

Arb & Gardens *updates*



First Music in the Arb concert July 18, featuring The Dorkestra.



The pink saucer magnolia. Cuttings from a similar tree at the Kempf House will be planted in the Arb's magnolia collection this October.



One of the "Fabulous Flamingos" in our whimsy garden, open through Sept. 30.



A prescribed burn in Nichols Arboretum. Such burns are critical for managing invasive species and increasing biodiversity of our sites.

Music in the Arb

This summer's Music in the Arb series was a hit, with hundreds turning out for the July and August concerts. The final concert in the series is Sunday, September 12. Featuring "Ghostlady"—a local band that weaves instruments such as farfisa, loop pedal, and bells into a blend of music they call "quirk pop"—the performance begins at 6 pm at the amphitheater in the Arb and is free and open to all.

A Historic Tree, Reincarnated

With its gnarled branches and fragrant pink blossoms, the saucer magnolia (*Magnolia x soulangeana*) is an old-fashioned symbol of Michigan gardens. Preserving plants significant to Michigan heritage is one of our goals, and since 2007 we've been carefully tending a crop of cuttings from the historic magnolia at the Kempf House in Ann Arbor. This October, Nichols Arboretum will receive a new addition when we plant a Kempf cutting in the Arb magnolia collection and on the Kempf House property itself.

Make Way for Whimsy

Our summer display, "Fabulous Flamingos," garnered rave reviews from visitors all summer. With the exhibit open through September, there's still time to come out and see some amazing topiary, whirligigs, garden gnomes, beautiful plantings, and, of course, the aforementioned creatively painted and decorated flamingos.

Prescription: Fire

Many of our members and neighbors are aware of the Arb and Gardens' prescribed burns, which are critical land-management tools and an effective technique for managing invasive plants. This fall we're conducting prescribed burns at both the Arb and the Gardens. We always welcome participants or those who'd like to come out and see what a burn is all about. To sign up for e-alerts about upcoming burns, to participate, or for more information, email our Natural Areas Manager Jeff Plakke: plakke@umich.edu.

Whisper in the Woods

The word "susurrus" means a soft murmuring or whisper, but at the Gardens this September and October, it's a unique production sponsored by the University Musical Society. Audiences follow a map around Matthaei as they listen to the music and words of Benjamin Britten and W.H. Auden on an iPod with headphones. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 734.764.2538 or visit ums.org.

Take a Bough

This fall our conservatory exhibit, "A Christmas Tree Carol," celebrates holiday decorations and the holiday tree's place in American culture for people of all races and religions. Educational and fun, A Christmas Tree Carol will feature a look at the holiday tree decorated as it was in the past and as it might be in the future as we look to more sustainable practices in lighting, ornaments, wrapping paper, and more. Exhibit opens Wednesday, November 24.

Holiday Open House

In tandem with the opening of the conservatory exhibit in November we're offering a special holiday open house for members the weekend following Thanksgiving. We'll have out-of-the-ordinary nature-themed holiday gifts that honor our mission of sustainability and environmental stewardship. Look for more information in the months ahead as we approach the holidays.

Cultural Landscape Symposium, Oct. 1-2

The Arb and Gardens is a partner in an informative symposium this fall that will focus on the history, legacy, and relevance of "Prairie Style" landscape design in southeast Michigan. Sponsored in part by the Michigan Humanities Council, the conference offers many tours and presentations, including tours of the Arb and Gardens. Noted environmental author Janet Marinelli is speaking at Matthaei on October 2; all conference attendees will be registered for Marinelli's talk (see also the community education section to sign up just for her discussion). For more information visit the Henry Ford Estate website: henryfordestate.org.

Remembering Helen Post

Helen Post passed away July 5 in Ann Arbor. She and her husband Norris were strong supporters of the Arb and Gardens for many years. At Nichols Arboretum, they helped fund the rejuvenation of Heathdale, whose collection is named in memory of their daughter Julie, who died in 1974. "Helen and Norris's support came at a critical time for the Arboretum and clearly set a model for restoring other parts of the Arb and Gardens," notes Director Bob Grese. Helen's passion for beautiful flowers and gardens also extended to the Sitting Garden at Matthaei, where comfortable benches provide a quiet retreat. Helen will be missed by everyone at MBGNA.



