

Branches

Extending news and information to UTAS members and friends

Issue No 9 - Winter 2008

UTAS President's Message

Norm Dobbs begins his third year as president, noting new Society activities and changes in the Society and at the Arboretum.

Page 2

Stumped? Ask us!

I need help selecting a tree for my yard, and this crazy weather has me confused.

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



Page 6

"Director's Desk" Richard Evans

Change is in the air, from the new parking lot to a brand new trail and the Urban Forestry element at the Arboretum.

Page 2

Spring Plant Sale

Revive your landscape and support UTAS!

Featured Plant-Crape Myrtle

Fri. April 18 5-7, members only

Sat. April 19 9-3, all welcome

Page 6

New Trail to Open

A loop trail opens with a special ceremony on Feb. 16, and we're all invited to walk it and even to name it. The Trail Rangers are coming, too!

Page 1

Upcoming Events

Feb 16 New Arboretum Trail Ribbon Cutting

Feb 25 Lecture: Drought & Cold-Plant Recovery

Mar 1 Holly Work Day

Mar 7 Arbor Day at Willowbrook School

Mar 15 Workshop: Sharpen Garden Tools

More events inside Page 6

New Arboretum Trail Ribbon Cutting, Guided Hike, & the Trail Rangers

The Arboretum will host a ribbon cutting for a new Arboretum Trail on Saturday, February 16th at 10:00 AM. Richard Evans, Arboretum Director, will escort participants along the trail and describe the many unique and interesting natural and historical features found along this 0.7 mile loop through the Arboretum's forested area. Mr. Evans will also show 1930s aerial photos and pictures of this area, and explain how past human activities influenced the composition and makeup of forest conditions observed today.

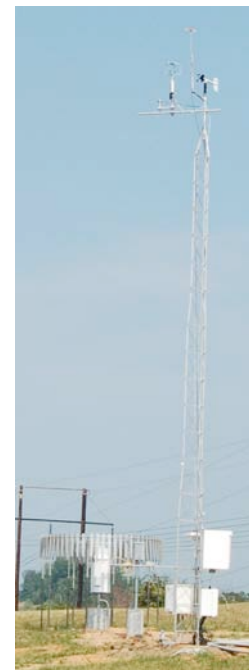
This is the first of several new trail additions and/or extensions planned for the Arboretum. A Tennessee Department of

Conservation, Recreational Trails Program grant provided partial funding for trail construction. When this project is finished, 2.3 miles of new trails will be added to the existing 5 miles of trails and walkways. For now this is known as the No Name Trail! Mr. Evans is soliciting suggestions for a trail name that complements its features and is consistent with the naming tradition of all Arboretum trails. Forms will be available after the hike, and subsequently in the Arboretum Office. The person submitting the chosen trail name will receive a gift.

With this announcement of a new trail, the Arboretum is also unveiling an initiative to organize an Arboretum Trail Ranger Corps. UT Arboretum Trail Rangers will be volunteers who assist with maintenance and improvements of the Arboretum Trails. Trail Rangers will receive training in proper trail construction and maintenance techniques, and get special instruction on the significance

of interpretive and unique features along each trail. They can assist in the development of trail signage and placement. Trail Rangers will function as greeters,

and answer visitors' general questions about the Arboretum and its trails. Any would be Trail Rangers out there?



The new NOAA weather station, relocating to the UT Arboretum. Look for more details on its official opening soon.



President's Letter

2008 has arrived and brought with it some long awaited and much needed rain. Hopefully all our gardens will benefit and rebound in the spring. Many changes are on the horizon at the Arboretum as I begin my third year as your President. A new and enlarged parking lot at the Visitors' Center will be a huge benefit to the Arboretum, and the new plantings will help to beautify the entrance, parking lot and areas surrounding the Visitors' Center.

