

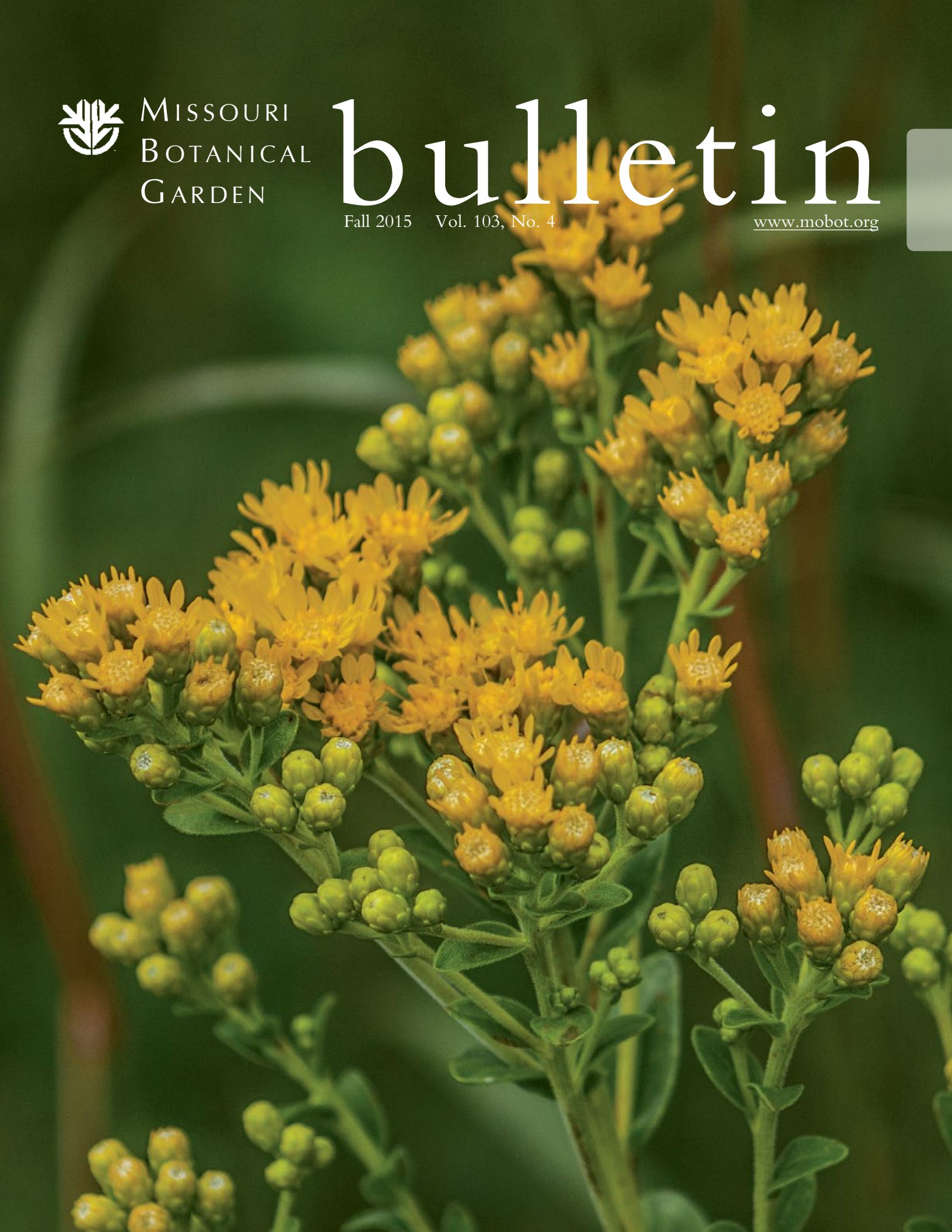


MISSOURI
BOTANICAL
GARDEN

bulletin

Fall 2015 Vol. 103, No. 4

www.mobot.org





President's Comment

Seems like summer is always a busy time of year—lots of activities, travel, and festivals. And summer at the Missouri Botanical Garden, Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House, and Shaw Nature Reserve was no different. In addition to the wide variety of classes, concerts, and member events we offer every year, this summer we also hosted our second Chinese Lantern Festival. The exhibit, which celebrated China's magnificent flora and the Garden's work to discover and protect it, was so popular that we extended it by a week.

Through it all, conservation work continues locally and throughout the world, and we are excited to be a part of some of these efforts. From *ex situ* conservation inside the Climatron (see page 16) and cataloging the species at the Reserve (see page 15) to St. Louis's Milkweeds for Monarchs Workshop (see page 7) and conservation in Madagascar and Gabon (see pages 4 and 5), efforts range in size and reach. But make no mistake; they are all important to secure a healthy, biodiverse world for future generations.

As the seasons begin to change, you'll also see changes at the Garden. Most noticeably, renovation of the Brookings Interpretive Center begins this fall (see page 9) as part of our *Garden for the World* campaign. Whether it's through the expansion and enhancement of one of our popular year-round attractions for school groups and families or bringing the power of plants to those who can't visit us (see page 17), the Garden is committed to providing educational opportunities for visitors of all ages and abilities to engage with, learn about, and love plants.

Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson,
President

Did you know?

Your membership provides critical support for our international and local plant science and conservation work, and Garden memberships contribute 20% of our annual operating funds.

Plus, as a Garden member:

- You receive free admission for two adults and all children (12 and younger) at Shaw Nature Reserve and the Butterfly House.
- Special Member Days offer you exclusive activities, tram rides, and discounts in the shops and café.
- The Children's Garden is free to you all day Tuesday (April–October).
- You are eligible for free or reduced-price admission to over 300 botanical gardens and arboreta across the U.S. and Canada.

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For our current hours and admission prices at our three locations, visit www.mobot.org, www.butterflyhouse.org, and www.shawnature.org.

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On the Cover

Stiff goldenrod (*Solidago rigida*), a Missouri native that blooms in the fall. Find this and many other native species at Shaw Nature Reserve. Photo by JJ Mueller.

Credits

Editor/Designer: Andrea Androuais
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The *Bulletin* is a benefit of Garden membership. The BULLETIN (ISSN 0026-6507) is published quarterly by the Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63110. Periodicals postage paid at St. Louis, MO.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to *Bulletin*, Missouri Botanical Garden, P.O. Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166-0299



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photo by Nathan Wagner

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The greenhouse-like classroom for hands-on learning.

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To discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment in order to preserve and enrich life.
— mission of the Missouri Botanical Garden

News

In Memoriam: Blanton Whitmire and Leo Drey

The Missouri Botanical Garden honors the lives of philanthropists Blanton Whitmire and Leo Drey, who both passed away in May.