Where the Wildflowers Are

Arb & Gardens' interns are planting wildflowers and hope in Detroit neighborhoods this summer—one lot at a time

Arb and Gardens' student interns are used to working on projects whose goals—such as environmental stewardship or yanking invasive weeds—run from the lofty to the everyday.

But a unique partnership with the Greening of Detroit to help restore heavily disturbed land in Detroit has interns thinking beyond their comfort zone.

Originally created to counter the city's loss of American elms, Greening's mission now includes land reclamation, community gardens, and other ways to help Detroit's neighborhoods.

Detroit is huge, encompassing an area the size of San Francisco, Boston, and Manhattan together. Thus in any ecological restoration project there are literally miles of ground to cover.

The hope is, according to MBGNA Director Bob Grese, that with the interns' efforts, the partnership with Greening will be a model for restoring sites throughout Detroit and similar cities in the future.

Vacant Land to Wildflower Garden

"Detroit is an opportunity to restore land that was converted to agricultural use and then to urban use," says Jeff Plakke, MBGNA natural areas manager. "Now it's returning to nature on its own."

The project's basic plan, Plakke explains, is to help establish plantings of easy-to-propagate native wildflowers on vacant lots.

This will encourage a larger change, where land will begin to recover its ecological integrity. When that happens, Plakke adds, "we'll see improved water and air quality, and increased diversity."

Just as important, students can put their education to work, and Greening benefits from the University's and the students' expertise.

Above all, the students' contribution must offer not just abstract principles but practical solutions for Detroit's residents, who will carry on the work in the future.

The world is more continuous than contiguous, and working on a project like this makes us realize we're not an island, says Grese. "If we want to promote a healthy Great Lakes region, we need to learn how

to reclaim and restore some of the most degraded lands around us, including some of these vacant lots in Detroit."

Where Vision Meets Garden

One intern with particular skills in ecosystem restoration is Yousef Rabhi. Rabhi has worked on the Buhr Park Children's Wetland Meadow. For the Greening project he coordinates the plant list, the installation phases, and the planting strategy.

Now in his fourth Arb & Gardens' internship, Rabhi exudes the passion students bring to their jobs. He eloquently explains how his MBGNA experience has prepared him to work on the Greening project without feeling overwhelmed.

"A program like this will never just be something you can do once and walk away from," Rabhi says. "My work at the Arb and Gardens has shown me that it's about investing day in and day out while remembering the bigger picture."

Ultimately, explains Rabhi, the student

Above left: **Dan Rubens** (2012, English and Theatre major, LSA and School of Music, Theatre, and Dance); **Mary Hejna** (2012, Master of Landscape Architecture, SNRE); and **Yousef Rabhi** (2010, Environmental Studies, LSA) discuss project plans. Hejna is in charge of drawings and design; Rubens and **Alex Bajcz** (not shown in picture; 2012, Terrestrial Ecosystems, SNRE; 2010, Honors Program in the Environment, LSA) handle logistical planning and tools; Rabhi coordinates the plant list and installation strategy; and **Laura Palm** (not shown in picture; 2011, Program in the Environment and Earth Science, LSA) is creating a presentation on the project.

project and Greening itself aren't just about the environment, they're also about social justice and sustainability. "What I really like about our piece of the project is that it creates sustainability in a real sense because it includes everything from environmental issues to community engagement to finding ways that we can make a change."

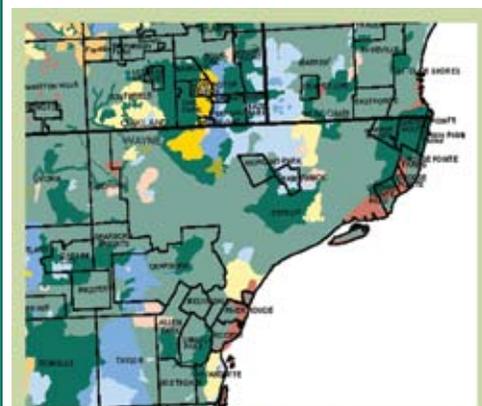
Moving Forward

Time is the great commodity in any garden, and today's interns are planting the seeds, literally and figuratively, for the future of the partnership with Greening. Says Plakke, "It made sense to plan the project through 2012, at which time we'd reevaluate. But 2012 isn't an end point."