In my opinion, nothing refreshes the mind and body more than a quiet stroll in the forest and the opening of a new hiking trail at the Arboretum should be welcome news to all outdoor enthusiasts. Lee Ann and I, along with our son who was visiting from Florida, took a preview hike after Christmas, and I can personally attest that it is going to be an exciting new attraction for the Arboretum. Watch for news articles about the trail's opening ceremony on and be sure to include a peaceful hike on this trail as one of your 2008 resolutions. This trail will open up more areas of the Oak Ridge Forest for the public's enjoyment, not to mention the unique geological features which were uncovered during the trail's construction.

We've made a slight realignment to our Society's committee structure by combining two committees. Our newly organized Fund Raising and Events Committee is responsible for planning and implementing all our fund raising initiatives and programs, including any educational non-revenue producing events. The Public Relations Committee is responsible for all outreach activities and publicity. The Arboretum Plant Collections Committee includes stewardship and planning assistance to the Arboretum Director for all the Arboretum's plant collections, with the Holly Task Force and the Native Plant Group folded under this committee.

Beginning this year, we want to expand the membership on all these committees to include as many non-Board Members as possible. Please contact me, any Board Member or use our web site (UTArboretumSociety.org) to request more information or to inform us of your area of interest. The vitality and future of our Society and our ability to effectively support the mission and needs of the UT Arboretum are very much dependent upon the number and diversity of our committee and special assignment volunteers. Please give this "call for volunteers" serious consideration and respond in true Tennessee Volunteer fashion.

In closing let me remind everyone of the importance of the UT Arboretum Endowment Fund to the future of the Arboretum. With a fully funded endowment, the future of the Arboretum will be more secure and funds will be available to perform many of the enhancements and activities that many of you have desired. Support the Arboretum through support to the Endowment Fund!

Norm Dobbs, UTAS President

nadobbs@bellsouth.net

Director's Desk

Politicking for "change" seems to be a common theme among the Presidential candidates this season. It seems that everyone is a champion for change, although the exact nature of the change may be heavily dependent on one's political persuasion and these prescriptions can vary widely. Change can be something that we wish to make different in particular - to give a different position, course, or direction. Sometimes change may be radical, as in embodying a transformation, reversal, or switching. A less radical form of change could be a simple modification. Change is an action in response to a changed condition - a form of adaptation. However, one must be careful in assuming change is always good. We are cautioned about change in the notion that "change for change's sake" may be a human frailty.

I like the idea that we implement change to adapt to changed or changing conditions. The UT Arboretum is no stranger to change, whether it is in dealing with new demands for alternative funding or adjusting to events that nature laid at our doorstep. Every day brings new changes to the Arboretum- it is the nature of the beast. As the Arboretum matures and plants grow, there is a constant morphing of allocations for programs, operations, and resources around this changed state of conditions. Societal demands for services offered by the Arboretum influence the need for change.

To be relevant to a changing society is to stay in tune with changing demands- to evaluate needs and adapt accordingly. Lately, we have implemented several changes to be more relevant. The Arboretum and the Society have implemented a series of programs that previously may have seemed uncharacteristic- the Owl Prowl, Tool Workshop, and Outdoor Dramas, etc. We have expanded the Arboretum Nature Trails System to cater to increasing demand for this feature. The Arboretum added an Urban Forestry element to its programming to address the interest of citizens in trees and wildlife in urban settings- their care and perpetuation. Yet with all of these changes afoot we still want to focus on the traditional elements of the Arboretum that have, for so long, sustained us - the pastoral landscapes, plant collections, and research and development programs.

The Arboretum embraces change as we take strategic initiatives to improve the importance and relevance of this wonderful resource, improving the lives of to all our citizens. Come join us.

See our web site for more information:
<http://forestry.tennessee.edu>

~Richard Evans, Director

Eye on the Forest by Jeff Holt

A walker's guide to native East Tennessee Conifers

Jeff Holt, UTAS board member and long-time Oak Ridger has a BS in Forest Management from UT and is a Society of American Foresters Certified Forester.

This is a wonderful time of year for a walk at the UT Arboretum. The woods has on its winter wardrobe of a thousand shades of gray, brown, and green. If you pick the right day for your walk, you might get to enjoy a little white: as contrast on the ground, or flying thru the air to provide the kind of scenery we usually see in holiday cards.