Blanton Whitmire was a well-known businessman, World War II veteran, and supporter of a variety of causes and organizations. He was president of Whitmire Research Laboratories, an innovator in the pest-control field, particularly regarding environmental concerns.

At the Garden, Blanton is best known for his extraordinary involvement with Shaw Nature Reserve. He and his wife Margaret “Peg” Whitmire became members of the Garden in 1974 and connected with the Reserve on many levels. In the 1980s, Blanton worked with the Reserve to create the five-acre Whitmire Wildflower Garden to showcase the diversity of Missouri native wildflowers.

Originally conceived as a birthday gift for his beloved Peg, the Whitmire Wildflower Garden is enjoyed by thousands of Reserve visitors every year. It also hosts classes and programs all year long for casual gardeners, PhD-level researchers, and everyone in between. Throughout his life, Blanton continued to support the wildflower garden and other facets of the Reserve’s work in science, conservation, and education.

Many members of the Reserve team consider him a friend, and he will be greatly missed.

Leo Drey was a savvy businessman, World War II veteran, and a passionate conservationist of Missouri’s Ozark forests. In the 1950s, he purchased great swaths of Ozark timber land from lumber companies who frequently clear-cut the acreage. Leo, on the other hand, worked with forestry experts to manage the land by cutting individual trees. This selective use allowed the remaining trees to grow taller, thicker, and healthier, preserving the forest ecosystem.

With this great success, Leo helped form the Open Space Council in 1965 and the Missouri Coalition for the Environment in 1969. He was also instrumental in the congressional establishment of the Ozark National Scenic Riverways national park. He acquired and protected significant national areas that became state-managed historic sites and parks.

Leo and his wife Kay, a prominent environmental, civil rights, and anti-nuclear activist who partnered with him on many initiatives, have also been members and donors to the Garden for more than 50 years.

Garden Receives Grant for Pilot Conservation Project

This year, the Garden launched the project “Developing the Approach to Identify High-Conservation Value Areas for the Flora and Vegetation of Gabon.” The project benefits from the support of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation (www.fpa2.com), which awarded the Garden 200,000 euros

(or \$222,000 USD) to identify areas of conservation importance based on the botanical data gathered and analyzed by Garden researchers.

The three-year project will also have a broader impact for Gabon’s conservation efforts. The approach can be applied to primates, birds, and other elements of the country’s biodiversity to develop a national conservation analysis. “This model will serve as the pilot for doing this at an individual country level or even at a regional level,” says Dr. Pete Lowry, Senior Curator and Director of the Africa and Madagascar Program at the Garden. “With this information, governments can make decisions related to establishing national parks and which parts of forestry concessions to set aside for conservation.”

With about 650 endemic species of the 4,500 recorded to date, Gabon has a rich flora. However, it is estimated that the total is close to 7,000 species—many unknown to science and waiting in unexplored areas. The Garden’s program aims to document the country’s botanical diversity and assist in production of the *Flora of Gabon* in collaboration with the National Herbarium of Gabon and the Herbarium of the Botanic Garden Meise in Belgium.

The project is co-funded by the Garden, the World Wildlife Fund, the Wildlife Conservation Society, and the Université Libre de Bruxelles, where Assistant Curator and project coordinator Dr. Tariq Stévant is based.



Dr. Croat has collected more than 100,000 specimens in the field and built up the world's largest collection of Araceae at the Garden. (photo by Kat Niehaus)

Dr. Tom Croat Receives NSF's OPUS Grant

Earlier this year, the National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded Dr. Tom Croat, P.A. Schulze Curator of Botany at the Garden, a \$105,135 grant under its Opportunities for Promoting Understanding through Synthesis (OPUS) program. OPUS's goal is to compile a body of related research projects done over an extended period of time. In Dr. Croat's case, it means gathering all the information he's collected for more than 50 years to describe about 3,000 species of plants, mostly from Araceae.

The aroid family is highly sought after for ornamental purposes. It is also an important tool in teaching biology due to the many unique features the plants exhibit, such as the production of heat and a wide array of flower types and pollination systems. "In all the years I've been working with aroids, I can say that I can't go anywhere without finding



Anadabolava-Betsimalaho Thicket, one of the new protected areas included in the new decrees, is one of the Garden's conservation sites in Madagascar. (photo courtesy of Dr. Chris Birkinshaw)

Protecting Madagascar's Priority Areas

The government in Madagascar recently issued a series of decrees formally establishing 94 new protected areas. Of those, 41 were originally identified by the Garden more than 10 years ago as priorities of plant conservation. The decrees come as part of the government's effort to triple the size of conservation areas in the country. "This is an important step forward for conservation of both species and landscapes in Madagascar," says

new species," Dr. Croat says. "It's astonishing how many there are and how many are still undescribed."

While they are rich in species, aroids are also highly endemic. "Many species are going extinct—some new to science—and the only way to conserve them is to protect the forests where they live," he says.

Senior Vice President of Science and Conservation Dr. Jim Miller. "The Missouri Botanical Garden has been involved throughout the process working with local partners to advocate for protection and develop management plans."

After identifying the areas, the Garden became directly involved in working to conserve the most important ones by establishing 12 new reserves over the years. The Garden continues to collaborate with local communities to oversee their management.

The project will produce taxonomic descriptions of an estimated 2,700 species of *Anthurium* and *Philodendron*, which are the two largest Araceae genera and make up about 45% of the entire family. Dr. Croat will also train botanists in Latin America who are interested in aroids.

News cont.

Garden Honors Volunteers

The Garden would not be the world-renowned institution it is today without its dedicated volunteers. In 2014, more than 1,800 people volunteered more than 148,000 hours of service at the Garden—the equivalent of 76 full-time staff.

The Garden celebrated this remarkable service during the Volunteer Appreciation Evening on May 18 and the Volunteer Service Recognition Luncheon on June 3. “We couldn’t run the Garden, the Butterfly House, or Shaw Nature Reserve without you,” Garden President Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson told the group at the luncheon. “It is thanks to you that so much of our work is possible.” To learn more about volunteer opportunities, please visit www.mobot.org/volunteer.

Garden and Danforth Center Holding Joint Symposium

This fall, for the first time since its inaugural symposium in 1953, the Garden will join the Danforth Plant Science Center and host a joint symposium titled “From Darwin to Borlaug: Biocomplexity in Natural and Agricultural Systems.” It will be the 62nd annual and 17th annual symposia for the Garden and the Danforth Plant Science Center, respectively.

