

# Branches

*Extending news and information to UTAS members and friends*

Issue No 12 - Fall 2008

## UTAS President's Message

Norm Dobbs expresses his thanks for help throughout his term as UTAS president and looks ahead to his role as Plant Sale chair.

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## Stumped? Ask us!

When do fall wildflowers appear, and where can I find them?



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

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## Director's Desk Richard Evans

Richard thanks outgoing president Norm Dobbs for outstanding service to UTAS and the UT Arboretum, highlighting his accomplishments.

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## Plant Sale

We've got Dogwoods, Crape, shrubs, natives and some surprises. Support UTAS and get high quality plants. Come early for best selection.

Page 1

## Annual Dinner

Join us for fun, food, and fundraising at our Annual Dinner and Silent Auction. Our speaker is Bill Landry, Heartland Series host.

Page 3

## Upcoming Events

- Oct 4 Pancake Breakfast Applebees
- Oct 11 Plant Sale
- Oct 25 Owl Prowl
- Nov 11 Annual Dinner & Auction
- Nov 22 Holly Workshop

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## Dogwoods & Crape Star at the Fall Plant Sale

Saturday, Oct 11 9-3

Fall is the ideal time to plant, allowing trees and shrubs to get established before their spring growth. The sale will highlight dogwoods and crape. These are two of East Tennessee's favorite small trees, lighting up our spring with their blooms. Shop for Cherokee Brave, Cherokee Princess and Kousa dogwoods, among others. If you missed the spring sale, or want more crape, we have Pink Velour, Burgundy Cotton, Raspberry Sundae and Tonto. These trees have



Kousa Dogwood

want more crape, we have Pink Velour, Burgundy Cotton, Raspberry Sundae and Tonto. These trees have



Crape Myrtle Pink Velour

almost doubled in size over the summer and we're selling them at the same price so they're a great value. **Dr. Will Witte**, the Answer Man, will help you choose the best plant for your needs.

Our regular vendors, **Beaver Creek Nursery**, **East Fork Nursery** and **Sunlight Gardens** will be there with interesting and unusual plants, and perennial favorites, too. Azalea hybridizer Huey Sides of Oak Ridge will bring some of his azaleas, and we'll have surprise offerings from others, too. So come early and fill up your red wagon with plant treasures while supporting UTAS.

## Bill Landry Is Annual Dinner Speaker

Tuesday, Nov 11 6 p.m.

**Bill Landry**, the voice, host, narrator, and coproducer of *The Heartland Series* will give a multimedia presentation of his new work, *An Unlikely Explorer: Billy Bartram and the Heartland Series*. Read more on pages 3 & 4.





## President's Letter

With fall rapidly approaching and the proximity of me taking on a new UTAS position as Past President, I want to say what a pleasure and rewarding task it has been to work with Arboretum Director **Richard Evans**, **board members** and **officers** over these past three years to serve you and to help further the objectives and programs of the UT Arboretum. I look forward to working with incoming president, **Tom Row**, and current and new board members.

Over the past three years, we have accomplished a lot to publicize and introduce the UT Arboretum to a wider segment of the public. Workshops, lectures, hikes and other events at the Arboretum have attracted many who might not otherwise have visited or known about the Arboretum, its beauty, its features and its intrinsic value.

Our annual spring and fall plant sales continue to be our bread and butter fund raising events and are highly successful. As I step down from the President position, I have agreed to relieve **Richard Raridon** as Plant Sale Chair. Richard and I have worked closely together for several years on these events and the transition should go smoothly and I am certain that Richard will still want to stay involved. My next challenge will be to find my eventual replacement as Plant Sale Chair. Anyone interested in this apprenticeship program should contact me.

I thank **Dennis Superczynski** for continuing to plan and execute our unique and very successful annual tours. **Dennis** and **Will Witte** continue to look after our holly collection, including the start of what is envisioned to be an exclusive collection of Tennessee hollies across the road and north of the Harold L. Elmore Holly collection.

I encourage everyone to go out to the Arboretum and pay particular attention to the native plant areas around the Visitors' Center and on the hillside. Discover the wow factor of many new plantings and view the results of the hard work of a small but dedicated group of volunteers over the past several years. These areas represent the curb appeal for the Arboretum and its visitors. The **Native Plant Group** tends this area at least once a month, and we all benefit from their hard work. Members of the **Plant Collections Committee** also undertook long overdue pruning chores of the azalea and rhododendron collections during this past year. The results should be evident next spring.