One of the highlights of spending time in the woods this time of year is the way that what seems like as drabness shows off things that stay green all year. Several types of plant groups that stay green all year include the native conifers that I am writing about today, exotic (they're not from around here) conifers that have been brought in mostly as landscaping and specimens, native conifers that mostly grow along the eastern border of Tennessee in the mountains, and broadleaf plants such as some magnolias, privet, and honeysuckle vine.

There are five conifers native to the area of the UT Arboretum and they are all present— although some have been planted there. These are Virginia Pine (*Pinus virginiana*), Shortleaf Pine (*Pinus echinata*), Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*), Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*). A sixth species, Loblolly Pine, (*Pinus taeda*), is commonly found and widely planted in Eastern Tennessee and has a native range that extends north almost to Athens, Tennessee. While many of these evergreens may appear to look alike to the casual observer, their unique characteristics such as bark color and texture, leaf shape (yes, needles are leaves), and form of the tree and its branches provide interesting detail and a ready means to tell these species apart.

These six species fall into several groups. The largest is the Southern Yellow Pines (Shortleaf, Virginia, and Loblolly Pines), the White Pines (Eastern White Pine is our only native white pine in Eastern North America), the junipers (Eastern Red Cedar is not a true cedar), and finally the Hemlocks (Eastern Hemlock). The tree Hemlocks are not to be confused with the herbaceous poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*). The table below provides a thumbnail guide to these species and how to tell which one you are looking at. Remember that trees are like people in that there is a fair amount of variation in looks between individuals of the same species – but after you have seen a



few you can generally tell one species from another (think house cats and lions). You will notice that pine needles come bundled together. Each bundle is a "leaf" and the needles are wrapped at the bottom with a fascicle sheath.

Representative trees of most of these species are present within a short walk of the entrance parking lot of the UT Arboretum. I suggest you start your walking tour of these trees at the front gate (watching for cars). Standing at the left side of the front gate facing out look at the silhouettes of the Shortleaf Pines on the ridge up and across the highway. These have a classic shape that varies from individual tree to individual tree, but still shows the similarity between trees of the same species. Turn to the right and look over at the Eastern White Pine growing above the creek. Note the layered "fluffy" look of its branches. This tree is a little yellowish, the top is more the classically whitish green, but it is mostly seasonal. You may want to get close enough to the tree to see the five needles per fascicle sheath.

Walking back toward the parking lot, turn left and go the road to the left to about the stairs. The first two pine trees are Shortleaf Pines with their characteristic blocky thick bark. Note how their bark differs from the third pine up the road from the stairs. The third tree is a Virginia Pine. Its bark is thinner, redder (as in reddish brown) and platy in thin poker chip sized bark plates that vary in appearance with age. The age of the bark also varies as you move up the stem of the tree with the oldest at the bottom and newest near the top.

Turning to head back to the parking lot, go to the Arboretum Map side of the bulletin board. Once there, turn to the right and look up until you see a pair of Eastern Red Cedar trunks. Note the very cone-like form. Walk toward the parking lot and the hill that rises on its long side. There is a group of four Eastern Red Cedar seedlings there along with a 6-7 foot tall Virginia Pine sapling. If you look closely at the cedars, you will see both the spiky and scaly needle forms of this species. The distribution of these two needle forms changes with age of the tree. The Virginia Pine has yellow green twisted needles that are very different from the Eastern White Pine's needles you may have looked at during the start of the walk.



From the parking lot walk up the valley road toward the beginning of the Heath Cove Trail. There are many mature Shortleaf Pine and Virginia Pine trees in the woods on both sides of the road. Look to see if you can see differences in the structure and appearance of their different canopies. At the entrance to the Heath Cove Trail there are a number of Canada Hemlocks. Look closely at the needles to see how flat they are and the two whitish lines on their undersides. As you have seen in your walk at the Arboretum, there other conifers and plants that stay green in the winter. A little farther up the valley road is a dwarf conifer garden that is full of really cool plants- I will write about those another time.