The event, happening October 8–10, will consist of 16 talks, half of them taking place on the Danforth Plant Science Center’s campus in Creve Coeur on Thursday



30 years—Rosemary Murphy, Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson, and Suze Stark; not pictured: Jean Beck

40 years—Joanne Fogarty, Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson



20 years—back row, from left: Elaine Bante, Virginia Horrell, Dick Cone, Mary Jo Nowobilski, Irene Hercules, Dave Horton, Don Kinsey, Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson, Marilyn Chryst, Lucyann Boston, Todd Schroeder, Mary Smidt, Gordon Gosh; front row, from left: Judy Lincoln, Suzanne Moak, Angie Menard, Sonya Kendrick, Virginia Noe, Sophie Connor, Maud Jeanty, Bernice Raineri; not pictured: Jim Schuck, Lynn Slackman, Leigh Walker.



10 years—front row, from left: Loretta Claes, Judy Headley, Mary Neher, Sally Carpenter, Jim Davis, Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson, Lynda Sharpe, Pat Jones, Arlene Nazzoli, Mike Schade; back row, from left: Lee Erickson, Gail Cammarata, Frank Frawley, Christopher Schulte, Ann Tansey, Jan Moran, Carol Agatstein, Marlena Gregory; not pictured: Betsy Alexander, Bonnie Bailes, Barbie Brueggemann, Cynthia Corley Crapsey, Holly Currier, Suzanne Dorris, Gina Fusco, Katie Garner, Ann Gulick, Peggy Knippel, Anna Leavey, Frank Luechtefeld, Patty Mendicino, Mary Mertz, Jon Newell, Lucy Ryan, Kathy Simons, Anna Thornhill, Linn Wells (photos by Ryan Lay)

and part of Friday, and the other half taking place at the Garden on Friday evening and Saturday.

The talks will cover a wide range of topics, each presented by one expert in agriculture and one in natural populations. “In general, we don’t have the same audience, but we know we can learn a lot from each other,” says Dr. Peter Hoch, Garden Curator and lead organizer of the Garden’s symposium. “This joint symposium will allow us to bring together groups of people that don’t often get together.” For more information, visit www.mobot.org/symposium.

Japanese Festival Celebrates Anniversaries

This year’s Japanese Festival will commemorate two key milestones. The Niji Choral Group is celebrating its 25th anniversary, and this year’s performance will include well-known songs featuring Japanese instruments such as the *Koto*, *Shamisen*, and *Jabisen*.

The Kimono Show will celebrate its 30th anniversary. For those three decades, one person has been the force behind the exhibition: Ms. Hatsuko Eilers. “Few festival participants have contributed so much time, effort, and expertise,” says Dave Lowry, Chairman of the Japanese Activities Committee. “Ms. Eiler’s unfailing charm, grace, and commitment will remain a lasting legacy to the Garden.”

Don’t miss the Japanese Festival this Labor Day weekend! Visit www.mobot.org/japanesefestival for tickets and event information.



Susan Raney, Science Curriculum Specialist for St. Louis Public Schools, planted milkweed in the Garden’s monarch garden as part of the community workshop. (photo by Ryan Lay)

Milkweeds Bringing Communities Together

This summer, the Garden hosted the 2015 Milkweeds for Monarchs Community Workshop in partnership with the City of St. Louis, the Saint Louis Zoo, and BiodiverseCity St. Louis. More than 75 local educators and community leaders participated in this one-day event to envision their neighborhoods as nature-rich places. “Schools are usually hubs within their community, so we wanted to bring together both educators and local neighborhood stabilization specialists to share different perspectives of what’s important for their community through the lens of a natural habitat,” says Sheila Voss, Vice President of Education.

The event was part of the capacity-building efforts of

Milkweeds for Monarchs: The St. Louis Butterfly Project, and activities included the planting of a monarch garden on Garden grounds and information sessions about monarchs, butterfly-attracting plants, and citizen-science opportunities. “I feel more confident to spread the word in my community about the importance of milkweeds and share with them that this is healthy for the environment and beneficial to everyone,” says Joe Jones, Neighborhood Improvement Specialist for the City of St. Louis’s 1st Ward. Attendees also walked away with lesson plans and maps showcasing existing community assets and potential plans to be a part of this city-wide effort.

The workshop, along with school/community monarch garden installations and programming throughout the coming year, is supported by a grant from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Updated Display Gardens Offer Native Alternatives

Visitors walking through the south end of the William T. Kemper Center for Home Gardening will notice a few changes starting the fall. First, the middle section of the Lucy and Stanley Lopata Prairie Garden will feature shorter variations of native plants instead of the tall prairie grasses. “Opening up the space allows us to present these plants in a more ornamental fashion to our visitors and for homeowners,” says Horticulture Supervisor June Hutson.

News cont.

A glade will also go where the Suzanne Stagg Wright Rock Garden is currently located. Plants from the adjacent prairie were spreading quickly to this garden, and since they are not native to that ecosystem, Hutson explains, it was decided to turn it into a glade. “The plants in a glade and a rock garden are not far apart natively,” she says. “The new garden will appeal to people who live in areas with more rocks than soil and will give them an idea of what they can plant.” A subsurface of rock will be installed this fall, and wild-collected plants will be added in the spring.

New Tower Gardens Showcase Aeroponics

Thanks to the generosity of the St. Louis Master Gardeners, the William T. Kemper Center for Home Gardening added two Tower Gardens, one in the vegetable garden and one inside the center.

The Tower Gardens use aeroponics, a method to grow plants in an air/mist environment without soil. With this system, air and a tonic mineral blend are pumped through the tower every 15 minutes, covering the plants’ roots and the growing medium they’re wrapped in. “We’ve had many people interested in them since we installed them in mid-June,” says Glenn Kopp, Master Gardener and Manager of Information Services. “We had heard good reviews and wanted to try it to be able to share our results with people who are interested in gardening, particularly in an urban environment.”

News from the Garden’s Other Important Collections

In addition to having one of the world’s most diverse living collections, the Garden also houses world-renowned library and herbarium collections that are crucial to advance its mission. Recent news includes:

- The Peter H. Raven Library published its first e-book earlier this year, titled *Wildflowers and Landscapes of Ecuador: The Way We Knew It*. The project evolved from a donation of artwork and an unfinished manuscript by artist Mary Barnas Pomeroy from her daughter Anne Hess. To read the e-book and learn more, visit www.biodiversitylibrary.org.
- In May, the University of Missouri–Columbia (MU) announced that it would be moving its entire herbarium collection to the Garden. MU’s Dunn-Palmer Herbarium contains nearly 200,000 specimens, all of which will be moved to the Garden this fall.
- During recent efforts to scan and digitize the herbarium’s plant specimens, Senior Data Processor Donna Herrera discovered a specimen dated 1692. The *Anemone vernalis* L. was collected by German botanist Jacob Breyne, and it is now believed to be the oldest specimen in the Garden’s herbarium—at least 50 years older than anything else known to be in the collection.



