

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

Friends of the JC Raulston Arboretum

# Newsletter

Spring 2017 – Vol. 20, No. 1





# Greetings from the JC Raulston Arboretum

By Mark Weathington,  
Director

Recently, I've been thinking a lot about gateways and entries. Our wonderful new pedestrian entrance is the physical manifestation of these thoughts, but I've also been pondering entry

points for a larger audience to experience the JC Raulston Arboretum. To that end, we've expanded our offerings to satisfy and engage new visitors.

Moonlight in the Garden was a smashing success with over 2,600 attendees over two weekends. The majority of visitors were new to the garden and this event provided an entry point for folks who might never otherwise have visited a public garden. Many of these fresh faces told us that they are planning to come back to experience the garden during the day and were thrilled to learn about the Arboretum and its educational opportunities.

New events and educational programs are great for providing entry points, but probably the best way to expose new audiences to the garden is through our existing members and supporters. Bringing a neighbor out to the JCRA for a program, recommending the Arboretum as a prime spot to visit, and sharing our social media posts are just some of the ways you help us convey our passion for plants.

Speaking of support, NC State University recently launched an ambitious campaign to raise \$1.6 billion by the year 2021. As a part of NC State University, gifts to the Arboretum Endowment for Excellence will help achieve the University's goal while insuring the long-term viability of the JCRA. This support will also send a powerful message to the university that the JC Raulston Arboretum is a valued cultural institution, impactful regional resource, and respected national entity.

Your backing, whether through volunteering, participating in programs, being an informal ambassador for the Arboretum, or providing financial support, is the critical piece that allows us to keep the gardens beautiful and the gates open. Thanks for all you do!

## Friends of the JC Raulston Arboretum Newsletter

Spring 2017 – Vol. 20, No. 1  
Christopher Todd Glenn, Editor  
chris\_glenn@ncsu.edu

Photographs and illustrations by Tim Alderton,  
Susan Bailey, Maryann Debski, Nancy Doubrava,  
Annie Hibbs, Bob Hauver, Becky Kirkland,  
Danielle Smith, unknown, and Mark Weathington

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### JC Raulston Arboretum

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Arboretum Open Daily  
April–October – 8:00 AM–8:00 PM  
November–March – 8:00 AM–5:00 PM

Ruby C. McSwain Education Center  
Monday–Friday – 8:00 AM–5:00 PM

Bobby G. Wilder Visitor Center  
Monday–Friday – 8:00 AM–5:00 PM  
Saturday\* – 10:00 AM–2:00 PM  
Sunday\* – 1:00 AM–4:00 PM  
\*Weekend hours are based on volunteer availability

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Erlinda Chicas, Housekeeper  
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Nancy Doubrava, Interpretive Specialist  
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Cover: Agave 'Mr. Ripple'

## Sponsors

The participation and engagement of our community partners is essential for the JCRA to fulfill its horticultural and educational mission. We thank these supporters.

### 2017 Maple Sponsors

#### Gold

A. E. Finley Foundation  
Atlantic Avenue Orchid and Garden  
Margie and Keith Collins  
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#### In-kind Donors

Arbor Enterprises (Paige Moody)  
Southern Lights (John Garner)

Arbor Enterprises renovated the stone pathway in the Mixed Shrub Border



Valerie Tyson (right) retired in January 2017 after 25 years at the JCRA



Moonlight in the Garden, November 2016



Ribbon cutting ceremony at the JCRA pedestrian entrance dedication ceremony on December 1, 2016, with Mark Weathington; Amelia Lane; Nina and Jerry Jackson; and Richard Linton, Ph.D. (left to right)



# Pleasant Surprises

By Mark Weathington,  
Director

The cornerstone of the JC Raulston Arboretum's collections policy is our landscape evaluations. Over the years, we've trialed tens of thousands of plants, many of which we knew had little hope of proving to be successful. On occasion, we are quite pleasantly surprised by the toughness of plants we don't necessarily expect to thrive in our warm temperate climate. While we are often happy to see a new plant make it through its first winter, it generally takes three to five years to evaluate hardiness and sometimes quite a bit longer than that.

We had a busy year in 2012 with over 1,350 plantings, about half of which were of taxa new to our collections. With several good winters behind us, including dips into single digit temperatures over that period, we are beginning to get a sense of plants which are likely to be good growers for central North Carolina.

