

Branches

Extending news and information to UTAS members and friends

Issue No 13 - Winter 2009

UTAS President's Message

New president Tom Row asks each member to donate to the Endowment Fund and to volunteer to help make UTAS a stronger organization.

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Stumped? Ask us!

I want some attractive plants that provide food for birds in winter.



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

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Director's Desk Richard Evans

The new parking area construction has taken over life at the Arboretum, and he's eager for mid-February when work will be completed.

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New Parking Lot

Coming very soon to our Arboretum: a new and greatly improved parking lot that will benefit all Arboretum visitors.

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New Board Members

Meet our new board members: Amy Fitzgerald, Tom Row, Randy Stewart, and Beverly Woods. Welcome!

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Upcoming Events

- Feb 26 Talk-UTAS & TCWP: Invasive Exotics
- March 6 Arbor Day, Glenwood School
- April 4 Holly Work Day
- April 24, 25 Spring Plant Sale
- June 4-7 Tour, GA gardens

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Switchgrass Comes to the Arboretum-Again

This spring, the UT Arboretum will be one of the University's test locations for switchgrass disease. We've had switchgrass at the Arboretum since the 1994 tornado laid barren the hillside just beyond the dwarf conifer collection. The hillside was too steep to mow, so we planted a mixture of native warm season grasses there to demonstrate their conservation and wildlife benefit. Managing these grasses is easy. Every year we simply use a controlled fire to



burn the field, thus favoring these fire adapted grass species. Switchgrass has taken over the other grasses and now dominates the site.

Today, switchgrass has gained favor as a biofuel feed stock instead of solely as a grass for soil conservation and wildlife. Our humble switchgrass hillside is far from what folks are thinking about for the commercial production of switchgrass. But there is something more sinister afoot that interests our switchgrass researchers: rust and fungus diseases. It seems that switchgrass is not as disease-free as previously thought, and we just happen have a great example of how wrong we were!

Diseased switchgrass in a research institution is like gold – UT plant scientists have been knocking down our door to get samples of the diseases and to look for any individual plants that might show signs of resistance. Besides switchgrass used for biofuel production, several varieties are cultivated for their ornamental aspects, some of which show

signs of resistance to the diseases that plague commercial varieties.



Our researchers have devised a scheme to challenge the ornamental varieties by planting them in an environment where the diseases are obviously present. Over 17 different ornamental varieties of switchgrass will be planted near the hillside switchgrass to begin this research initiative. Although arboreta are mostly about woody plants, we welcome this new feature as an example of how we can play role in bettering our lives through science, and at the same time relish in the beauty of plants.



President's Letter

2009 will be a very important year for the Arboretum Society. Think back over the years to all of the events that UTAS has helped to bring to the Oak Ridge area. We have every reason to be proud of the work of those 44 years: plant sales, special programs, tours, children's programs, bird walks, owl prowls, spring flower walks, workshops, new trails - the list is long. And now we are moving forward with the Endowment Fund that will restore funds for Arboretum operations that were lost in the decline of state budgets. It is important that each of us seriously consider our role in this effort. No gift is too small. Being a part of the effort is what counts in this all-volunteer organization. I hope you will join me in encouraging everyone who is a member of UTAS to make a pledge, regardless of the size of that pledge. Imagine how easy it will be to ask others to be part of this process when we can say, "All of our members have joined in this campaign." Being part of the Volunteer State has its obligations.

We also need for members to serve in various capacities as we go into this year. As you know from being a member, everything gets done because your fellow members volunteer to do it. Those who have worked in committee realize that these tasks are so much easier when we all do our part. There are jobs for all and we will be asking you to join us during the year. Please, do your part to make UTAS an organization we can continue to be proud of.

Parking! You are certainly going to be surprised on your next visit to the Arboretum. The new parking lot construction is well on its way to completion. Those knotty parts of grading, finding the "wrong" dirt, removing and replacing it with compactable soil, and graveling prior to paving are done. Now the work will start to make things look like a finished product. Before long, about the time the weather breaks, we will start talking about plantings to make the parking area beautiful for all seasons. This significant addition enhances our ability to host tour groups and increases the opportunities for area residents to visit our Arboretum!