Finally, I thank the **University of Tennessee** for seeing the value of the Arboretum to the University and to the public, and for establishing an endowment fund which, when fully funded, will relieve the current monetary pressures on both the University and the Society. Your Society has continued to make contributions to help support the Arboretum's operating expenses as we have been able. We have also initiated a tradition of making donations to the Endowment Fund. I urge the Society to continue and, hopefully, increase those donations. The endowment fund needs our help to publicize its existence. Please refer to the article elsewhere in this newsletter to learn how to contribute or make inquires about the fund.

Plan to join us at the Annual Meeting and Silent Auction in November with speaker **Bill Landry**.

Norm Dobbs, UTAS President  
[nadobbs@bellsouth.net](mailto:nadobbs@bellsouth.net)



## Director's Desk

As we think about welcoming a new UTAS president into office this next year, I would like to reflect on the significant contributions UTAS's president, **Norm Dobbs**, has made to further the mission and objectives of the Arboretum through his leadership of the Society. Few can appreciate Norm's dedication to the task of UTAS President more than I. If there were one measure of his commitment, I would cite the hundreds of emails he's sent me over the last three years.

Norm took his duties as UTAS President seriously, and communicated his thoughts, hopes and aspirations clearly, and with great enthusiasm. Under Norm's leadership the Society has truly taken a giant leap forward in being a supporting partner of the UT Arboretum. A major role of the Society is outreach, and Norm has excelled in spearheading the development of new programs and activities that have served to expand our recognition to thousands of folks who previously might have known nothing much about the UT Arboretum.

Under his guidance and leadership we have strengthen the University / Society ties to form a force to help sustain the Arboretum for future generation by initiating a campaign for establishing an Arboretum Endowment. Norm has lead by example, taking personal charge of several Society initiatives and, with a hands-on leadership, was the captain, player, and water-boy!

Like many other dedicated Arboretum Society members I've worked with over the years, I am grateful for those who give unselfishly to better the Arboretum. Norm offers us a model for those who wish to make a difference through volunteering time and effort to a good cause. Norm, your term as president may be ending, but we hope this only frees up your time to take charge of some of the UTAS initiatives you have set in motion.

I look forward to working with incoming Society president **Tom Row** as we continue to strengthen and broaden the scope of UTAS and the UT Arboretum. Welcome aboard, Tom!

See our web site for more information:

<http://forestry.tennessee.edu>

~Richard Evans, Director

## Upcoming Events

### Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Saturday, October 4 8-10 a.m. Applebee's Oak Ridge

Enjoy pancakes, juice and coffee while supporting the Arboretum. Tickets, \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children, are available from board members or at the door. We'll also sell gift certificates, UTAS post cards, T-shirts and caps.



### Fall Plant Sale

Saturday, October 11 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Arboretum

This is a great opportunity to buy interesting and unusual plants, and to support the Arboretum. We have Crape, Dogwoods, and a number of surprises. Come out and mingle with fellow gardeners, check out the new trail and our new plant signs, and support the Arboretum. See page 1 for more details.

### Owl Prowl

Saturday, October 25 6:30 p.m. Arboretum



**Katie Cottrell** gives us another opportunity to go on a nighttime excursion looking for owls at the Arboretum. Dress for walking, and remember to **bring a flashlight!**

### Annual Dinner

Tuesday, November 11 6 p.m. Elks Club, Oak Ridge

**Bill Landry, The Heartland Series, speaker, presents**

*An Unlikely Explorer: Billy Bartram and the Heartland Series*

Join us, and bring a friend to the **UTAS Annual Dinner and Silent Auction** on Tuesday, November 11, at the **Elk's Club of Oak Ridge**, 684 Emory Valley Road, Oak Ridge. Come to socialize and place your bids from 6:00 to 6:45, followed by a sumptuous buffet dinner and program. Cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for nonmembers. Proceeds from the Silent Auction will help expand Arboretum plantings and programs.