And while the project this year is relatively limited, says Grese, "our hope is that what we learn can be applied to much larger areas, and that the interns will gain a true sense of satisfaction knowing they're contributing to a larger effort to restore habitats within Detroit." It may even sow the seeds of inspiration: some interns working on this project have begun to rethink the focus of their studies at the University, Grese adds. 🌱

Pre-European Settlement Detroit

Detroit today is urban land that in some cases is returning to earlier times. An interesting comparison with today is the circa 1800 vegetation map below. Significant portions of what is now Detroit were once beech-sugar maple forest, mixed hardwood swamp, and oak forests and savannas with some wet prairie.



Detail of map showing Detroit-area vegetation, circa 1800

Map courtesy SEMCOG (Southeast Michigan Council of Governments)

Homemade Heritage: Youth & Kids' Activities & Workshops—Fall 2010

The change of season is a time to give thanks for the gifts of summer and to look forward to cooler weather and autumn's bounty. From cranberries to scarecrows to jack-o'-lanterns and holiday trees, the Homemade Heritage programs celebrate our creative traditions. For more information call 734.647.7600.

Sign Up!—For our Homemade Heritage kids' workshops listed below. Fees are per child and include activities, materials, and admission to the conservatory. For more information call 734.647.7600 or visit our website, mbgna.umich.edu, where you can subscribe to our free monthly e-newsletter. All programs below held at Matthaei Botanical Gardens unless otherwise noted.

Pickles and Pizza Gardens: Back-to-School Harvest Party

Sat., Sept. 18, 10 am–noon

The fruits and vegetables growing during summer vacation are ready to be harvested and turned into delicious recipes. Use the tomatoes and herbs from the garden to create your own special pizza sauce recipe! **\$5.00 #10-YE-25**

Halloween Activity Days for Kids

Have yourself some scary good fun this October during the Arb & Gardens' annual Halloween activities.

All fees are per child.



Build Your Own Scarecrow

Sat., Oct. 16, 10 am–noon

Kids and their parents invited to get creative and join in our yearly scarecrow-building event. Bring your used children's clothes and hats and we'll provide the straw and other materials to build your own kid-sized scarecrow. Be sure to wear your Halloween costumes! **\$5.00 (per scarecrow) #10-YE-26**

Halloween Spooktacular

Sat., Oct. 30, 10 am–noon

Freaky fun!—our Annual Halloween Spooktacular event. Decorate pumpkins and other gourds to create all sorts of spooky creatures.

Who can make the silliest jack-o'-lantern? The scariest? We'll also decorate cut-out bats and make delicious pumpkin seeds from scratch. Later, help us decorate our west lobby for other kids to see, and take home your own creations.

\$7.00 #10-YE-27



Kids Are Chefs, Too!

Sat., Nov. 20, 10 am–noon

Children aren't just the next generation of chefs—they're also natural cooks eager to learn our culinary foodways and traditions. In this workshop, kids will experience first-hand the art of cooking as they learn holiday recipes and ideas essential to the Thanksgiving meal. They'll make homemade dough for buttery rolls, create the classic cranberry sauce, and design and make a special centerpiece for the table from dried flowers and seed pods.

\$5.00 #10-YE-28

A Christmas Tree Carol: Celebrating Holiday Trees of the Past, Present, and Future

Holiday Conservatory Exhibit and Display, Nov. 24–Jan. 6

Educational and fun for kids of all ages, A Christmas Tree Carol takes a cultural, nonreligious look at the holiday tree bedecked as it was in the past and present, and how it might be decorated in the future.

Conservatory Exhibit Opening Event

Everyone's an Artist Holiday Ornament Workshop

Sat., Nov. 27, 10 am–noon

In this hands-on workshop kids will weave together traditions of the past and the present as they create their own original and environmentally friendly ornaments and crafts from nature's bounty. We'll use recycled and natural materials such as pine cones, dried flowers,

seed pods, evergreens, paper, yarn, and ribbon to create no-two-alike ornaments and crafts

to use on a holiday tree, as table decorations, or as gifts for family and friends. **\$5.00 #10-YE-29**