When should I fertilize my trees and shrubs?

Most landscape trees and shrubs do not need yearly fertilization. If in doubt, consult a professional and have a soil test performed to determine available nutrients before applying fertilizers.

If fertilizing is required, the best times to fertilize are late fall and early spring. For fall fertilization, wait until the plants are dormant. For deciduous plants (those that lose their leaves in fall), this means waiting until the leaves have turned color and begin to drop.

Do not fertilize trees and shrubs from mid-summer to early fall. This may stimulate late-season growth, which is more easily killed in the winter. Also, stimulating growth late in the season may interfere with the plant’s dormancy process, thus increasing the risk of winter injury.

If you fertilize your lawn, trees within that area generally receive sufficient fertilizer. Before adding more fertilizer, run a soil test and check the trees’ annual growth. Mature trees should put on 4 to 6 inches of new growth each year, while young trees should put on a minimum of 9 to 12 inches.

Get more fertilizing tips with our gardening advice, tips, and resources available at www.mobot.org/gardeninghelp.

innovative MAKEOVER



All renderings and drawings, provided by Christner and JCO, are proposed and are considered an artist's rendering for conceptual purposes.

The renovated space will enhance educational opportunities and visitor experience through interactive activities and exhibits designed to inspire love for nature.

TAKING THE FAMILY-FAVORITE BROOKINGS INTERPRETIVE CENTER INTO THE FUTURE

The Brookings Interpretive Center opened in 1990 during the Climatron® renovations. It was built with support from the relatives of the late Robert Somers Brookings, the prominent 19th-century St. Louis businessman and philanthropist. Today, as the Garden's indoor, year-round, family-friendly destination, it encourages hands-on discovery, exploration, and learning. Since 2008, it has hosted annual innovative and interactive exhibits, with more than 120,000 visitors enjoying its educational games, reading nooks, craft tables, and costume play areas each year.



The entrance vestibule will feature an interactive wall where visitors, having just immersed themselves in nature inside the Climatron, can create a symphony of nature sounds.

After more than 20 years, however, its infrastructure and facilities needed to be enhanced and upgraded. That is why, starting this fall, the 4,300-square-foot center will temporarily close for renovations and expansion. The project is one of the major capital initiatives of the *Garden for the World* campaign.

Thanks to a lead gift by Edward Jones, the new space will reopen next spring with state-of-the-art exhibit space and a brand-new PlantLab (see page 13). A new vestibule area, designed to make visitor experiences more comfortable and accessible to everyone, will feature barrier-free restrooms, a family restroom, vending machines, and a Calming Corner that will serve as a place for families with children needing quite time and a comfortable room for nursing mothers.

RENOVATION AT A GLANCE

- Brookings Interpretive Center closes in late September and reopens in the spring of 2016.
- Climatron (see page 16) and Temperate House remain open to the public.
- Main entrance to the Doris I. Schnuck Children’s Garden will be closed. From the start of the renovation through November 1, the west gate by the restroom building will serve as the temporary entrance, and admission to the Children’s Garden will be free.
- William T. Kemper Center for Home Gardening accessible through alternate path.
- Other indoor learning and gardening alternatives include Tower Grove House, Linnean House, Climatron, Temperate House, and the Center for Home Gardening.



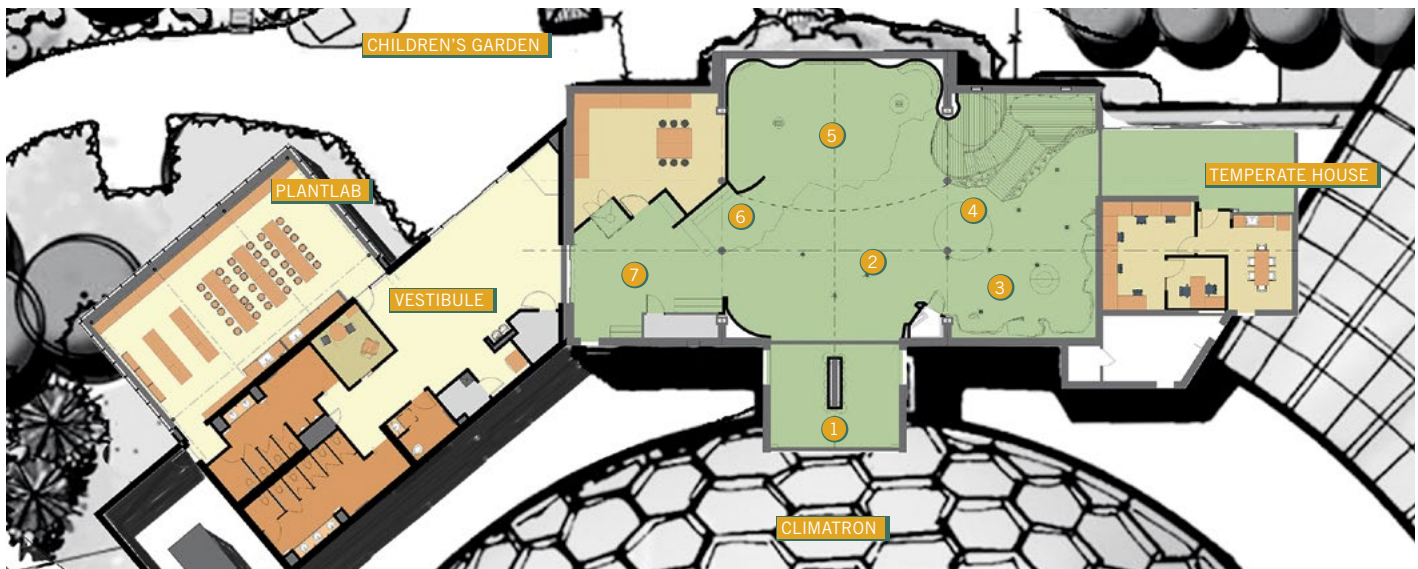
The Roots zone will allow visitors to learn how roots absorb water and nutrients from the soil and explore an animal exhibit about the creatures that live underneath our feet.