Our speaker is **Bill Landry**, host of *The Heartland Series* on WBIR-TV. **Billy Bartram: An Unlikely Explorer** is the subject of Landry's multimedia presentation. Billy was an eighteenth century explorer and friend to notable philosophers of the day such as Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin. His 1791 book, *The Travels of William Bartram*, introduced Europe to the flora, fauna and native peoples of the North American continent. He is credited with firing the imagination of Europe with the endless possibilities of the unexplored New World.

Landry's talk will incorporate two Bartram *Heartland* episodes that have already aired: *The Flower Hunter* (1984) and *Bartram's Trail* (2008). He will also include new material produced especially for this talk, including two other short videos: Bartram's gardens and their plants, animals, and primitive nature; and some of Bartram's escapades, including his battles with alligators and his Forest Gump-like ability to find himself on the forefront of political events while remaining focused on the hope, beauty, and optimism of the natural world.

Watch for your invitation in the mail. Support the Arboretum, enjoy good food and good company, and learn from a master storyteller about the natural history of the Southeast through Billy Bartram's eyes.

### Silent Auction - Items Wanted

November 11 6 p.m. Elks Club, Oak Ridge

One of the highlights recent dinners has been a **Silent Auction**. Please think about something you can contribute to the event. Popular items from previous auctions have included a service, such as a dinner at your home or a stay at your vacation home; a gift certificate, perhaps for an area garden center, a meal, or a stay at a bed & breakfast; a gift like bottle of wine, pruners, or garden bags; handmade items such as a wooden bowl or bird feeder; cakes or cookies, etc. The only limit is your imagination. Remember, all proceeds go directly to support the Arboretum. Contact Pat Hunsicker at 457-6436 or [phunsick@bellsouth.net](mailto:phunsick@bellsouth.net) with your contributions or questions. All items, unless perishable, should be turned in by October 25, and earlier is preferable. See page 3 for a partial listing of auction items.

### Holly Workshop - Members Only

November 15 9 a.m. Arboretum

Members are invited to help get the Elmore Holly Collection ready for winter, pick up pruning techniques from Dr. Will Witte, and take home holly cuttings. A light lunch will be served. RSVP to **Dennis Superczynski**, [jandport@tds.net](mailto:jandport@tds.net), or 675-8502. See page 4 for more detail.

### Stumped?

When do fall wildflowers appear, and where can I find them?

Blooms are most profuse in September. In October, Ladies Tresses, Mistflower, Arrowhead, Frostweed, Jewelweed, Yellow Crownbeard, Hearts-A-Bustin' and others still bloom throughout the Arboretum. Kris Light's website, [www.easttennesseewildflowers.com](http://www.easttennesseewildflowers.com), has photos that may help you identify wildflowers and area locations where they bloom.

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



### 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 up at the Arboretum and UTAS. Just go to [www.UTArboretumSociety.org](http://www.UTArboretumSociety.org) and check it out any time.

### Email & Membership Notes

**We need your email addresses** so that you don't miss out on important information. We never share your email address with anyone else. Please send an email to [emily@jernigans.net](mailto:emily@jernigans.net) and we will add you to our database.

**If your email address changes**, please notify me. You may need to add us to your address book so our emails don't get sent automatically to 'junk' or the trash.

**If your mailing address changes, please notify us.**

**Renew now!** Check your *Branches* label for your membership expiration date! You'll get a reminder, or go to [www.utarboretumsociety.org](http://www.utarboretumsociety.org) and download a form there.

## Auction Items ~ Make Your Wish List

We have an outstanding selection of items that have been donated, with more on the way. So keep these in mind as you think about what you want to bid on for yourself or for gifts. Look for a complete list with your Annual Dinner invitation.

- \$150 gift certificate for Willow Ridge Garden Center
- Buckhorn Inn, Gatlinburg, gift certificate
- Team of 3 people for 2 hours of weeding, mulching, etc
- Ramsay Lillard framed, numbered print
- Wine and accessories
- Wormy maple bowl handmade by Daniel Claus
- Secret City Train Ride in the Caboose
- Terrarium for indoors or screen porch
- Three-tier snowman serving tray
- Mad Mat outdoor mat
- Hand-carved wooden motion toy from Russia featuring 2 birds and their nestlings
- Migrations*, a limited edition book of poems by local author Patricia Moore and paintings by local artist Ruby Dayton

## Holly Berries are in Glorious Bloom

### Members Help Is Needed for the Elmore Holly Collection Pruning & Cleanup

November 15 9 a.m. Arboretum

**Christmas Magic** "Green grow'th the holly, so doth the ivy; Though winter blasts blow ne'er so high, Green grow'th the holly." (Attributed to King Henry VIII, 1491-1547) From a sixteenth century English carol.)



