shelter. Eight contractors showed up for the briefing, which we hope will yield an acceptable bid by the end of June. If all goes well in the bidding process we might see a formal ground breaking by late summer. This event would then kickoff the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Oak Ridge Forest and Arboretum. Other events celebrating this milestone, will take place later this fall. To help celebrate this event, Nancy Smith, center volunteer, has redesigned our official logo, now proudly displayed on our website. It will be used on other outreach events at the UT Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center in the future.

As I have said many times before, we have all contributed to building a lasting legacy for the UT Arboretum. And now, sometime soon, we should realize the grand vision of the Arboretum Endowment Campaign by breaking ground on the new UT Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center / Arboretum Auditorium. It will most definitely be a catalyst to drive positive change, launch innovative education programs, provide a much needed revenue stream opportunity, and ultimately build our future membership base.

Please visit our website: http://forestry.tennessee.edu
~Kevin Hoyt, Director
Lavender Festival Booth

UTAS had a booth again this year at the Lavender Festival. Jackson Square was filled with many people during the morning despite the heat and bright sunshine. All that changed shortly after noon when a severe thunderstorm with significant wind struck. Most everyone folded up their tents when it was safe, and we did, too. Charlie Samuels stayed in the booth most of the time, assisted by Tom Row and Melanie and Vince Staten. Lynda Haynes and Norm and Lee Ann Dobbs helped with setting up and taking down the tent.

‘Bluegrass Brilliance’ Kentucky Tour

Twenty-eight UTAS members thoroughly enjoyed the four-day bus trip to Lexington and Louisville Kentucky, with stops at other sites along the way. Look for a full report and photos in the next issue of Branches. Dennis and Jan Superczynski organized and led the tour again this year.

Committee Reports

Native Plant Group

This group of 8 to 10 regular members currently meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 9 a.m. Due to the heat, they are meeting more often for a shorter duration. 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 when time allows. The beds are ready for visitors, including Monarchs! Contact Lee Ann Dobbs at 482-6656 or leadob@bellsouth.net.

Stumped?

Are daylilies native to TN? I see many new daylilies in a variety of colors planted around the Arboretum parking lot. Are they from a local source? How do daylilies differ from other lilies?

In the spring of 2013 UT Arboretum Society volunteers planted approximately 50 new daylily cultivars, which had been donated by Peter Shea, adjacent to the Arboretum parking lot. These plants represent just a few examples of the many thousands of daylily cultivars that have been developed by horticulturists over the past two centuries, mostly since the 1930s. Native to China, Siberia, Korea, and Japan, daylilies belong to the plant genus Hemerocallis – the genus name assigned by Linnaeus from the Greek meaning “beauty for a day.” Although similar to lilies in appearance, daylilies have been placed in a separate plant family, the Xanthorrhoeaceae.

Daylilies differ from true lilies (e.g., Lilium) in a variety of ways. Their roots are tuberous or fibrous rather than bulb-like. The linear, grass-like leaves form clumps that give rise to leafless flower stalks (scapes) that typically bear a number of flower buds. In contrast, the flower buds of true lilies are borne on the same stem as the leaves. For most daylily cultivars, the flowers open one at a time and last for only a single day. Lily flowers, however, may last for several to many days. Many daylily flowers bloom in the morning and wither as evening approaches, while flowers of other cultivars bloom only at night.

The Orange or Tawny Daylily (Hemerocallis fulva) has been widely planted as an ornamental and has escaped from gardens. In our area, it is conspicuous in June growing in extensive clumps along roadsides, ditches, and old home sites. In some areas (e.g., Wisconsin) it is considered an invasive species.
Deer pressure on Viburnum Valley plants 2011–2014

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UTAS members will remember the beginning of our UT Arboretum Viburnum Valley Project in 2011. Two years into the project, we begin to see some results.

The goal was a low-maintenance, deer-resistant planting that would survive the occasional harsh winter in East Tennessee without coddling. After installation in the fall of 2012 and 2013, the plants have received no supplemental watering, one round of fertilizer in spring 2013, and one deep mulching, with no other care except spraying the mulch for weeds occasionally. Thank you, UTA staff!

As a rule of thumb, it looks as if deer, with an extensive buffet to choose from, like the smooth leaves but are likely to leave the fuzzy ones alone. They are not much interested in the fragrant Mohawk and Judd viburnums or the evergreen viburnums ‘Prague’ and ‘Conoy’ (all fuzzy), but are a serious threat to cranberry bush, nudum and dentatum cultivars, and mapleleaf viburnum (smooth), unless the plants are caged. Doublefile viburnums and snowballs (both forms of V. plicatum), and V. dilatatum (represented by the cultivars Cardinal Candy™ and ‘Michael Dodge’), are also smooth-leaved but they are relatively deer-proof. It’s noteworthy that the most heavily browsed specimens are native to the US.

Cold weather also took a toll this winter. We pushed the hardiness envelope a bit too far with laurustinus (V. tinus) and Chinese evergreen viburnum (V. propinquum). One Chinese evergreen has died completely, and the other two are struggling back from the ground, while the one laurustinus is completely gone. We’ll experiment next time with something more robust!

Most viburnums will take some shade, but there can be too much. Three Chinese snowball viburnums (V. macrocephaulum) that anchor the east end of the plantation are not thriving in high shade from two directions at once. We may move them to a sunnier location when planting time rolls around again in the fall, so they have a better chance of reaching their majestic 15’ x 15’ size at maturity.