This spring will allow us to fully appreciate the work done by some of our members to enhance the beautiful setting around our Arboretum Headquarters. Donations of large azaleas and other plants last fall will really add to the beauty of these plantings. As winter works us over for the next couple months, think spring! Sit down and enjoy those plant and seed catalogues, put the Plant Sale, April 24 and 25, on your calendar in big red letters, and look for a beautiful entrance to develop at the Holly collection. Before long those winter-flowering plants will start to bloom, bulbs will peep out of the ground and we will be completely overwhelmed with spring fever. But we still need to take time to enjoy winter. For all of its wet, cold, dark days it accomplishes processes that are necessary for our beautiful spring. Take a walk in the Arboretum on one of these winter days and see how nature can put on a show under some pretty trying conditions. Dress right and enjoy the outdoors - see you this spring!

Tom Row, UTAS President

tomhrow@bellsouth.net



Director's Desk

At the time of this writing, the new Arboretum parking lot is nearing completion. It has been a challenging last few months to get to this point, but few construction projects go exactly as planned. After several years of below average rainfall I wonder if our construction project was a rain dance surrogate!

Paving over an area almost the size of a football field seems inconsistent with the Arboretum's mission of conservation and naturalness but, after all, the Arboretum is about people, and people travel by car. Once the paving and curbing is finished, the light poles installed, the lanes and parking spaces striped, and appropriate signage installed, we will begin to focus on the associated landscaping. Our vision is to make the area in and around the parking lot an extension in microcosm of the Arboretum. This vision embodies the idea that a visitor arriving in the parking lot will get a tantalizing taste of what the Arboretum has to offer and be encouraged to explore further.

A collection of new and exciting trees and shrubs that will grace the parking lot's plant islands and perimeter, extending along the entrance drive, and encompassing the office/visitor lawn are stored in our plant over-wintering house. To bring this vision to life, the Arboretum Society's Plants Collection Committee has been instrumental in selecting and procuring these new plants. Among the plants selected are the latest and greatest species and cultivars of magnolia, rhododendron, azalea, juniper, dwarf conifer, viburnum, maple, and many rare and unusual plants. Yet to be considered is the design and placement of an informational kiosk and other visitor aids.

This new Arboretum parking lot is a measure of the commitment and hard work of the Arboretum Society, the University, and other partners to continue the public mission of the Arboretum. These improvements sometimes come in small steps, by putting one foot in front of the other with eyes focused forward on strategic and obtainable goals. I encourage your continued support of the Arboretum and celebrate the collective accomplishments of all who cherish this valuable resource and strive to preserve it for the enjoyment of future generations.

See our web site for more information:

<http://forestry.tennessee.edu>

~Richard Evans, Director

Upcoming Events

Lecture, cosponsored with TCWP - Invasive Exotics

Thursday, February 26 7 p.m. Oak Ridge Civic Center AB Room

UTAS and the Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning will cosponsor a talk by **Margie Hunter**, president of the [TN Exotic Pest Plant Council](#). The Tennessee Exotic Pest Plant Council raises awareness about the spread of invasive exotic plants into our state's natural areas. One way to help combat the spread of such plants is to replace bad guys in our home landscapes with native plants. TN-EPPC President Margie Hunter, author of *The Native Plants of Tennessee: The Spirit of Place*, will discuss native plant gardening in a UTAS/TCWP-sponsored talk in the AB Room at the Oak Ridge Civic Center. The program will begin at 7 p.m. and is open to the public.

Oak Ridge Arbor Day & Tree City USA

Friday, March 6 10 a.m. Glenwood Elementary School

The UT Arboretum Society and the City of Oak Ridge present Oak Ridge's 24th annual Arbor Day celebration. We will plant a tree at Glenwood Elementary School, honoring Oak Ridge's 20th year as a Tree City USA. **Lee Ann Dobbs** is in charge.

Holly Collection Spring Spruce-Up

Saturday, April 4 9 a.m. - Noon Elmore Holly Garden



Traditional etymology from the Latin *aperire*, to open, alludes to the season when trees and flowers begin to open. The late Harold Elmore said, "Early April at exactly 9 am is the perfect time to fertilize hollies." This is your chance to join the Holly Task Force at the Elmore Holly

Collection of the UT Arboretum to welcome spring and prepare to open the Holly Collection for its seasonal splendor.

Tasks include selective pruning practices directed by **Dr. Will Witte**; fertilizing; mulching, weed removal, and general cleanup. The Arboretum will provide fertilizer, mulch, mulch forks and carts. Please consider bringing your own gooseneck hoe for weed removal & mulching, pruning shears, and rake. The session will end promptly at noon, followed by a light luncheon.