## ***Quercus insignis***

One standout from the 2012 planting is an unusual white oak species from Central America—*Quercus insignis* (page 3 header photograph). This oak's claim to fame is the size of its acorns, which are golf ball size and with the associated cupule or cap, nearly tennis ball size, the largest of any oak. In its native habitat from southern Mexico (Veracruz) through all the Central American countries other than El Salvador, it can grow over 100' tall but is more typically 40'–60' tall. The new growth on the best forms emerges bright green covered in vivid red hairs. The veins on the bottom of mature leaves and young

stems are clothed in rusty gold hairs. The foliage is semi-evergreen, corresponding to moisture rather than temperature in its native climes. It is a critically endangered species in the wild, and while we are not ready to promote it as completely hardy in zone 7, it is certainly harder than the literature would indicate.

## ***Acanthus sennii***

Bear's breeches are widely grown herbaceous perennials with distinctive foliage and tall spikes of white flowers with dusky purple calyces. Most species grown in gardens are relatively similar so when we got our hands on *Acanthus sennii* (page 4 header photograph), we were intrigued by how different it is from the plants we knew. This strange perennial is from the highlands of Ethiopia (not many others in the garden that we can boast come from that region) where it

*Mucuna cyclocarpa*





makes a rounded, shrubby plant to 5' or more tall. The foliage is viciously spiny with white veins growing along purple-black stems. New growth is covered in white hairs and tinted red along the edges. In temperate gardens, the tops die back to the ground in winter and rather than becoming shrubby during the growing season, it is more of a sprawling plant, sending stems creeping along the ground. It is a late fall/ winter-flowering plant and the flowers' buds have mostly been lost to a freeze before opening, but on years that stay warm late enough, we are rewarded with square spikes of large, orange-red flowers. Grow it in a bright spot in exceptionally well-drained soil and in a spot where the sprawling stems covered in vicious leaves can't attack unwary passersby. In foliage and in flower, it is an incredibly striking specimen.



### ***Mucuna cyclocarpa***

Another surprise is the exceptionally vigorous vine, *Mucuna cyclocarpa*, also known as purple jade vine or in China as min you ma teng. We assumed this bean family member would make for an interesting annual to cover a bare spot in the Lath House. We were surprised when it returned and after the fourth year, we expect it to continue sprouting reliably. As with so many other plants, I first encountered it at Juniper Level Botanic Gardens at Plant Delights Nursery where it was decorating a fence surrounding a staff vegetable garden. It is a vigorous growing woody vine from relatively low elevations in southeast China. The foliage makes it easy for gardeners to place it in the bean (Fabaceae) family as the three-part leaves look much like common garden beans, but are typically larger and the terminal leaflet has a cordate or heart-shaped base. While the foliage of *M. cyclocarpa* makes a lovely backdrop, the flowers of purple jade vine are what really excite. Huge clusters the size of a grapefruit dangle from the stems. The *Flora of China* says it flowers on old wood, but our experience says otherwise. The flower clusters are composed of dozens of deep, dusky purple blossoms with a texture like thick plastic. The flowers can be somewhat obscured by the foliage, but when grown on a horizontal structure such as the top of an arbor, the clusters will dangle like grape bunches. While this is a large woody vine in the subtropics, it dies to the ground for us each winter and comes back with a vengeance in spring.



# Travels in South Korea and China

By Mark Weathington,  
Director

I've had the opportunity over the past decade to spend quite a bit of time in Asia but I had never been to the Republic

of Korea so when I was invited to be a presenter at the 2016 Suncheon International Garden Industry Symposium, I jumped at the opportunity. Suncheon is a city on the southern tip of the Korean Peninsula with a large, relatively new botanic garden and a desire to be known as "the garden city of Korea." To this end, the city Suncheon invited industry experts to come and give their perspective on creating and growing a green industry. Joining me in presenting talks at this lecture was Fujio Hirata, a professor at the University of Hyogo in Japan; Sheng Xiangxue, the president of the Wuhan Landscape Architectural Design Institute in China; and Raoul Curtis-Martin, the head of horticulture from the United Kingdom's Horticultural Trades Association.