Clearly there are some lessons to learn. With a little maintenance, a few deer cages, and no watering, nearly all the plants look good. Yet we will need to review the use of a few of them. Come see them at the Arboretum, and try a few at home. Just remember: in your hands, in your microclimate, with your deer, your mileage may vary, as they say. And who knows what deer will eat when they’re hungry enough!

Viburnums Thrive at the Arboretum

Lynn Carlson, text and photos

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Plant Sale Volunteers - Thanks!

A very special thanks to all the volunteers, especially those who worked more than one shift and one day. Also, special thanks go to UT Arboretum Director Kevin Hoyt and his staff. Without their help our plant sales would not be possible. Peggy Mahoney was in charge of getting all our volunteers who worked at this sale.

Norm Dobbs

| David Alspaugh | Wendy Packan |
| Faye Beck | Hella Peterson |
| Kathy Bracic | Dick Raridon |
| Lynn Carlson | Susan Reed |
| Julie Carey | Willow Reed |
| Bob & Janet Cushman | Stan Richards |
| Norm & Lee Ann Dobbs | Tom & Pat Row |
| Terry Domn | Gary & Marti Salk |
| Ken Farrell | Charlie Samuels |
| Gail Hawkins | Gene Sanslow |
| Lynda Haynes | Anne Sayer |
| Jeff & Lecie Holt | Don Searle |
| Pat Hunsicker | William Sirett |
| Charlie & Emily Jernigan | Melanie Staten |
| Joan Johnson | Randy Stewart |
| Linda Kimmel | Irene Sullivan |
| Peggy Mahoney | Kathy Sullivan |
| Linda Mason | Dennis & Jan Superczynski |
| James Mee | Marie Walsh |
| Mary Mishu | Will Witte |
| Evelyn Movers | Gene (Richard) & Gerry |
| Eileen Neiler | Williams |

This young V. dilatatum Cardinal Candy™ is fading (late May 2014) but still puts on a good show, with berries yet to come.  Photo by Lynn Carlson
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 renewal date! You’ll get a reminder, or you can 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.

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

New & Renewing Members - Thanks!

Debbie Allen
Heidi Arvin*
Ralph & Belinda Aurin
Sandra M. Barry
John Boggan
Debi Boody
Teresa & Ray Brittain*
Charles & Marion Burger
Deborah & Charles Callis
Ken Campbell
M. Lynn Carroll
Drew Cowherd
Janet & Bob Cushman*
James Day
Laura Derr
Warren Devine
Linda Dampy
Richard Eisel
Susan S. Elmore
Ruth Ewald*
Kathy Fahey
Joy Fels
Ariisa Garden Club
Jennifer Glasgow
Roger & Maria Goetz
Gary & Carol Grametbauer
Gayle & Geoff Greene*
Doug & Sally Gross*
Melvin & Edith Halbert
John & Betty Held
Kevin & Lisa Hoyt
Charles H. Hughes
Clara Joan Johnson*
Karen Johnson
Clarence & Lynn Juneau
Paula K. Keefe
Linda Kimmel
Kathleen Kitzmiller
Eph & Mary Ellen Klots
Joanie Koehn
Mary H. Kollie
Manfred O. Krause
Susan M. Kreke
Barbara Landau

Ronald Lands*
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Lily Chris Mahoney
Joseph A. Mallard
Cleva M. Marrow
Peggy & Dan Marsh
Bruce & Karla McMaster
Evelyn Moyer
Edmond & Marese Nephew
Lien Nguyen
Gail Nichols
June E. Peishel
David & Mary Ann Piper
Marian & Bob Poteat
Richard & Mona Raridon
Davis & Susan Reed*
Betsy Kay Robinson
Carole Schulman
Phyllis Scroggs
William & Muriel Sirett
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Dave & Tia Snider
Dan Steinhoff
Bob Stone
Ann Miller Stott
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Colleen & David Usery
Karen Vail
John Wachowicz
June Wachowicz
Valerie Widgren
Cathy Wieland
Beverly S. Woods

* Denotes Society Friend

Special Donations
Lou & Ann Arnold
Mark Robinson

* Denotes Society Friend
UT AS Resources

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Melinda Hillman</th>
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<td>President:</td>
<td>Charles Samuels</td>
<td>Pat Hunsicker</td>
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<td>Vice-president:</td>
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<td>Emily Jernigan</td>
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<td>Lynda Haynes</td>
<td>Linda Kimmel</td>
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<td>Randy Stewart</td>
<td>Wendy Packan</td>
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<td>Tom Row</td>
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Thanks!

Norm Dobbs organized one of our best Plant Sales ever!

Peggy Mahoney recruited volunteers for the Plant Sale.

Gerry Middleton gave a talk and demonstration about bats at the Arboretum.

Kris Light presented MOTH-ers Night Out.

Dennis and Jan Superczynski organized and led the ‘Bluegrass Brilliance’ tour to Kentucky.

Lynn Carlson continues to shepherd the Viburnum Valley Project.

Bob Reed provided information and photos for Stumpy.

Nancy Smith created the new logo for the 50th Anniversary of the Oak Ridge Forest and Arboretum.

Lee Ann Dobbs, Stacey Fuller, Jeff Holt, and Kevin Hoyt helped with the Monarch Waystation.

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

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 $76,000 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

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A Monarch butterfly recently released at Willow Ridge Garden Center, Oak Ridge, as part of an educational program. The flowers shown were chosen because they attract butterflies. *Photo by Emily Jernigan*

**Upcoming Events**

- **August 5** Geocaching Workshop for Kids
- **Soon** Groundbreaking on the Auditorium
- **October 11** Fall Plant Sale
- **November 15** Holly Work Day