We look forward to seeing you there. Please contact **Dennis Superczynski** 865-607-8512, jandport@tds.net, for more information.

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

Plant Sale 2009 Features Japanese Maple

Friday and Saturday, April 24 & 25

This year's Featured Plant is the Japanese Maple (*Acer palmatum*), a deciduous shrub or small tree with hundreds of named cultivars. Lashbrooke Nursery of Louisville, TN, will provide numerous cultivars of this popular and versatile plant for our sale. Come to the Arboretum for this annual event. You'll support UTAS and find an outstanding selection of high quality, often hard-to-find specimens. **Norm Dobbs** is the new plant sale chair.

Georgia Garden Adventure

June 4-7 Reserve your spot by April 24



Join fellow garden lovers for this unique tour of some special Georgia gardens. We'll travel by bus for a 4 day/3 night visit to the [Atlanta Botanical Garden](#), [Callaway Gardens](#), and more. For details, see the separate insert in this Branches. **Dennis Superczynski** heads the group that plans these UTAS tours that are always a big hit. Space is limited, so reserve your spot now! **Deadline is April 5.**



A New Parking Lot is On the Way

After several years of planning and waiting, our new and greatly improved parking lot is nearing completion. The Tennessee Department of Conservation, Recreational Trails Program, provided partial

funding for the project. About the size of a football field, this new lot will enable visitors to access much of the Arboretum trail system from a paved trail beginning in the lot. This will aid people with difficulty walking the trails, and people with strollers and wheelchairs.

According to **Richard Evans**, "Our vision is to make the area in and around the parking lot an extension, in microcosm, of the Arboretum." Working with UTAS' plant collection committee, a full landscape plan has been designed. The plan includes the entrance drive and the Visitor Center lawn and beds. The paving will be completed by mid-February. When the landscaping is in place visitors will experience a first class welcome to the Arboretum.

Stumped?

I want some attractive plants that provide food for birds in winter.

Good choices include Dogwood, Viburnum, Holly, Cranberry Bush, and Inkberry. Visit the Elmore Holly Collection to see over 200 different cultivars, many loaded with berries. Go to http://genesee.cce.cornell.edu/data/Planting_for_Winter_Bird_Feeding_Fact_Sheet.pdf for more tips. 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 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 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 and download a form there.

Welcome, New Board Members

This is an impressive group of volunteers, and UTAS is fortunate to have them on our team.

Amy Fitzgerald has worked at the City of Oak Ridge for almost 10 years as the Assistant City Manager for Public Affairs and the Government and Public Affairs Coordinator. Her primary duties include intergovernmental relations, relations with the public and external agencies, and legislative and policy research. She has a BS degree from Vanderbilt University, a Masters degree in Public Administration and a Ph.D. in Political Science, both from the University of Tennessee. Amy has taught Environmental Policy at the University of Tennessee and at Pennsylvania State University, and is a life member of UTAS. She and her husband Mike have a son, Michael, whose Cub Scout troop enjoyed visits to the Arboretum. She views the Arboretum as a tremendous educational and physical asset to Oak Ridge and to the region, and would like to see it gain greater visibility and become more financially secure.

Tom Row grew up in southwest Virginia and moved to Tennessee in 1959, fresh out of grad school, to work at ORNL. He enjoyed it here so much that he never left. He retired in 1999 and one of the first things he did was become a Master Gardener. His dad loved gardening, landscaping, and fixing up around the house, so his love of landscaping and all that goes with it comes naturally to him. One of his sons is an established landscape firm owner in Knoxville, having graduated from UT in Horticulture in 1987. He uses UT interns in his business and regularly lectures to the students at UT. So the love of plants is pretty firmly rooted in his family. Tom cannot remember when he first started participating in the plant sales and other UTAS events, but it has been some time. Having been a volunteer in the community for many years, the opportunity to serve UTAS as a Board member and officer appealed to him because of his appreciation for the Arboretum and what it means to the Oak Ridge area. His recognition of the work that others have put into UTAS over the years serves as motivation to try to make 2009 another exceptional year for the Society.