The last native conifer, the Loblolly Pine, is actually native to within about 50 miles of here and is planted extensively in this area. There are none of these in the immediate vicinity of the walk I outlined. You can see some just west on Highway 62 past the traffic light. There is also a bunch of these planted on the grounds of the First Presbyterian Church in Oak Ridge, near the corner of Lafayette and the Oak Ridge Turnpike. Get out and talk a winter walk at the UT Arboretum – the details of the plants will reward your efforts. See you at the Arboretum.

Photos by Jeff Holt

New and Renewing Members- Thanks!

Marion Alexander
 Mary F Alford
 Bill & Lucretia Atterson
 Ralph & Belinda Aurin
 Jean Bangham
 Faye Beck
 Robin & William Biloski
 Dianne Blane
 Kathy Bracic
 Charles & Marion Burger
 Lynn Carlson
 Janet & Bob Cushman
 Deborah Cutler
 Dr Hal DeSelm
 Warren Devine
 Norman & Lee Ann Dobbs
 Terry & Betty Anne Domm
 Bob & Betty Dreyer
 Viola Ergen
 Oak Ridge Garden Club
 Elwood & Roslyn Gift
 L Grandage
 Mr/Mrs Melvyn L Halbert
 Glenn & Barbara Hammond
 Seth McConchie & Angela Hoffman
 Jeff & Lecie Holt
 Charlie & Emily Jernigan
 James S Johnson
 Winifred Johnson
 Barry Shupe & Noel Kawado
 Jan Kern
 M Ruth Kerr
 Barbara Landau
 Joseph A Mallard
 Harold & Martha McCurdy
 Terry McGown
 Anne McKenzie
 Edmond & Marese Nephew
 Jessemae M Noritake
 Christine Northcutt
 Martha Orrin
 Wendy Packan
 Diantha & Victor Pare'
 June E Peishel
 Madelon M Perreault
 Davis & Susan Reed
 Willow & Bob Reed
 Robert A Reynolds
 Vicky & Stan Richards
 Michael L Richert
 Ginny Rogers
 Don & Vickie Searle
 William & Muriel Sirett
 Dr Alan Solomon
 Paul & Louise Spray
 Dennis & Jan Superczynski
 Paul & Barbara Taylor
 Joan Tomlinson
 Lamar & Emily Toomer
 Rita Trusley
 Becky & John Waddell
 Sherry A Wagner
 Eloise Wheeler
 Travis Witherington
 Diana Wolfram
 Beverly S Woods
 Anne Wright

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 items. You can also see what else is up at the Arboretum and UTAS at our website. If you don't want to wait, 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 you may use this form.

UTAS 2008 Membership Application	
Name _____	Phone _____
Address _____	
City _____	State _____ Zip _____
E-Mail _____	
Society Friend \$100	Family \$45
Patron \$500	Individual \$30
Contribution \$ _____ <i>(All memberships and contributions are tax deductible.)</i>	
Mail a check to:	
UTAS	
P.O. Box 5382	
Oak Ridge TN 37831-5382	

Annual Dinner Meeting

On November 6, almost 60 members of the UT Arboretum Society gathered for the Annual Dinner at the Sagebrush Steak House. After socializing and pondering the Silent Auction items, we sat down to a delicious dinner. We had an array of articles to bid on, and when the auction closed, we had raised \$1600 to support the Arboretum. The board and other members secured or donated the auction items.

Dr. Henri D. Grissino-Mayer, Associate Professor in the Department of Geology at The University of Tennessee, gave a very interesting talk



on his work in ecosystem disturbance processes using dendrochronology—the study of tree rings—to better understand weather history. He investigates everything from wildfires to climate change to hurricanes to the age of historic log structures such as James White Fort.

We elected the 2008 Officers and Board of Directors: President, Norm Dobbs; Vice-president, Dick Raridon; Secretary, Diantha Paré; Treasurer, Pat Row; Directors Ted Ballard, Betts Higgins, Emily Jernigan, Bob Reed, Lynn Carlson, Eileen Neiler, Wendy Packan, Stan Richards, Melanie Berney, Jeff Holt, Pat

Hunsicker, and Marti Salk. Past President is Dennis Superczynski. Proposed Bylaws changes were approved.