Winter Fest

Sat., Dec. 18, 10 am–noon

Sure it's cold, but we love winter anyway. Find out why as we celebrate and learn about the winter solstice and the longest night of the year. Kids will also participate in a hands-on workshop where they'll create evergreen swags and hand-decorated wrapping paper in an homage to the winter season. Bring a spool of ribbon to trade in our ribbon exchange. **\$7.00 #10-YE-30**

Fall 2010 Community/Adult Education Programs and Classes

Vinyasa Yoga at the Gardens

All sessions Tuesday, noon–1 pm,
Botanical Gardens

Moderately paced class, with emphasis on the integration of breath and movement to increase strength and flexibility. For students with an understanding of yoga fundamentals. Bring a yoga mat and bath-sized towel. Preregistration required. Instructor: Janine Bennett. **Fee for full session: \$48.00 members and U-M students; \$60.00 nonmembers. Fee for single or selected dates: \$10.00 per session. No discounts.**

Fall Yoga Session I: Sept. 14, 21, 28; Oct. 5, 12, 19 #10-AE-34

Fall Yoga Session II: Oct. 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 #10-AE-39

Janet Marinelli Talk

Sat., Oct. 2, 2:15 pm, Botanical Gardens

All invited to hear a discussion by celebrated environmental and horticulture author, educator, and public gardens consultant Janet Marinelli. Janet currently is principle of Blue Crocus Consulting and specializes in planning, interpretation, and publishing on themes of environmental stewardship. Her most recent book is *The Wildlife Gardener's Guide* (Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2008). She has authored hundreds of articles and numerous books on sustainable landscapes and buildings, including *Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants* and *Invasive Plants: Weeds of the Global Garden*. **Fee: \$15.00 members and U-M students; \$20.00 nonmembers. Limited space; early registration suggested. #10-AE-45**

Fall Wednesday A.M. Hikers

Five Wednesdays: Sept. 15, 22, 29;
Oct. 6 & 13, 9 am – noon, various locations

Ellen Weatherbee's weekly hikes take plant seekers to the more remote habitats of woods and wetlands. Edible plants and mushrooms and those found in out-of-the-way places are emphasized in a learning but playful atmosphere. Wear long pants, long-sleeved shirt, and sturdy shoes. Potluck lunch last day **\$144 MBGNA members and U-M students; \$180 nonmembers #10-AE-32**

Nichols Arboretum Exploration Day

Thurs., Oct. 7, 5:30–7:30 pm, U-M Nichols Arboretum (meet at the Reader Center, 1610 Washington Heights entrance)

Explore Nichols Arboretum with MBGNA Natural Areas Manager Jeff Plakke, who'll discuss management techniques used at

the Arb and the various natural communities there. Free parking available in the U-M surface parking lot on Washington Hts. after 5 pm weekdays. Preregistration requested. **Fee: \$5.00. No discounts or refunds. #10-AE-36**

'Tween the Seasons Wednesday Field Trips

Wed., Oct. 20 & 27, 9 am–noon,
various locations

Take a relaxing break from holiday preparations on these invigorating hikes to little-known nature areas. Plants, habitats, and people encountered will be identified and enjoyed. Come dressed for the outdoors for both sessions. Potluck lunch final day. Hikes led by Ellen Weatherbee. **Fee: \$58 MBGNA members and U-M students; \$72 nonmembers #10-AE-37**

Indoor Bulb Forcing

Wed., Oct. 21, 6:30–8:30pm,
Botanical Gardens

Beat the cold-weather blues with blooming bulbs indoors. Several pots of bulbs will be planted including amaryllis, daffodils, hyacinth, paper whites, and tulips. Bring a box to take home the pots; everything else is supplied. Lead by MBGNA staff member Adrienne O'Brien, who coordinates plants for the conservatory special exhibits throughout the year. **Fee: \$48 MBGNA members and U-M Students (\$60 Nonmembers) #10-AE-38**

Sun Painting

Sat., Nov. 6, 10 am–noon, Botanical Gardens

Sun painting is a process in which objects such as stencils, leaves, feathers, and others are placed onto fabric saturated with paint and left out in the sun. The outlines of the objects are then transferred to the fabric. Lead by staff member and fiber artist Corinne Robertson. Class fee includes materials to make one hand-painted, solar-transferred scarf. During the first hour participants will paint their scarves and lay out their materials; during the second hour class participants may stroll the conservatory while the sun works its magic. Participants are welcome to bring their own materials to use in creating their design; flat items work best. Preregistration required. Registration closes Oct. 31. **Fee: 24.00 Members and U-M students, 30.00 nonmembers #10-AE-41**

