

“A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.”

—James Dent

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Summer Highlights at the Arboretum

Here are some beautiful, must-see trees, flowers and shrubs blooming now through early fall at the Arboretum. Grab a friend and check out the show while it lasts!



Caryopteris (Blue Beard)

Caryopteris (Blue Beard) is a low-growing shrub but can be treated as a perennial. It blooms on new wood, and should be cut back to the ground each year in late winter. It is one of the finest late season blue flowering plants and grows best in full sun and well drained soil with a moderate amount of water. The

aromatic foliage forms a beautiful silvery-green mound which has a delicate texture, and remains attractive throughout the summer. Powdery blue blooms cover the plant in late summer and persist for many weeks. Bees and butterflies are attracted to the flowers.



Butterfly Bush

The butterfly bush is very attractive to butterflies. It is native to Northwest China and Japan. Well-drained soil and full to partial sun works best for this bush that can grow between 6-12 feet tall,

and its weeping shape can reach anywhere between 4-15 feet wide.



Poliothyrsis sinensis (Chinese Pearlbloom tree)

Poliothyrsis sinensis or Chinese Pearlbloom tree is a shrub-like deciduous tree that can reach up to 25 feet. It likes full sun and blooms during the summer with white, fragrant flowers. In the fall, the leaves turn to an iridescent burgundy color.

Welcome New Members!

Friends of the Arboretum would like to welcome the new members of 2005: Carol Adams, Walter and Connie Bonvell, Hank Burlew, Diane Caswell, Lee Duncan, Kathy Gammon, Ronald Gruelle, Gerald Montgomery, Joyce Nessler, Donna Nicker-

son, Norbert O'Hare-Marie Salazar, Jean Snyder, Bud Thurman, and David Whitehouse. We encourage new members to join us every fourth Monday of the month at the Boone County Extension Office at 6:30 p.m. for refreshments, fun and

a meeting to discuss the development of the Arboretum. All ideas are welcome! Our next meeting will be held on July 25 at the Boone County Extension office at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Laura Kline at 586-6101 if you have any questions.

Corneliancherry-Not Your Typical Dogwood

Norbert O'Hare

Flowering dogwoods are familiar trees. Native to the eastern half of the United States, they are a typical understory tree that you'll see at the edges of wooded areas along roadsides, where you'll also often find redbuds. If you're a home gardener, you may know that they don't always adapt well to landscaping or that they have some disease problems of note. Bet you found that out the hard way.

But forget everything you know about flowering dogwoods, and let me introduce you to a close relative of theirs that's different in some significant ways. It's the Corneliancherry Dogwood (*Cornus mas*).

If you guessed that this tree is not a real cherry, you're right. But a showy, bright red fruit is a distinguishing characteristic of the Corneliancherry Dogwood. This is the first way it's different from its cousin. In fact, that's how the dogwood got its name. You see, a common dog-



Corneliancherry flowers in early Spring

wood has small, inconspicuous berries that were said to be good only for dogs, and it was called a dogberry. Somewhere down the line

the name was changed to dogwood.

The Corneliancherry Dogwood also has yellow flowers, not the typical white. It's adaptable to varying conditions and soils, and is generally pest free. It's hardy to zone 4 or 5, anyway quite cold tolerant enough for our area. It grows to 20 or 25 feet tall, sometimes as wide, but more commonly has a more upright habit, 15-20 feet wide. You can view the common variety and two cultivars in the arboretum, of course.

Thanks to Friends member, Norbert O'Hare for submitting this article. If you would like to add an article, story, recipe, or anecdote, please contact Laura Kline.

Spring Fling 2005 Review

The Spring Fling 2005 evaluations are back and looking good! From the feedback we received from exhibitors and those that attended, we were given great praise and informative suggestions. Many people thought the decorations, demonstrations, tents, and door prizes were better than the years before. There were glowing remarks about volunteers and staff of the Spring Fling!

There were numerous comments on how professional, organized and friendly the staff and volunteers were. Congratulations! Other strengths listed were the speakers, kids' events, and the sense of community. Things to work

"Very professionally done—solid support staff, great enthusiasm, great location, good speaker topics."

on for next year included more publicity, more food choices, and mother nature. The planning process for the Spring Fling 2006 begins now! If you have any comments or suggestions, please come to our monthly meetings to help make next year's the best event yet!

Upcoming Events

The **Boone County Fair** is right around the corner. From August 9-13, we will need Friends members and volunteers to help pass out freebies and information at our Friends booth. The shifts are short, easy and give you a chance to work with other members and volunteers. Let the public know what a great program you have! Please contact Laura Kline at 586-6101 if you are

interested in volunteering.

August **Dig in the Dirt** days are August 8, 13, 22, 27 all from 9-11 a.m. Meet at the concession stand.

Our summer **Friends Meetings** will take place at the Boone County's Extension Office on Monday, July 25 in the Claxon Room and Monday, August 22 in the Oak

Room (Ellis House) at 6:30 p.m. Enjoy refreshments and discussion about the Arboretum.