Randy Stewart joined UTAS in January 2009. He has lived in east Tennessee for the past 33 years after living in Minnesota, Florida, & Colorado. He graduated from University of Colorado with a BS in Engineering and a BS in Business after being drafted during the Vietnam era. While living in Knoxville he got an MBA from UT. He enjoys the East Tennessee hills and woods, married a local girl, and has three daughters living in the area. Randy plays tennis, rides his bike (he rode 500 miles across Iowa twice, RAGBRAI) hiking, exercising, and working in his yard. He has a small backyard greenhouse and potting shed where he grows his own annuals. Randy is a licensed Certified Financial Planner, CFP, teaches income taxes at UT and is a tax preparer. He is a member of Friends of the UT Gardens, and has received the Landscape & Garden Design Certificate from UT Landscape & Design program from UT.

Beverly Woods graduated from Oak Ridge High School and she has BS and MS degrees from UT. She taught social studies, primarily geography and TN history, for 33 years in Anderson County and Clinton Middle School. After retiring from teaching she began working at Home Depot, usually in the gardening department, where her interest in plants and gardening has grown. She and her husband, David, have a mulch delivery business. She agreed to serve on the UTAS board to learn more about the Society and about plants.

Annual Dinner Meeting

Ninety Arboretum Society members and guests attended our Annual Dinner, silent auction, and election of new officers. Our speaker was **Bill Landry**, host of The Heartland Series on WBIR-TV. **Billy Bartram**: *An Unlikely Explorer* was the subject of Landry's multimedia presentation.

Norm Dobbs, UT Arboretum Society president, presented a check for \$5000 that will go to the Arboretum Endowment Fund. The Arboretum Society has given a total of \$25,000 toward the \$3M Endowment Goal.



UTAS President Norm Dobbs presents a \$5000 check to the Arboretum Endowment Fund to Richard Evans and Agricultural Experiment Station Dean Dr. Ray Brown



Bill Landry entertained 90 members and guests with tales of Billy Bartram's explorations and discoveries of fauna and flora.

Thank You Auction Donors

The following businesses and people generously donated items for our Silent Auction at the Annual Dinner. We raised over \$2500 that will be used to support the Arboretum. We appreciate your contributions and your efforts on behalf of the Arboretum.

Willow Ridge Nursery
Joan Johnson
Buckhorn Inn
John & Nettie Hill
UTAS
Debbie Roberts
Dick Raridon
Jeff Holt
Tom & Pat Row
Wendy Packan
Norm Dobbs
Judi Gray
Bob Reed
Marti Salk

Stan Richards
Dennis Superczynski
Pat Hunsicker
Emily Jernigan
Lynn Carlson
Richard Evans -FREEC
Eileen Neiler
Melanie Berney Staten
Diantha Paré
Margaret Phares
Susan & Davis Reed
Ann & Lou Arnold
Evelyn Lorenz & V. Richards

Plant Collections Committee Tackles Big Projects in 2008

In our first year of operation, the UTAS Plant Collections Committee was able to focus on what all of us like best: picking out and buying beautiful plants to enhance the Arboretum areas open to the public. It has been a busy year for committee members **Lynn Carlson, Bob Reed, Marti Salk, and Barry Shupe**, and we have been able to accomplish quite a few things.

The easiest project involved identifying a native ornamental shade tree to grace the Visitor's Center, replacing a boxelder that had been cut down a few years ago. Richard Evans located a specimen-size yellowwood tree (*Cladrastis kentukea*) and it was installed this fall—be sure to stop by and see it. Maybe it will even bloom this year!

Some new plant material was acquired serendipitously. **Riverbend Nursery**, in the Nashville area, offered the Arboretum a donation—our only task was to go through their plant inventory and make up a wish list. We had all the fun of reading a catalog, without the usual pain in the pocketbook. This effort resulted in the donation of nearly \$1000 worth of plants to the Arboretum—some magnolias, and butterfly bush, rhododendron, viburnum, junipers—oh, my! All are in the greenhouse awaiting completion of the entryway construction.

There are some new signs on the Oak-Hickory Trail, too. Because of **Bob Reed's** efforts we have reviewed the old signs, developed a new set of tree ID signs and added a few interpretive signs for that trail. We hope to turn the trail into a mini-classroom, where the first part of the trail has identifying signs posted on trees, and the return half has "Who am I?" signs. At present the signs are laminated because the Arboretum needs a new engraver to develop more permanent signage. Someday we might have one...

Our big project for the year was an ambitious plan to "buy some magnolias" to beautify the Arboretum even further. It's amazing how that project has evolved, but it's nearing completion at last! We quickly discovered that our desires were much bigger than our budget, and opted for smaller rather than specimen sized trees—more trees for less money. Right now, in the Arboretum greenhouse, there are Magnolia x 'butterflies' (a yellow saucer-type), *M. 'Leonard Messel'* (rose stellata type), Jon-Jon, Big Pink, and Daybreak. We also have a 'Henry Hicks' *M. virginiana* and several types of *M. grandiflora*. Thanks to the generosity and commitment of the UTAS board, there are more to come! We'll let you know as they appear.