Healing Pyramid – Discussion and Dinner

Wed., Nov. 10, 5–7 pm, Botanical Gardens

Jenna Wunder, MPH, RD, co-creator of the U-M Healing Foods Pyramid™, will lead an interactive discussion based on her work as integrative medicine dietitian and nutrition educator at U-M. She will emphasize the benefits of whole plant foods, discuss current research on chronic illness and nutrition, and inform the audience on how to eat with awareness for one's personal health as well as that of the environment. A delicious dinner will be served highlighting Jenna's recommendations. Preregistration required; class size limited. Registration closes at 5 pm on Thurs., Nov. 4. **Fee: MBGNA members and U-M students \$20; nonmembers \$25. #10-AE-42**

Introduction to Horticultural Therapy

Thurs., Nov. 11–14 (four-day class, offered
by the Horticultural Therapy Institute),
Botanical Gardens

Introduces students to the profession and practice of horticultural therapy and describes the types of programs utilizing horticultural therapy as well as the cognitive, social, emotional, and physical goals for the diversity of people served. The classes are accredited by AHTA and students can obtain academic credit through Colorado State University as well as continuing education units (CEUs). **For more information on the introduction classes or to enroll email ckramer@htinstitute.org, visit htinstitute.org, or call 303.388.0500.**

Introduction to the Art of Pressed Flower Cards

Sat., Dec. 4, 10 am–noon, Botanical Gardens

Rekindling a tradition, Beth Gilford will pass on the art and skill she learned from Maxine Miles and Catherine Belknap, two beloved Garden volunteers. Beth will demonstrate how to create greeting cards with pressed flowers and she'll share her knowledge of pressing flowers. Participants will take home at least four cards created in class. Preregistration required; this popular class fills early. **\$10.00 MBGNA members and U-M students; \$12 nonmembers. #10-AE-44**



The Local Table is a series of classes, workshops, and field trips that encourage us to think local and take a new look at where our food comes from.

Fall 2010 Community/Adult Education Programs and Classes, continued

Honey Harvest Demonstration

Sat., Sept. 11, 9 am–noon, Nichols Arboretum Reader Center Classroom, 1610 Washington Heights

Join us for a demonstration of honey harvesting from previously extracted hive frames. Extracted honey will be available for purchase. Led by Arb & Gardens beekeeper Richard Mendel and local beekeeper Win Harless. This is a family-friendly event. Note: Free weekend parking available in the university surface parking lot on Washington Heights. **\$2.00 per person; under 6 free. Preregistration required; space limited. No discounts, no refunds. #10-AE-31**

Growing Your Own Mushrooms

Learn how to identify, raise, grow, and cultivate your own organic mushrooms in this series of mushroom-growing workshops that combine lecture and hands-on activities. Each workshop covers a different mushroom and/or growing technique. Registration fee

includes an inoculated log (growing medium) to take home. Pay for and register for each workshop separately. All classes held at Matthaei Botanical Gardens.

Workshop I: How to Grow Reishi Mushrooms in Nursery Containers. Wed., Sept. 15, 6–8 pm. Fee: members and U-M students \$50/nonmembers \$63.00 #10-AE-33

Workshop II: Growing Lion's Mane Mushrooms on Logs. Wed., Oct. 27, 6–8 pm. Fee: members and U-M students \$50/nonmembers \$63.00 #10-AE-40

Workshop III: Growing Shiitake Mushrooms at Home. Wed., Nov. 17, 6–8 pm. Fee: members and U-M students \$55/nonmembers \$68.00 #10-AE-43

The Art of Canning

Wed., Sept. 29, 7–9 pm, East Ann Arbor Health & Geriatrics Center (lower level demonstration kitchen (enter at revolving doors), 4260 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor

Join Matthaei staffer April Pickrel as she demonstrates how to can jam and other tasty

treats. Recipes will include a jam set with pectin and a chutney or relish. All participants will help with preparation of fruit and materials and take home a jar. Recipes and ideas for home canning projects also provided. Preregistration required; class size limited. **Fee: MBGNA members and U-M students \$24.00; nonmembers \$30.00. #10-AE-35**

Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers (A2B2)

Tuesdays, 6:30–8:30 pm, Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Sept. 21; Oct. 19; Nov. 16; Dec. 21

A monthly meeting for anyone interested in learning about, managing, being aware of, and observing bees. Each meeting will be centered around a predetermined topic. Free; drop-in.