Dr. Will Witte demonstrates proper pruning techniques

Members who enjoy the UT Arboretum and want to help maintain the Elmore Holly Collection have an opportunity to learn first hand the principles of holly pruning while preparing the Holly Collection for its winter respite. Volunteers are invited to gather holly cuttings for garlanding their homes with berry-laden, shiny green sprigs of holly just in time for the holidays.

Tasks include selective pruning practices directed by Dr. Will Witte; fertilizing; weed removal and general cleanup

Please bring your own gooseneck hoe for weed removal and aerating, pruning shears, gloves and a rake. The Arboretum will provide fertilizer and equipment for removing pruned material

and debris. A light luncheon will be provided following the session.

Look forward to seeing you at the Arboretum. Please call or email Dennis Superczynski (865-607-8512), [jandport@tds.net](mailto:jandport@tds.net) to register or with questions.

**The Holly Task Force:** Barry Shupe, Mike Stansberry, Dennis & Jan Superczynski, Will Witte

## New and Renewing Members-Thanks!

Richard & Edith Allshouse  
 Carolyn Crowder  
 Emory Valley Garden Club  
 Andrew Hartung  
 Cecil & Betts Higgins  
 Teri L. Hodges

Fran Hopper  
 Nancy Larson  
 Evelyn & Richard Lorenz  
 Chet & Jane Morris  
 Willa Reister

## Wildflower Walk with Kris Light

Local wildflower expert and photographer **Kris Light** led about 70 people on a wildflower walk through the Arboretum. The record crowd viewed numerous

wildflowers including Late Purple Aster (*Aster patens*), Pale Gentian (*Gentiana villosa*), Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*), Creeping Cucumber (*Melothria pendula*), Cut-Leaf Coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*), Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*), Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), and Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*). See photos of these and other wildflowers on the **Featured Plants** link at <http://forestry.tennessee.edu> or at Kris Light's website, <http://www.easttennesseewildflowers.com>



## Outdoor Drama: The Story of Martin's Station

Oak Ridgers **Tracy and Loretta Rollins** helped **Chief Ranger Billy Hick** and his staff from Wilderness Road State Park, near Ewing, VA, portray life in 1775 along Virginia's western frontier. Wearing authentic period clothing, **Captain Joseph Martin** and **Daniel Boone** recounted stories and then answered questions from an audience of about 120 adults and children. The spectators particularly enjoyed learning about the clothing of the period, caring for and firing muskets, and starting fires from flint and steel.



Richard Evans and the Arboretum staff did a wonderful job of preparing the Arboretum for this large crowd.

## Bill Landry

**Bill Landry** has been the voice, host, narrator and coproducer of *The Heartland Series* since it was conceived in 1984 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The program has won numerous awards, including five Emmy and three Iris Awards.



Bill has written and directed many of the episodes. As a Master of Fine Arts graduate of the Dallas Theater Center and a BA degree in Literature, English and Arts from the

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, he considers himself a theater artist with an educational purpose and has portrayed numerous characters on *The Heartland Series*.

Bill received an Emmy for directing and an honorary Doctorate of Humanities degree from Lincoln Memorial University. In 2000, he received a second Emmy for directing.

We are delighted that he will present our program at the Annual Dinner.