Look for these trees to be installed in the next year or so, as they get larger and better able to withstand transplanting, and as the construction around the Arboretum entrance is completed. Some will be used in landscaping the new parking area, while others will replace dying or poorly formed trees in the areas close to the road. As they grow and develop, they should provide a good show when viewed from the road, and will also provide both visual and olfactory delights as you wander among them.

Next year we will continue to acquire magnolias and develop signage, and will develop a plan for renewing the rhododendrons and azaleas in the Glen Cove area. The conifer collections will also get a look.

The generous support of Arboretum Society members, and the tireless advice of the Director made these acquisitions possible. You all contribute with your time and money to beautify this tremendous public resource. Keep up the good work!

Would you like to be a part of all this? Picking out plants is one of the most rewarding aspects of horticulture. The committee is always looking for members who would like to be a part of the team. Call **Lynn Carlson**, 692-5402, (lbcarlson@alumni.indiana.edu) if you would like to help with next year's projects.

Huey Sides' Azaleas Get a New Home at the Arboretum

Oak Ridger **Huey Sides** knows azaleas. Come springtime, his front and back yards glow with the blooms of azaleas he has hybridized. He has other unique and rare azaleas he's collected over many years, and he opens his gardens to the public every year, sharing his amazing array of plants with anyone who wants to drop in. And this is just one of his hobbies!

He has decided to share some of his hybridized azaleas with the

Arboretum. **Richard Evans** and Society members **Katie Cottrell, Bob and Janet Cushman, Diantha Paré, Bob Reed, Stan Richards, Dennis Superczynski** and **Norm and Lee Ann Dobbs** spent two cool but

sunny days last

November digging and replanting an assortment of 19 very large azaleas from Huey's yard. Now, many more people will be able to marvel at his treasures, which will be a featured attraction in the hillside native plant area near the Visitors' Center.



Diantha Paré, Huey Sides, Richard Evans and Dennis Superczynski dig some of Huey's Prize Azaleas



Katie Cottrell, Janet Cushman, Stan Richards, Bob Cushman, Lee Ann and Norm Dobbs dig azaleas

Owl Prowl

Katie Cottrell, former UTAS board member, and others from the **Clinch River Raptor Center** brought live birds to the Arboretum shelter for the October Owl Prowl. They showed off the birds of prey and gave information about their natural history to a large audience of children and adults who came out to learn more about them. Not all the shivers were from the cold as night noises filled the air.



This owl can't prowl, but children of all ages are rapt at seeing this raptor.

Retiring Board Members

Pat Hunsicker, Dick Raridon, Pat Row and Melanie Berney Staten are going off-board. We appreciate their many contributions to UTAS through their hard work, dedication and good ideas. Thanks!

Dick Raridon served on the UTAS board for 20 years. We are especially grateful for his steadfast dedication and many contributions to the Society. Although he is now retired as chair of the Plant Sale, after serving many years in that capacity, he will continue to help Norm Dobbs who has taken over that position. He's not sure what he'll do with that extra Tuesday night every month, and the board will miss him at our meetings.

Pat Row was our treasurer for many years, and helped out with many other projects. She has worked on Arboretum weddings, the Annual Dinner, Pancake Breakfast, and just about anything we've done. She'll be able to keep abreast of what we're up to now that her husband, **Tom Row**, is Society president. We bet she'll keep on helping out, too.

Melanie Berney Staten, our publicity chair, has moved farther away and is unable to remain on the board. We congratulate her on her recent marriage, and thank her for her excellent work publicizing our events.

Pat Hunsicker helped with the Annual Dinner Silent Auctions, plant sales, and many other activities while serving on the board. We will miss her contributions to board discussions and her insight on important issues.

Norm Dobbs is not retiring from the board, just from his role as board president. He is taking on the role of Plant Sale chair, and is also serving as past president. The board adds its thanks to those of Richard Evans and others for his extraordinary efforts the past three years on behalf of UTAS.



In memoriam

Ted Rogers

October 6, 1921 - January 1, 2009

We note with regret the recent death of Ted Rogers of Oak Ridge. Ted served as president of UTAS, and was very active with the Society for a number of years. We will miss his ready smile, his knowledge and love of plants, and his helpful attitude. We send our condolences to his widow, Rozan Rogers.