Check our website, mbgna.umich.edu, for upcoming beekeeper topics.

Here's How to Register for Classes (see registration form below):

Phone: 734.647.7600. (Business hours: Tues & Thurs.–Sun., 10 am–4:30 pm; Wed., 10 am–8 pm.)

Fax: 734.998.6205. Send completed registration form with credit card information.

Mail: MBGNA - University of Michigan
1800 N. Dixboro Road
Ann Arbor MI 48105

Online: www.mbgna.umich.edu

In Person: Stop by the front desk at Matthaei during Conservatory hours: Tues & Thurs.–Sun., 10 am–4:30 pm; Wed., 10 am–8 pm.

Make checks payable to “MBGNA.”

Note: Adult education classes are open to those at least 16 years of age. Classes meet as designated at Matthaei Botanical Gardens or Nichols Arboretum. Classes may meet off-site (call for location and directions if you miss a class). Field trips may be physically challenging—call if you have questions about the difficulty of any class or trip. Classes are popular and fill quickly—early registration is suggested.

Are You a Member?

To become a member of Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum, send a **separate** check made out to “MBGNA.” Fees are \$55 for a family membership, \$45 for a single membership, and \$20 for University students. (See form below.)

Refunds: Refunds given if MBGNA cancels class. Sorry, no refunds for classes with fees of \$5 or less; no refunds for no-shows. For additional information, visit our registration page at: isa.umich.edu/mbg/learn/registration.asp

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____
email: _____ **Parent's name (if student is under 18):** _____
Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

- Member of Friends of MBGNA (Member Exp. Date _____)**
 Non-member
 U-M student: (Student ID Number _____) Is this your first class? Y N



Student's Name	Class Code	Also attending (if family class)	Member Fee	Nonmember Fee
			Total	

List additional classes on a separate sheet and include with original form.

- Payment:** Check made payable to: MBGNA
 Visa MasterCard Discover
 American Express

Card # _____ **Exp. Date** _____
Cardholder Signature _____

Get Involved—Volunteer!

We welcome new volunteers in every season at the Arb & Gardens. Orientations introduce new volunteers to current opportunities and include an overview of the program and a tour of our facilities. Interested? Visit us online to submit an application at mbgna.umich.edu or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at **734.647.8528**; tgriffit@umich.edu to register for an upcoming orientation.

Fall 2010 Volunteer Training Opportunities

**Preregistration required for all trainings*

Save the Dates! 2011 Docent Training Information Sessions

**Tues., & Thurs., Dec. 14 & 16,
1–2:30 pm, Botanical Gardens**

Inspire future generations of environmental stewards as an Arb and Gardens docent!

During the academic year, docents work in small teams to lead guided interpretive programs for school groups and also to lead evening and weekend activities for youth and family events. Docents develop skills in interpretation and active learning while sharing enthusiasm and knowledge of the natural world with learners of all ages.

If you're interested in learning more about this unique volunteer opportunity we ask that you attend an information session prior to the training.

The 2011 docent classes will run for eight weeks beginning Mon., Jan. 17. Classes will be held on Mondays from 9 am–noon at the Gardens.



Docent Mickey Barley (left) with intern Ariane Reister



From the top: Conservatory Assistant Evan Stosick; Ambassador Carol Figarra; Natural Areas volunteer Tim Schafer

Conservatory Assistant Training

Mon., Sept. 13, 9–11 am, Botanical Gardens

Escape to a green oasis when the winter winds begin to blow. Join staff horticulturist Paul Girard to learn how you can lend a helping hand in the conservatory this winter—and year round! Volunteers will learn about general conservatory maintenance and the special care required for the many plants that live there. Volunteers are scheduled in the mornings; weekday and weekend shifts available.