Auction Items and Donors ~ Thanks!

Item	Donor
Sunset Beach Vacation	Joann Johnson
Buckhorn Inn Vacation	John & Nettie Hill
WillowRidge Gift Certificate \$75	Tom Lakers -Willow Ridge
Caboose Ride	Secret City Excursion Train
Rustic Bird House	UT Research Center Staff
Box Elder Bowl	Daniel Claus
Cherry Bowl	Daniel Claus
Hypertufa Trough	Norm Dobbs
Rose Stepping Stones	Norm Dobbs
Driftwood Sculpture	Jeff Holt
Antique Snaffle Bits Plaque	Jeff Holt
Camellia in Planter	Lynn Carlson / Pat Row
Walnut Frame -Hanging Planter	Diantha Pare
Leaf Bag	Diantha Pare
Wine Bottle Holder	Pat Row
Tree Topper	Dennis Superczynski

Welcome New Board Members

Ted Ballard

Having grown up in rural East Tennessee outside of Knoxville, roaming the woods and hiking in the Great Smoky Mountains, Ted Ballard has a natural affinity for forests and thereby, the University of Tennessee Arboretum. Graduating from UT with a degree in psychology and zoology, he found these two fields appealing because they bring into focus a relationship between people and their environment. Professionally, Dr. Ballard is a licensed psychologist whose emphasis has been on clinical practice and corporate consulting with Fortune 100 companies. For 30+ years he was based in Atlanta, Georgia. His avocation has been a love for nature expressed in many forms including photography, hiking, kayaking, SCUBA diving, exploring, and travel. Partially retired, he finds himself living back in East Tennessee and involved in many activities in the Knoxville area including being the current president of the Knoxville Gardener's Forum and now on the U. T. Arboretum Society Board of Directors.

Melanie Berney

Melanie was elected to the Board of UTAS last year. Her main responsibility is to generate press for the group where she will utilize her 35 year career in publicity and marketing. After graduating in Communications from UT, Melanie worked as press secretary to two congressmen, as Managing Editor of the White House news Summary and Deputy Assistant Press Secretary to President Ford; Director of Promotion for the Chamber of Commerce of the U.S. and Director of Public Relations for Westminster at Lake Ridge. She has been a newspaper and TV reporter in the Washington D.C. and Baltimore areas. In 2007, she moved to Knoxville to be closer to two of her daughters, Maren and Julianne. She has another daughter, Lindsay Sharpe, son-in-law Ben and 11- month old granddaughter Clarissa in Gainesville, Texas. In addition to a PR career, Melanie has directed children's and adult choirs for over 30 years. On a personal note, Melanie is engaged to be married this summer.

Barry Shupe

Barry Shupe enjoys hiking, landscaping, and growing a wide variety of plants. He lives in Knoxville and is currently working on developing his own 25 acre arboretum in east Knox County. He graduated from the University of Tennessee with a degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering and has been looking for a great job ever since. Typical weekends are spent clearing brush at his arboretum, hiking, or working in the yard at home. He is a member of Friends of the UT Gardens, the American Conifer Society, the Holly Society of America, and the East Tennessee Daylily Society. Barry co-directs the East Tennessee Plant Swap. He joined UTAS in January 2007 and became a member of the Plant Collections Committee in August. While attending the UTAS Annual Meeting, he agreed to join the Board of Directors. He is also a member of the Holly Task Force

UTAS donates \$5000 to the Arboretum Endowment, bringing our total to \$15,000.



Upcoming Events

New Trail Ribbon Cutting & Guided Hike

The Arboretum will host a ribbon cutting for a new Arboretum Trail on Saturday, February 16 at 10 am. Richard Evans, Arboretum Director, will escort participants along the trail and describe the many unique and interesting natural and historical features found along this 0.7 mile loop through the Arboretum's forested area. Mr. Evans will also present 1930s aerial photos and pictures of this area, and explain how past human activities influenced the composition and makeup of forest conditions observed today.