STRONG ROOTS

Jennifer Wolff, Interpretation Manager at the Garden, has been thinking about this project since 2003. She and her team of educators have been in charge of the Brookings Interpretive Center for more than 10 years. When she first started overseeing its operations, the center had had a permanent exhibit since 1995. *Paradise Is Being Lost*, as the exhibit was called, was self-guided and didn't change from year to year. When it opened, it had the latest technology—touch-screen computer kiosks, video monitors, displays featuring living animals and plants, and interactive panels. “It was high-tech but low-touch,” Wolff says. “Today, we know from many studies that kids learn more by doing, and while technology is valuable, it is just one of many tools we use to engage visitors. We want to cultivate a participatory learning community for visitors where they are encouraged to create, interact, ponder, discuss, and share with each other instead of just reading panels on a wall.”

In 2008, the Garden debuted its first temporary exhibit, *Exploring Trees Inside and Out*, in collaboration with the Arbor Day Foundation and Dimensions Educational Research Foundation. After that, Wolff says, the Garden started thinking about the potential for that space, including the possibility to host its own unique exhibits every year. In 2009, with the support of Maritz, the Garden opened an interactive exhibit called *EarthWays: Living the Green Life*. Since then, Wolff's team of staff and volunteers have developed, constructed, and installed annual exhibits to the public's delight.

Using the zoning approach from the 2009 display, each exhibit since then has had dedicated spaces—a maker area, a reading area, an interactive costume play area, and a building area—to encourage families to engage with plants in unique ways and learn more about the world around them. The format has been a huge hit, Wolff says, and the renovated space will continue that tradition with different zones to experience nature.



The PlantLab and vestibule area will be added to the existing footprint, and the seven existing zones will be reimagined.

AN IDEA BECOMES REALITY

Through the years, the Interpretation Team has listened to visitor feedback. The anecdotes and comment cards have been an underlying guiding principle throughout the planning process because, Wolff explains, “the space really is for them.”

When the newly renovated space opens in the spring, visitors will enjoy seven reimagined zones:

- 1 **Nature Sounds:** A place to discover the sounds of nature through an interactive tree-trunk sound wall.
- 2 **Natural Connections:** The central gathering space that will also feature drop-in educational activities.
- 3 **Roots:** The space to explore what goes on below the surface and the creatures that live underneath our feet.
- 4 **Family Tree:** A multi-level area with comfy spaces for reading together, playing games and puzzles, and relaxing.
- 5 **Garden Theater:** An interactive digital space with a dedicated collection of curiosities from the Garden.
- 6 **Maker Space:** A cozy area for nature-inspired tinkering—building, drawing, and crafting.
- 7 **Plant Studio:** The space to explore nature in your community and enjoy animal displays, including the original ant exhibit.



Nature in Your Neighborhood opened in 2014 and has been so popular with visitors that it will inspire some of the activities in the new space. (photo by Dan Brown)

The new zones will give the Garden the opportunity to explore a wide variety of educational experiences that focus on plants, the places they grow, how we rely on them, and the importance on protecting them. “We want to keep visitors excited about exploring the world of plants,” Wolff says. “Given the interest and excitement visitors have expressed with our current exhibit, *Nature in Your Neighborhood*, we want to keep that inspiration going in our new space.” Activities and displays will rotate periodically so visitors always have fresh, fun activities to enjoy with every visit. Wolff and her team also encourage visitors to share their ideas either in person or online at www.mobot.org/brookings.



The new PlantLab will allow visitors to learn about plants in a greenhouse-like setting and provide easy access to Garden grounds to expand the learning experience beyond the classroom.

The new Brookings Interpretive Center will also feature the PlantLab, an 1,100-square-foot greenhouse-like classroom designed to be a four-season learning space. After all, what better classroom setting to learn about plants—how they grow, the soil they need, how they use light—than a greenhouse? “The PlantLab will enable participants of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities to get hands-on with plant science,” says Vice President of Education Sheila Voss, “taking inspiration from the plant science conducted every day at the Garden in the areas of horticulture, conservation, genetics, ecological restoration, and more.” The classroom will also have easy access for students to go outside and continue learning about plants on Garden grounds.

THE DREAM COMES TO LIFE

After 15 years working at the Garden, Wolff sees this project as one of the most gratifying ones of her career. “It’s so rewarding to see it come to life and have the opportunity to engage so many visitors and inspire them to keep loving plants, to get outside and enjoy nature, to get their hands dirty, and to tell us what they know and think,” she says. “I would’ve never thought when I was a kid growing up at the Garden that I would’ve been able to make a difference like this. I can’t wait to see visitors in the new space.”

Get Involved! Support the renovation of the Brookings Interpretive Center by making a donation at www.mobot.org/brookings. There, you can also follow the project’s progress through photo updates and share your ideas with the Interpretation Team as they plan the new educational experiences.

GARDEN for the WORLD

capital campaign

This spring, we shared a \$1.2-million goal to reopen Henry Shaw’s Museum. Since that time, hundreds of members and donors have contributed to this historic project. We have raised nearly \$700,000 toward this goal thus far. If you have contributed to this success, thank you!

If you haven’t yet participated, consider making a gift and having your donation matched by Garden members Greg and Priscilla Evans. They have pledged \$1 million as a challenge match to reopen Shaw’s Museum. Make a gift today, double your impact, and help us reach the goal—and then some!

Every donation to reopen Shaw’s Museum contributes to the total campaign goal. We have raised more than \$95 million toward our total campaign goal and are nearing completion of the campaign. Each gift truly makes a difference.

To donate or to learn more about the campaign projects, please visit www.mobot.org/fortheworld.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

for your support of the Brookings Interpretive Center renovations:

Edward Jones, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Gilbert, Dr. Ann J. Johnanson, John and Anita O’Connell, Nora Stern and the Driver and Gleason Families, the Garden’s Members’ Board and alumni, and the Garden’s Young Friends Council and alumni.

Butterfly House



From literary classics to live butterflies, the Bookworm Breakfast series lets kids learn about the butterfly's life cycle and migration patterns. (photo by Flannery Allison)

Breakfast, Books, and Butterflies

“The park looked different. There were leaves all over the ground. Clifford couldn't chase the birds. They were flying south.” Many adults will recognize these lines from *Clifford's First Autumn*. They may have read it when they were kids and might now be reading it to their own. The children's classic is one of the new, fun ways the Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House is engaging kids with the joys of reading and fascinating facts about the natural world around them.

Through the Bookworm Breakfast series, the Butterfly House invites children and their caregivers to visit and learn about the exciting things happening in nature this time of year. The temperature is falling, trees are losing their leaves, birds and butterflies are migrating south—all part of nature's seasonal cycle. “As part of our education programs, we like to promote literacy, family time, and connecting kids to nature experiences,” says Jennifer Mullix, Manager of Visitor

Services and Volunteers at the Butterfly House. “The family dynamic at these events is great! Grandparents, aunts and uncles, friends—they all have a great time.”