New & Renewing Members

- Marion Alexander
- David Flitcroft
- Mary Kedl
- Dan & Eva Robbins
- Betty Tipton
- Wackenhut Services, Inc
- Nancy Williamson

New Officers

UTAS members elected the following slate of officers at the Annual Dinner meeting:

- President - Tom Row
- Vice President-Lynn Carlson
- Secretary-Diantha Paré
- Treasurer Wendy Packan

Fall Holly Work Day

The UTAS Holly Task Force thanks those who helped with pruning and cleaning up the Elmore Holly Collection last fall. An early blast of winter brought temperatures that remained below freezing as these hardy volunteers pruned, aerated mulch, and cleared debris in the Elmore Holly Collection:

Kathy Bracic, Norm Dobbs, Lee Ann Dobbs, Richard Evans, Diantha Pare, Marti Salk, Don Searle, Barry Shupe, Dennis and Jan Superczynski, and Will Witte.

We thank **Jan Superczynski** for a warm, and much welcomed, tailgate lunch and **Richard Evans** for providing equipment for the task. The Holly Task Force: **Barry Shupe, Mike Stansberry, Dennis Superczynski, Dr. Will Witte**



Diantha Paré and Don Searle take a quick break from holly pruning.

Special Awards

Outgoing president **Norm Dobbs** presented Distinguished Service Awards to **Diantha Paré, Pat Row, and Dennis Superczynski** at the Annual Dinner. He recognized each of



Pat Row and Diantha Paré with their Distinguished Service Award plaques from Norm Dobbs

them for many years of outstanding service to UTAS. On behalf of the board, **Diantha Paré** presented a gift certificate to the Flatwater Grill to Norm and Lee Ann as thanks for their extraordinary contributions, over many years, to the Society.

Oh, Deer!

Richard Evans found one of the Arboretum deer checking out the incoming solar radiation at the new NOAA weather station.



Jan Superczynski and Barry Shupe put the finishing touches on the picnic lunch.



UTAS Resources

Board of Directors

Officers

President: Tom Row	Evelyn Lorenz
Vice President: Lynn Carlson	Eileen Neiler
Secretary: Diantha Paré	Diantha Paré
Treasurer: Wendy Packan	Bob Reed
Past President: Norm Dobbs	Stan Richards
Board Members	Marti Salk
Ted Ballard	Barry Shupe
Melanie Berney	Randy Stewart
Amy Fitzgerald	Dennis Superczynski
Jeff Holt	Beverly Woods
Emily Jernigan	<i>Ex Officio</i>
	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
- **Plant Collections Committee:** identify existing specimens, select, buy and plant new and or replacement plants, etc. **Lynn Carlson**, lbcarlson@alumni.indiana.edu
- **Choose Your Own Spot!** We want to get more members involved in our activities. Let us know what tickles your fancy. **Email:** utas@discoveret.org

Special Events

- **Arbor Day, March 6** - Let **Lee Ann Dobbs** show you how easy it is, or just help out with this fun, child centered activity. 482-6656 or leadob@bellsouth.net

Thanks

Pat Hunsicker, Dick Raridon, Pat Row and Melanie Berney Staten are retiring from the board. Read more about them in this issue.

All who donated to the Silent Auction and attended the Annual Dinner.

Board Members, Plant Sale & other Volunteers for ongoing help.

How to Find Us

On the WorldWideWeb: www.UTArboretumSociety.org

Email: 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-Rhodes Logan - 865-974-1928

UT Arboretum-Richard Evans - 865-483-3571

UT Arboretum Society-Tom Row - 865-482-9096

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



P.O. Box 5382
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5382

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Merchandise For Sale

Support the Arboretum Society!

\$15 Short-sleeve t-shirts <small>Cotton poly blend Sizes M-XXL</small>	\$18 Long-sleeve t-shirts <small>100% cotton Sizes M-XL</small>	\$15 Caps & Visors
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Almost Finished- Our New Parking Lot!



The new parking area nears completion

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Feb 26 | Lecture, with TCWP:
Invasive Exotics |
| March 6 | Arbor Day, Glenwood School |
| April 4 | Holly Work Day |
| April 24, 25 | Spring Plant Sale |
| June 4-7 | Tour of Georgia gardens |
| June 19, 20 | Secret City Festival |