Lecture: Will My Plants Recover from the Freeze and Drought of 2007?

Monday, February 25 - 7 pm, City Room, Roane State in Oak Ridge

Dr. Jennifer Franklin, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries at the University of Tennessee will offer advice on this timely topic. \$5/person.

Holly Collection Spring Spruce-Up

Saturday, March 1 - 9 am -12, Elmore Holly Garden*

The earliest Roman calendar defines March 1st as *Kalends* -1st day of the month. If you enjoy the UT Arboretum and want to help maintain the Elmore Holly Collection, March 1st is your opportunity to join our task force and learn first hand the principles of spring clean-up while preparing the Holly Collection for its seasonal splendor. Tasks include:

- Pruning practices by Dr. Will Witte
- Fertilizing
- Mulching, weed removal, general clean-up
- Replace some hollies that did not survive last summer's heat and drought

The Arboretum will provide fertilizer, mulch, mulch forks and carts. Please bring your gooseneck hoe for weed removal & mulching, pruning shears, and rake. A light luncheon will be provided.

Please call or email Dennis Superczynski, 865-607-8512, or jandport@charter.net, to register or ask questions.

*Rain date- Sat., March 8. All registrants will be notified if necessary. The Holly Task Force:

Dennis & Jan Superczynski, Will Witte, Barry Schupe, Mike Stansberry

Oak Ridge Arbor Day and Tree City USA

Friday March 7 - 10 am, Willowbrook School

The UT Arboretum Society and the City of Oak Ridge cosponsor Oak Ridge's 23rd annual Arbor Day Observance. On March 7 at 10 am we will plant a tree at Willowbrook School, marking Oak Ridge's 20th year as a Tree City USA. **Lee Ann Dobbs** is in charge.

Garden Tool Workshop

Saturday, March 15 - 10 am, Program Shelter

"The Tool Guys" (Richard Evans, Jeff Holt & Norm Dobbs) return for another workshop. Learn how to clean, sharpen and care for your garden tools before spring planting season arrives. We'll have information and demonstrations on knives, pruners, loppers, shovels, spades, etc. We'll even show quick and easy chain saw sharpening skills. Bring your special garden tool problem and let the pros help you. Share your own tips and hints on tool care. \$5/person

Plant Sale 2008 Features Crape Myrtle

April 18 & 19

Featured Plant: Crape Myrtle, an easy-to-grow flowering tree/shrub, is colorful, drought resistant once established, long-lived and quite disease-resistant. It has a large variety of flower colors. All this makes it one of the most useful and beautiful plants to have in your landscape. Come to the Spring Plant Sale to support UTAS and find an outstanding variety of high quality plants, including many hard-to-find specimens.

Kid's Day at the Arboretum

Saturday, May 17 - 10-3, Arboretum

Except by special arrangements with school groups, or an occasional program like the Owl Prowl, the Arboretum does not have regular child-oriented programs. We recognize this need, and also want to introduce family groups to the Arboretum. So we will host our first Saturday program just for kids and their families on May 17.

The program will feature things kids like to do – hunt for bugs, snakes, and frogs; learn the secrets of the woods; play learning games with a nature theme; plant a seed or seedling; eat hotdogs; and generally have a good time outdoors. Programs will be presented by Arboretum Society volunteers and University of Tennessee staff. However, we need volunteers who have special talents in presenting nature-based programs to children. Let us know if you're able to help out with this exciting new program.

New Parking Lot & Other Improvements

Anyone visiting the UT Arboretum knows we need a better parking lot. In February we hope to begin construction on a new parking lot. It will be completely paved, with space for 42 cars and 3 buses, easy in-and-out access, handicap accessible to the Office/Visitor Center, and landscaped to compliment the Arboretum. We are still working out the logistics of constructing a parking lot on top of the site of the old site while still accommodating visitors.