The Butterfly House introduced the first bookworm breakfast event last summer with Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Visitors loved it, Mullix says, so this summer the Very Hungry Caterpillar returned, and Norman Bridwell's Clifford the Big Red Dog will visit this fall. At the event, visitors will enjoy breakfast, enjoy readings of *Clifford's First Autumn*, and learn about fall migration with butterfly crafts made out of fallen leaves. “We've been expanding our offerings for young children for the past few years,” Mullix says, “and promoting literacy along with our other education opportunities was a natural fit. We're always looking for new, exciting learning opportunities for our visitors.”



 **Bookworm
Breakfast**

Clifford the Big Red Dog
November 6 or
November 7; 9 to 10 a.m.
Butterfly House

Join Clifford the Big Red Dog, meet live butterflies, listen to a story, and explore interactive craft stations. Reservations required. Free for ages 12 months and younger. \$12 members; \$16 nonmembers. Register at www.butterflyhouse.org.

Shaw Nature Reserve



With 2,400 acres of natural habitats to explore, this fall the Reserve will host the 10th Academy of Science–St. Louis BioBlitz, a community-led effort to document its rich biodiversity.

Cataloging Life at the Reserve

It's hard to determine the reason the wood frog (*Lithobates sylvaticus*) went extinct in Missouri in the early 20th century. If it hadn't been for the single pond in Warren County that the Missouri Department of Conservation found where they still mated, this diminutive frog may have never been able to find its home in the St. Louis region again.

Populations of wood frogs now call Shaw Nature Reserve home. Restoration biologist Dr. James Trager and horticulturist Terri Brandt reintroduced them to the wetlands in 2003 after approaching Dr. Owen Sexton from Washington University's Tyson Research Center. Dr. Sexton had successfully re-established wood frog populations at the Center and knew the Reserve would be the perfect place to expand these restoration efforts.

Today, Reserve visitors can find the wood frog, whose color looks like dry oak leaves, along the wetland trails and hear its distinct song among the numerous spring peepers that live at the Reserve. It is one of the many species that hundreds of volunteers will find during the 10th Academy of Science–St. Louis BioBlitz, which the Reserve will host this fall. The event focuses on doing an inventory of as many species as possible in a local natural area over a specific period

of time. “We’ve been wanting to do a bioBlitz here for quite some time because we want to get a handle on our biodiversity,” says Lydia Toth, Senior Education Manager at the Reserve. “While we can’t cover all 2,400 acres, this event will kick off our efforts to combine all our existing data and provide one database with what you can expect to find here.”

Volunteers from across the area—from students to families to nature enthusiasts—will survey the Reserve with the help of local experts, which include botanists, herpetologists, and entomologists. As part of their experience, participants will document their findings using www.inaturalist.org. The website allows anyone to create a project to map the species in a particular area, merging outdoor exploration time with technology, mapping, and citizen science. “We are very excited,” Toth says. “This event is a great way to get families engaged in nature and science.”

Join us! Be a part of the BioBlitz at the Reserve September 18 and 19. The event is free and open to the public. Learn more and register by visiting www.academyofsciencestl.org.

Horticulture



Visitors are transported to the tropics in the Climatron, the geodesic dome greenhouse with some of the Garden's most precious living specimens. (photo by Paul Straatmann)

Tropical Haven Under the Dome

When former Garden Director Frits Went commissioned the Climatron® in 1959, he envisioned a structure that would be a center of scientific research on plant growth under controlled conditions. Tasked with reviving the Garden's international reputation as a leader in plant research, he saw the Climatron as a way to both advance the Garden's mission and create a memorable icon for visitors. But he didn't want just any greenhouse; he wanted a large, column-free structure that admitted as much daylight as possible.

Architects Joseph Murphy and Eugene Mackey, Jr. determined that R. Buckminster Fuller's geodesic dome was the best way to enclose this new greenhouse. When it opened on October 1, 1960, the Climatron became the first geodesic dome greenhouse in the world. Today, this 24,000-square-foot conservatory continues to dazzle visitors while playing an important role in maintaining the Garden's living collections.

At an average temperature of 85 °F with 85% humidity, the Climatron transports visitors used to the Midwestern seasons to the lush world of the tropics. While it can't house the countless species that make up the tropics, the Climatron is a great introduction to the

world's most diverse ecosystem. "People are always surprised by how pleasant it is in here and by how tall the trees are," says Senior Horticulturist Deb Lalumondier. She and her team oversee the day-to-day operations and care for the 1,400 species that live in the Climatron. Many of these specimens have been collected in the wild by Garden researchers, and some are considered extremely rare or in danger of extinction.

As one of the most significant conservatories in North America and one of the few places in St. Louis to experience the tropics, it helps advance the Garden's mission. "The Climatron is an important tool in our *ex situ* conservation efforts," says Andrew Wyatt, Vice President of Horticulture and Living Collections. "The living collections it houses give us the opportunity to link the Garden's conservation and research work in a beautiful and educational display."

Remember! The Climatron will remain open during the renovations of the Brookings Interpretive Center ([see page 9](#)).



The Therapeutic Horticulture Team engages participants in a hands-on flower-arranging activity to create displays with seasonal flowers. (photo by Kimberly Bretz)

The Therapeutic Power of Plants

Pressing the inked underside of a freshly picked lemon verbena leaf to the paper, Helen* smiles at the bookmark she is making. “I love the smell and texture of the leaves; this is so much fun,” Helen says as Jeanne Carbone, a Therapeutic Horticulture Instructor, hands her a sprig of lavender to press next. The craft is part of a nature printing activity the Garden’s Therapeutic Horticulture Program brings to the Siteman Cancer Center for patients like Helen to participate in during treatment.

Moments like these are common for Carbone, who offers patients and their families plants and plant-based activities that may give relief from physical and cognitive limitations, reduce stress, and stimulate memory. Her programs include a variety of activities that range from creating flower arrangements to making herbal sachets to just having the opportunity to touch, smell, and talk about plants.

Jennifer Smith, Public Programs Manager of Education at the Garden and a registered horticultural therapist, formally launched the Garden’s program in 2006. “Plants can have a significant calming effect and can allow people to relax during a stressful time,”

she says. Thanks to the support of the E. Reuben and Gladys Flora Grant Charitable Trust and the Edward Chase Garvey Foundation, each year the program serves more than 3,000 adults and children. In 2015, the partnership with Siteman Cancer Center expanded to all its St. Louis-area campuses.