The **Volunteer Appreciation Picnic** for 2005 will take place in September. The evening will feature food, fun and Friends! Look for details in August.



Horticulture Concerns

Mike Klahr

Question: I have heard there is a new disease killing oak trees in several states. Do we have the problem here in Kentucky?

Answer: You are probably referring to "Sudden Oak Death", or S.O.D., which was first seen in the U.S. in the mid-1990's in coastal areas of Central California. The disease is caused by *Phytophthora ramorum*, often referred to as a water mold. This dis-



Symptom of Sudden Oak Death, bleeding cankers.

ease can also be found on rhododendron, camellia, Viburnums, and andromeda in nurseries in California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. On mature oak trees, S.O.D. causes bleeding cankers on the main stem, which can be dark red, brown, or black. Sap oozes out of the canker and it can vary in color from dark amber, dark red, or dark brown to black. In time, the canker girdles the tree and the tree dies. Cankers have not

been found on the roots below the soil line. The name Sudden Oak Death came from the fact that people only noticed the disease when the tree crown had turned brown and the tree seemed to die a few weeks after that, although infection had been occurring for some time. *Phytophthora ramorum*, the cause of S.O.D., has not yet been found in Kentucky, but it can be spread long distance by the movement of infected ornamentals and soil, and has been found on contaminated West Coast nursery stock in nurseries in 21 other states. Of concern here is that the disease may spread to parks and native woodlands in Kentucky by infected plants.

Thinking Ahead...

Although December is the last thing on any gardener's mind right now, let me take you ahead a few months to the annual Friends of the Arboretum Christmas party. During this event, the Friends group recognizes one outstanding volunteer that has gone above and beyond their call of duty in the Arboretum. I would like to encourage all members to not only get out and volunteer, but keep one eye open for someone you think has taken the extra step in making

the arboretum a wonderful place to visit. After a nomination and voting process to take place this November, the outstanding volunteer of the year will have their name engraved and added to the



"Giving Tree" located in the Ellis House. Past recipients include Dick Ammon, Bob Mauer, Susan Schultz, and Bill and Jane Maurer. The brief ceremony will be followed by a potluck appetizer party with music and Friends. Mark your calendars now for Monday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. Take some time over the next few months to consider who should be the 2005 "Outstanding Friend."

New Volunteer Coordinator

My name is Laura Kline and I am the new Volunteer Coordinator, Marketer and Promoter for the Boone County Arboretum. My first day here was June 1 and thanks to a great welcome by staff and volunteers, I already feel at home. My husband and I relocated to the Cincinnati area in May, 2005 from

East Lansing, Michigan. I am a 2002 Communication Arts and Sciences graduate from Michigan State University. I have extensive background in Community Events Planning and am so excited to take what I have learned from school and other experiences and apply them to the Arboretum program. I am also

very eager to meet the Friends members and volunteers, so feel free to stop by the office or drop me an e-mail! I look forward to getting to know all of you!

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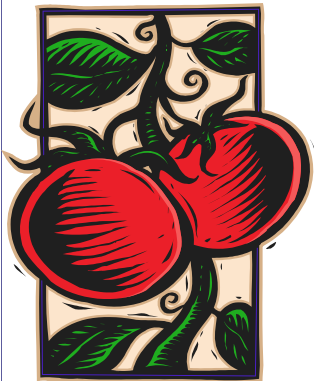


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Taste of Summer Tomatoes



Summer is the best time for fresh fruits and vegetables. With the heat of summer pounding down on us, dinner time is a

great way to escape the heat with light, fresh tomatoes. Tomatoes also contain Lycopene, which is what gives the tomato its red color and is an antioxidant in the fight against heart disease and cancer. Enjoy this recipe full of tomatoes as a main course paired with a fresh salad or as a great vegetable side dish. Remember to eat your Lycopene!

Tomato Cheddar Pie

- 2 refrigerated 9-inch piecrusts (such as Pillsbury Pie Crust)
- 2 pounds plum tomatoes (about 10) peeled and sliced
- 1/4 cup fresh basil or oregano leaves, chopped
- 3 scallions, chopped, or 1/4 cup chopped chives
- 1 1/2 cups shredded sharp cheddar
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper

Layer the tomato slices, basil, and scallions in the pie shell. Top with half the Cheddar. In a small cup, combine the mayonnaise, lemon juice, salt, and a few grinds of pepper. Spread over the tomatoes and top with the remaining Cheddar. Place the second pie crust on top of filling, crimping them together to seal. Cut 3 to 4 slits in the dough so the steam can escape. Bake for 45-50 minutes or until bubbly. (Cover lightly with foil if the crust begins to get too brown.) Remove from oven. Cool 10 minutes before cutting into wedges.

Hands on time: 20 minutes
Total time: 1 hour, 20 minutes

**Canned tomatoes can be used in this recipe, but fresh ones are preferable.*