# UTAS Resources

## Board of Directors

### Officers

President: Norm Dobbs  
 Vice-president: Dick Raridon  
 Secretary: Diantha Paré  
 Treasurer: Pat Row  
 Past President: Dennis Superczynski

Emily Jernigan  
 Evelyn Lorenz  
 Eileen Neiler  
 Wendy Packan  
 Diantha Paré  
 Bob Reed  
 Stan Richards  
 Marti Salk  
 Barry Shupe

### Board Members

Ted Ballard  
 Melanie Berney  
 Lynn Carlson  
 Jeff Holt  
 Pat Hunsicker

*Ex Officio*  
 Richard Evans

Branches Editor Emily Jernigan  
 Webmaster Angie Dobbs  
 Database Manager Charlie Jernigan

## Help Wanted

### Ongoing

- **Native Plant Group** meets the third Wednesday most months. Lee Ann Dobbs, 482-6656 or [leadob@bellsouth.net](mailto:leadob@bellsouth.net)
- **Plant Collections Committee:** identify existing specimens, select, buy and plant new and or replacement plants, etc. **Lynn Carlson**, [lbcarlson@alumni.indiana.edu](mailto:lbcarlson@alumni.indiana.edu)
- **Choose Your Own Spot!** We want to get more members involved in our activities - contact us! Email [utas@discoveret.org](mailto:utas@discoveret.org)

### Special Events

- **Pancake Breakfast, Oct 4:** Sell tickets, help set up. **Diantha Paré**, 482-1511, [paredv@bellsouth.net](mailto:paredv@bellsouth.net)
- **Plant Sale, Oct 11:** cashiers, tally clerks, plant experts, traffic patrol. **Diantha Paré**, 482-1511, [paredv@bellsouth.net](mailto:paredv@bellsouth.net)
- **Owl Prowl, Oct 25:** setup, traffic patrol. **Norm Dobbs**, 482-6566, [nadobbs@bellsouth.net](mailto:nadobbs@bellsouth.net)
- **Annual Dinner, Nov 11:** auction items, setup, cleanup. **Lynn Carlson**, 692-5402, [lbcarlson@alumni.indiana.edu](mailto:lbcarlson@alumni.indiana.edu)

## Thanks

**Norm Dobbs** has served as UTAS president for 3 years. Norm has dedicated enormous amounts of time to the Society. He helped broaden the scope and frequency of our activities and worked to get the Endowment Fund started. He now takes on the job of Plant Sale chair, so we will continue to benefit from his involvement in UTAS.

**Kris Light** gave another outstanding wildflower tour at UTA.

## How to Find Us

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

Email: [utas@discoveret.org](mailto:utas@discoveret.org)

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 pledged a **\$500,000** Founding Gift to the Endowment. The **UT Arboretum Society** has contributed **\$20,000** to this effort, continuing its longstanding support of the Arboretum.

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- 865-974-1928  
 UT Arboretum -Richard Evans - 865-483-3571  
 UT Arboretum Society -Norm Dobbs - 865-482-6656

To contribute to the Endowment Fund, make your check payable to the University of Tennessee and indicate in the memo line that you want your contribution credited to the UT Arboretum Endowment Fund. Mail it to the UT Institute of Agriculture, Development Office, 107 Morgan Hall, 2621 Morgan Circle, Knoxville, TN 37996-4502.

For more information on Planned Giving visit this University of Tennessee website:

[www.utalumni.utk.edu/givetout](http://www.utalumni.utk.edu/givetout)



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**Don't miss our Annual Dinner & Auction**

**Tuesday, Nov 11 6 p.m.**

**Bill Landry, host of the *Heartland Series***

**Presents**

***Billy Bartram: An Unlikely Explorer***

Check mailing label for your membership expiration date.

Get More than Plants at the Plant Sale  
Buy UTAS Gear and Show Off Your Support

**Merchandise For Sale**

Support the Arboretum Society!

|   |   |                                 |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| <b>\$15</b><br>Short-sleeve<br>t-shirts<br><small>Cotton, poly blend<br/>Sizes M-XL</small> | <b>\$18</b><br>Long-sleeve<br>t-shirts<br><small>100% cotton<br/>Sizes M-XL</small> | <b>\$15</b><br>Caps &<br>Visors |
|---|---|---------------------------------|

**Upcoming Events**

- Oct 4 Pancake Breakfast- Applebee's
- Oct 11 Plant Sale 9 am - 3 p.m.
- Oct 25 Owl Prowl 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 11 Annual Dinner & Silent Auction  
*Bill Landry* speaker  
6 p.m. Elks Club, Oak Ridge
- Nov 22 Holly Workshop 9 a.m. - noon

**Plant Sale October 11**  
**Features Crape Myrtles and Dogwood**



Dogwood  
*Appalachian Spring*

Crape Myrtle  
*'Tonto'*