The program also continues to grow thanks to the support of Dave and Mary Tognoni. After volunteering alongside registered horticulture therapist Donald Frisch for a few years, Dave has seen firsthand the positive impact therapeutic horticulture has on participants. So last year, he and Mary set up a fund to support the program. “Henry Shaw established this Garden for everybody. Everybody loves it, but not everybody can come,” he says. “Why shouldn’t everyone be able to enjoy the Garden?” Thanks to their support, at least five additional senior living facilities now enjoy the benefits of therapeutic horticulture.

**name changed to protect privacy*

You can help! Learn more about the program, see a list of partner organizations, and donate at www.mobot.org/horttherapy.

Member Events

Member Event:

Magical Miniature Gardens

Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House; Sunday, September 13; 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Join us for miniature garden fun! Learn how to create your own special landscape and see professionals display their work. Reservations required. Light snack provided. Plus, members receive additional 10% off in the Butterfly House Gift Shop.

Member Day: Art and Science

Tuesday, September 22; 6 p.m.; Ridgway Visitor Center

Members can enjoy an in-depth look at the photo exhibit “Art and Science in the Garden for the World.” Explore the exhibit of plant drawings from the rare book room as you meet and talk with Garden scientists. Cash bar available. Reservations required.

Best of Missouri Market

Members-Only Shopping Hour and Breakfast

Saturday, October 3; 8 a.m.

Members get to enjoy breakfast as they shop from 8 to 9 a.m. before the crowds. Join or renew your Garden membership at the Market and get in free! More than 120 food producers and crafters offer baked goods, fresh and dried flowers, herbs, handcrafted items, baskets, wooden toys, custom jewelry and more. Enjoy live music and a kids’ corner with crafts and fall activities, too!

Member Day:

October Owls and Orchids

Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House Monday, October 5; 5:30–7 p.m. Sponsored by Renewal by Andersen.

See over a thousand owl butterflies in flight through the orchid-filled Tropical Conservatory. Take a guided tour with our entomologists and enjoy a special live owl flight show. Reservations required.

Fest-of-Ale

Friday, October 16; 6–9 p.m.

Join the Young Friends of the Garden for the eight annual Fest-of-Ale, and enjoy offerings from the region’s microbreweries, hors d’oeuvres, and live music. \$30 members; \$40 nonmembers; \$5-increase after Sept. 16. Advance ticket purchase required.

Member Event:

Ghouls in the Garden

Sunday, October 25; 1 p.m. Presented by Macy’s.

Bring your costumed kids for themed trick-or-treating through the Garden. Includes admission to the Children’s Garden. Reservation times: 1, 1:30, and 2 p.m. \$5 member children ages 3–12. Advance ticket purchase required.

Member Day: Holiday Decorating

Thursday, November 5; 11 a.m.–noon; Shoenberg Theater
Scott Hepper from Walter Knoll Florist offers tips and

demonstrations to help you decorate your home for the holidays. Reservations required; space is limited.

Garden Glow Member Preview

Friday, November 20; 5–9:30 p.m.

This special members-only preview includes both Garden Glow and Gardenland Express. Timed tickets available. \$12 member adults; \$6 member children. Advance ticket purchase required. Enjoy 20% off new, renewing, or gift memberships at the event.

Holiday Wreath Display and Auction

Saturday, November 21, 2015–Sunday, January 3, 2016; Ridgway Visitor Center

This annual holiday exhibit features unique creations donated by some of the area’s finest floral designers. Wreaths are sold by silent-auction bidding, with proceeds benefiting the Garden. Included with Garden admission.

Member Day: Winter Jewels

Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House; Monday, November 30; 10 a.m.–noon

Enjoy the warmth of the Tropical Conservatory and the beauty of jewel-toned butterflies. Go on a treasure hunt, discover fairies, encounter a gnome, and participate in special activities. Reservations required.

Event information and registration at (314) 577-5118 or www.mobot.org/memberevents unless otherwise noted.

Shop & Dine

First Fridays—NEW!

*First Friday of the month;
Garden Gate Shop*

Visit us every month and discover something new—from book signings to food samplings to trunk shows. More information at www.mobot.org/shop.

Spring Bulb Sale

*September 13–November 15;
Garden Gate Shop*

Now is the time to stock up and plant next spring's beautiful bulbs!

Sidewalk Sale

*September 17–20;
Butterfly House Gift Shop*

Get a head start on your holiday shopping with a wide selection of discounted items.

Member Days Sale

September 24–28; Garden Gate Shop, Butterfly House Gift Shop, and Little Shop Around the Corner

All Garden members receive 20% off purchases in the shops during this five-day special sale.

October Owls & Orchids Sale

Tuesdays and Thursdays in October; 4:30–7 p.m.

Butterfly House Gift Shop
During Owls & Orchids Animal Encounters, visitors enjoy 10% off shop items. Members receive an additional 10% off as well.

Member Days Sales

October 16–17 and November 20–21; Garden Gate Shop, Butterfly House Gift Shop, and Little Shop Around the Corner
All Garden members receive 20% off purchases in the shops.

Terrarium Tuesdays

October; Garden Gate Shop
Let our plant specialist help you create your own terrarium. You can also check out our Garden terrarium classes at www.mobot.org/classes.

Membership Sale

November 4–8
Enjoy 20% off new, renewing, or gift memberships, and a 20% discount at the shops. Visit the Membership Services Desk at the Garden, Butterfly House, and Shaw Nature Reserve; visit www.mobot.org/membership; or call (314) 577-5118.

Book Sale

November 6–7; Butterfly House Gift Shop
To celebrate Bookworm Breakfast with Clifford the Big Red Dog, visitors enjoy 10% off books; members get an additional 10% off.

Little Shop, Big Sale

November 19–21; Little Shop Around the Corner
Get 40% off everything in the store on Thursday, 50% off on Friday, and 60% off on Saturday.

Featured Item



HANGING TERRARIUM GLOBES

They're the perfect gift for anyone who likes natural beauty that needs minimal care and upkeep. Includes one air plant and the decorative element of your choice. The color and species of your air plant may vary based on seasonality. Get yours at the Garden Gate Shop today.

CAFÉ FLORA

Brunch at Spink Pavilion

Sundays through October 25

www.mobot.org

Terrace Café open on weekends only (Fri.–Sun.; 11 a.m.–3 p.m.) after Labor Day.

Children's Garden, tram tours, and Terrace Café will close for the season November 1.