Conservatory Ambassador Training

Sat., Oct. 16, 9 am–noon, Botanical Gardens

After the blossoming glory of the display gardens has faded our visitors can find a welcome botanical retreat in the conservatory. Ambassadors greet and guide visitors to points of interest and informal learning opportunities. The conservatory orientation will introduce volunteers to the Visitor Services department and cover the basics about the tropical, temperate, and arid biomes and the many fascinating plants found in each. Ambassadors commit to two shifts per month and attend ongoing educational sessions regarding special collections exhibits and events. Preregistration required.

Prescribed Burn Crew Training

Thurs., Oct. 21, 1–3 pm, Botanical Gardens

We're looking for new recruits to join the volunteer burn team so if you enjoy the natural areas at MBGNA and would like to help maintain them this is a great service learning opportunity. Volunteers are on call for weekday, afternoon burns (1–4 pm) during the spring and fall. The orientation will provide basic information about the use of prescribed fire as a restoration tool and the basic volunteer duties. A tour of past burn sites and hands-on demonstration will be provided, weather permitting.



When you add up their time and support, Tim and Nan Schafer—that rare combination of volunteers, members, and donors—give back even more than they get from the Arb & Gardens.

weeding, it's so gratifying to see the garden grow and change through the seasons. I've also enjoyed working with woody plants and in the natural areas. I'm looking forward to enjoying them in the years to come.

AG: *What would you say to a visitor to increase their chances of volunteering, donating, or becoming a member?*

TNS: **Tim:** I would encourage people to dig deeper. Visitors who have an interest need to find out what happens behind the scenes, to find the special parts of MBGNA. We drag our friends and visitors to the Arb and Gardens, whether they like it or not!

AG: *What's growing in your garden?*

TNS: We've been busy planting native wildflowers and trees, and anything that can take a beating.

Tim and Nan Schafer first discovered MBGNA as students on walks through the Arb. Then, about twelve years ago, they started spending part of their weekends walking at Matthaei. We took the opportunity on one of their many visits to sit down and talk about what draws them to the Arb and Gardens.

Arb & Gardens: *What's your favorite feature here?*

Tim & Nancy Schafer: **Nan:** I love the Herb Knot Garden. It's wonderful to take a walk through and touch all the aromatic plants. **Tim:** I really like the Wildflower Display Garden at Matthaei and the Gateway Garden at the Arb. (The Wildflower Display is pictured above.)

AG: *What came first, membership or volunteering?*

TNS: For years we enjoyed the efforts of others, so we decided to give back and make up for lost time. We were members first, and then Tim decided to volunteer after he retired.

AG: *Tim, why did you decide to volunteer at the Arb and Gardens?*

TNS: I knew that people were making things happen at the Gardens, so I wanted to get involved and give back. After 36 years in an office, it feels great to work outside.

AG: *Tim, what motivates you to volunteer so regularly? You're here almost every day.*

TNS: I believe in what's being done here. After taking advantage of the grounds for a number of years, it feels good to give something back. You know you've accomplished something when you get home after volunteering!

AG: *Tim, what's been your favorite project to work on?*

TNS: Definitely the Prairie Wildflower display garden. After collecting seed, planting, and

Tim and Nancy Schafer - Just the Facts

University of Michigan degrees:

Tim: Engineering BSE 1972 & MSE 1973; **Nan:** BA 1974

Volunteers since:

Tim: February 2009

Members since:

October 2002

Current membership level:

Director's Circle

Favorite plant:

Tim: Missouri Ironweed *Vernonia missurica*

Nan: Zinnia *Zinnia spp.*

Give A Gift Of Membership

Current members receive 10% off gift memberships!

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Mail form to: 1800 N. Dixboro Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Order by phone: 734.647.7600

Order online at: mbgna.umich.edu

GIFT TO

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Address _____ Phone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____

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Address _____ Phone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____



- | | | | |
|--|--------|-------|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | \$20 | \$18 | Current Member Discount |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$45 | \$40 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$55 | \$49 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining | \$100 | \$90 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor | \$250 | \$225 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$500 | \$450 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Director's Circle | \$1000 | \$900 | |

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- Check made payable to MBGNA
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Exp. Date _____

Cardholder Signature _____

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 EID _____
 Date _____

Find out how you can give back to the Arb & Gardens.

Membership - Andy Sell: sella@umich.edu
 Volunteering - Tara Griffith: tgriffit@umich.edu



let there be music!

Date Sensitive Material

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