Partial funding comes from the Tennessee Department of Conservation, Recreational Trails Program, the same source as funds for trail improvements. The parking lot is essential to enable visitors to use and enjoy the entire Arboretum. Since the trail system is a major feature and attraction of the Arboretum, we need to improve parking to facilitate the public's convenient access to the trails. A feature associated with the parking lot, if funds permit, will be a visitor's restroom facility. Restrooms have high maintenance costs and we need to ensure that the public will care for and respect this amenity.

From the new parking lot visitors will be able to access the greater part of the Arboretum's plant collection through a paved trail that will parallel the Valley Road and end in the Heath Cove. This will also further improve access to the Arboretum for those who might have difficulty walking, and for parents with baby strollers. *Please be patient with us during these construction phases.*

Stumped?

I need help selecting a tree, and this crazy weather has me confused.

Visit the Arboretum to see a variety of trees in various stages of growth. Go to <http://orb.at.ufl.edu/TREES/index.html> to find profiles, photos and more. Attend the lecture on Feb. 25 about choosing trees more adaptable to the vagaries of climate changes.

Email your questions about trees, other plants, or wildlife to UTAS@discoveret.org.





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
Ex Officio
 Richard Evans

Board Members

Ted Ballard
 Melanie Berney
 Lynn Carlson
 Jeff Holt
 Pat Hunsicker

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
- **Tour Guides** assist groups visiting the Arboretum. Richard Evans, 483-3571.
- **Weddings** at the Arboretum require volunteers. Contact Lee Ann Dobbs, 482-6656 or leadob@bellsouth.net or Pat Row, 482-9096, pdrow@bellsouth.net

Special Events

- **Arbor Day** - Lee Ann Dobbs would like to transition out of this event, and is willing to train someone. It's once a year and pretty straightforward.
- **Lecture, Feb. 25 at 7 pm** - Bring refreshments, help with set up. Norm Dobbs, 482-6656
- **Kids Day at the Arboretum** - Help Richard Evans plan and execute this new event. 483-3571, revans6@utk.edu

Thanks

Don Searle has been on the board for 6 years. He'll still don his orange vest and serve as Parking Director at many events, and he's learning to move plants instead of cars as he transitions into Plant Sale Chair.

Vivian Abney of **East Fork Nursery** has donated the initial plants for the new Tennessee Holly Collection : *Dan Swane, Emily Bruner, and Ginny Bruner.*

Welcome

Ted Ballard, Melanie Berney, and Barry Shupe recently joined the board. Read their bios in a separate article.

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 of the UT Arboretum. The UT Institute of Agriculture Development Office, Arboretum Director, Arboretum Society President, and several Society members have been working to lay the foundation for a successful campaign.

In 2006 the **Rogers Group**, long-time corporate citizen of Oak Ridge and neighbor of the Arboretum, gave a **\$500,000 Arboretum Endowment Founding Gift**, spread over 5 years. As of November 2007, the **Arboretum Society** has contributed **\$15,000** to this fund.

Now we need to engage everyone to fully achieve our goal. You can assist 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

This 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 more information, or wish to share your idea for funding the UT Arboretum Endowment, contact:

UT Institute of Agriculture Office of Development- Rhodes Logan - 865-974-1928

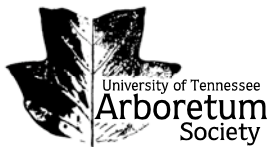
UT Arboretum -Richard Evans - 865-483-3571

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:

<http://www.utalumni.utk.edu/givetout>



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

Non-Profit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 273 Oak Ridge, TN
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UT ARBORETUM SOCIETY

BRANCHES Winter 2008

Name That Trail!

We have a new addition to the
UT Arboretum Trail Family.
Help us give it a name.
Winning entry gets a prize!



Upcoming Events

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|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Feb 16 | New Trail Opens |
| Feb 25 | Lecture: Plant Recovery |
| Mar 1 | Holly Work Day |
| Mar 7 | Arbor Day Willowbrook School |
| Mar 15 | Workshop: Sharpen Garden Tools |
| April 18-19 | Plant Sale |
| May 17 | Kids Day at Arboretum |
| May TBD | Bird Walk at the Arboretum |
| June 16-21 | Tour: Northwest Garden Adventure |