Garden Gate Shop
4344 Shaw Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63110
Monday–Sunday
9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
(314) 577-5137

Butterfly House Gift Shop
15193 Olive Blvd.
Chesterfield, MO 63017
Tuesday–Sunday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
(636) 530-0076 ext. 15

Little Shop Around the Corner
4474 Castleman Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63110
Tuesday–Saturday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
(314) 577-0891

The Story of the Nature Explore Classroom



The climbing area in the Reserve's Nature Explore Classroom helps kids stay active and develop hand-eye coordination and gross motor skills. (photo by Kat Niehaus)

Many parents can relate: their child is glued to a screen as the day goes by, and the most physical activity they get is walking to the kitchen to grab a snack. To beat this trend, parents can turn to nature for inspiration and discover what it has to offer.

Enter the Nature Explore Classroom (NEC). A collaboration between the Arbor Day Foundation and Dimensions Educational Research Foundation, Nature Explore's mission is to engage children and families with the natural world as part of children's daily learning. The Garden and Shaw Nature Reserve each have a certified NEC, where kids can climb the red cedar bridges, create art with leaves and pinecones, or build a castle out of tree blocks. Research shows that by playing outside and with nature's "toys," children are not only having fun but also improving their observation, concentration, and motor skills.

Since they opened in 2007 and 2008, respectively, the NECs have been extremely popular with visitors of all ages. They provide a safe, enclosed space where caregivers can let children roam freely as they explore cozy little spaces for specific learning

opportunities and interaction with nature—building, climbing, gardening, music and movement, etc.

"These areas also showcase things that people can do in their gardens and encourage them to think about how they can incorporate these elements in their own backyards," says Jennifer Wolff, Interpretation Manager at the Garden. Thanks to the support of the Young Friends of the Garden, the Doris I. Schnuck Children's Garden and its NEC continue to thrive and grow.

At the Reserve, the NEC is a gateway to 2,400 acres of natural beauty, explains Lydia Toth, Senior Education Manager. This year, thanks to the generosity of the Ott Family, the Reserve's NEC will connect to the Sense of Wonder Woodland. "We're excited to provide families another area for little ones and invite them to take the next step to discover the rest of the Reserve," Toth says.

Join us! Celebrate with your family the Sense of Wonder Woodland on October 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. Information at www.mobot.org/classes.

Commemorative Gifts

April–June 2015.

A commemorative gift is a wonderful way to honor family and friends. Gifts of \$50 or more are listed in the *Bulletin*. For more information about giving opportunities at the Missouri Botanical Garden, please call (314) 577-5118 or make a commemorative gift at www.mobot.org/tributes.

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April–June 2015.

For more information, call
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Commemorating a Life of Service: Mary Anne Lucas

Mary Anne Lucas lived as an example of generosity and shared her joyful outlook and warm smile with her family, friends, and community. She volunteered for more than 20 years with several organizations, including St. Louis Children's Hospital and the Garden.

When Mary Anne passed away earlier this summer, her family wanted to commemorate her spirit of generous service. She had a strong desire that no one send flowers to her family or church. Instead, her family looked for a meaningful opportunity to honor her wishes and her love for children and the Garden. They reached out to the Garden and established the Mary Anne Lucas Early Childhood Education Fund to celebrate Mary Anne, serve children, and connect them with nature. "Interest in education runs in the family," says Mary Anne's husband Gary. "She loved the Garden and she loved children, so it seemed like a good fit and a good thing to do."

All donations to the fund will be used to increase access to the Garden and its education offerings for

young, underserved children in the community.

"Connecting children with nature at an early age is critical," says Jennifer Smith, Public Programs Manager of Education at the Garden. "This fund will bring the Garden to these children in many ways."

Mary Anne's loved ones have embraced this unique opportunity to honor her, with more than \$4,400 collectively donated at the time of publication.

To make a donation to the Mary Anne Lucas Early Childhood Education Fund or to learn about creating a commemorative fund to honor a loved one, contact tributes@mobot.org or (314) 577-5118.



Research shows early access to nature has an incredible impact as young children grow.

photo by Christopher Gibbons

Heritage Society



Ann Johanson: Continuing Family Tradition and Ensuring Growth

Sometimes, philanthropy is as much a family tradition as it is a personal decision. Dr. Ann Johanson is proud to support the Missouri Botanical Garden and continue the legacy of her parents, who were also longtime members and supporters as well as avid gardeners and travelers. They visited botanical gardens when they traveled and brought azaleas home.

Ann inherited their beautiful home garden along with their love for the Garden and other iconic St. Louis institutions. So she decided to carry on their legacy of giving. “Dad was the digger; mom was the planter,” she says. “I have their love of both birds and flowers.” She chose to honor their passions with bricks in the Members Entry Courtyard of the William T. Kemper Center for Home Gardening.

Ann is also sharing that legacy and love with the next generation. She makes a point of bringing her adult niece and nephews and their families to the Garden when they visit St. Louis. The Japanese Garden, *Seiwa-en*, is among her most favorite spots.

While Ann’s love of nature has increased in her adult life, she understands the role of the natural world in the healthy development of children. “As a pediatrician, I have a particular attraction to children’s health, growth, wellness, and development,” she says. “I specialized in growth hormone deficiency, and you’ll find interesting phenomena related to nature and children’s health. For example, children grow more in the summer. Sunlight, outdoor activity, and exercise all contribute to healthy growth.”

This interest in the connection between children’s health and nature led Ann to make a gift to support the expansion and renovation of the Brookings Interpretive Center. The Garden is expanding this family-friendly destination to enhance children’s education and provide interactive venues for hands-on exploration, learning, and play (see page 9). “Engagement is important, and I think a year-round opportunity for kids to play and learn in the Garden is great,” she says.


Ann has also included the Garden in her estate plans as a member of the Heritage Society, ensuring her family’s tradition of support will continue for many years to come. She found designating the Garden as a beneficiary of her retirement assets to be both accessible and sensible. “Giving from my IRA makes great sense,” Ann says. “It maximizes my gift and protects my heirs. And it’s important for me to contribute to organizations that use money wisely. I read annual reports; I want to know how and where contributions are spent. I have confidence in the Garden and the people who carry out the work I support. They’re doing a good job, and I want them to continue to do a good job.”



A Variety of Planned Gift Options at the Garden

Several members of the Heritage Society have chosen to list the Garden as a beneficiary on an insurance policy or retirement plan. This is one of the most popular forms of planned gifts. Other friends have included the Garden in a charitable bequest, gift annuity, or remainder trust. Each option offers a different set of benefits for both the donor and the recipient nonprofit.

To learn more about the most common types of planned gifts, visit www.mobot.org/plannedgiving. For more information about the Heritage Society or to discuss a planned gift, contact Joyce Pluhar at (314) 577-5199 or plannedgiving@mobot.org.

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