Circumstances didn't allow me to explore the country and flora of South Korea for as long as I would have liked, but since I was already in the area, I teamed up with Scott McMahan from the Atlanta Botanical Garden for a little seed-collecting in eastern China and to forge some new relationships with the Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden. We returned to the site of my first visit to China—Tianmushan or Mt. Tianmu. The flora of these low mountains is quite rich and diverse, but for some reason has been overlooked in favor of more western sites in Sichuan and Yunnan. A primary goal for me was to find the gorgeous, huge-leafed, mottle-barked *Litsea auriculata*. This plant has danced in my dreams since I first saw it in 2008. It grows

with *Emmenopterys*, *Ginkgo*, and *Pseudolarix*, so I anticipate it being perfectly suited to central North Carolina.

Catching sight of this tree again made the cold wind, leeches, and a mutant spider insect (I'm told it was a whip scorpion, actually) that shared my bedroom all worthwhile. Other plants like *Hydrangea rosthornii*, *Arisaema engleri*, and *Daphne gruningiana* made up only a small fraction of the amazing flora of the region. I was especially interested to see a population of *Hemiboea subcapitata*—an African violet and gloxinia relative—growing to 30" tall, more than twice the height of the other forms we've grown.

I finished my trip with a visit to the amazing Chenshan Botanic Garden which is built around the site of an old quarry. It is certainly unique among public gardens. In the six years since I last visited, which was shortly before they opened, this garden has become a powerhouse in horticultural research and display. We met with the director, an old acquaintance from his Shanghai Botanical Garden days, and several researchers who seem keen to develop working relationships and exchanges. It was a short trip, but certainly a productive one. I hope to visit my new friends in both South Korea and China again in the very near future.

# JC Raulston Arboretum

## March Events

**Sundays** **Arboretum Guided Tours** 2:00 PM  
 5, 12, 19, Volunteer Tour Docent Free/Free  
 & 26

**Mondays** **Gardening Basics—Using Science to Grow** 6:30 PM  
 ... 6, 13, 20, **Better Plants Continued** \$/\$  
 & 27 Bryce Lane, NC State University

**Tuesday** **Plantsmen's Tour** 1:00 PM  
 7 "Bulb Madness" Free/\$  
 Mark Weathington, Director

**Thursday** **Friends of the Arboretum Lecture** 7:30 PM  
 9 "Experiences Teaching at Pyongyang University of Science and Technology in North Korea"  
 Ted Stephens, Nurseries Caroliniana

**Tuesday** **Homeschool Day\*** 10:00 AM  
 14 Spring is Budding 1:00 PM  
 \$/\$

**Tuesdays** **Introduction to Insect Identification: The** 6:30 PM  
 14, 21, & **Good, the Bad, and the Buggy** \$/\$  
 28 ... John Meyer, Ph.D., NC State University

**Thursday** **Photography Walk** 2:00 PM  
 16 "Lighting" \$/\$  
 Susan Bailey, Susan Bailey Photography

**Saturday** **North American Rock Garden Society** 10:00 AM  
 18 **(Piedmont Chapter) Lecture** Free/\$  
 Cohosted by the Piedmont Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society and the JC Raulston Arboretum  
 "Creating a New Ecosystem: the Development of a Piedmont Prairie"  
 Annabel Renwick, Sarah P. Duke Gardens

**Saturday** **Y Guides and Y Princess Program\*** 1:00 PM  
 18 Second Year Event 2:30 PM  
 \$/\$

**Saturday** **Renewal Pruning Class and Demonstration** 9:00 AM  
 25 Douglas Ruhren, Ironwood Gardens and \$/\$  
 JC Raulston Arboretum Volunteer

**Monday** **Gardening Adventures with Extension** 10:00 AM  
 27 **Master Gardener Volunteers** Free/\$  
 Cohosted by Extension Master Gardeners and the JC Raulston Arboretum  
 "Wildflower Havens of Wake County ... and How Geology Influences Them"  
 Hughen Nourse, Wake County Extension Master Gardener

**Thursday** **Day Tripping to NC State University's** 9:00 AM  
 30 **Phytotron and Conservatory** \$/\$

**Friday** **JC Raulston Arboretum Plant Sale** 4:00 PM+  
 31 Members-only Preview Sale



**Introduction to Insect Identification**  
**John Meyer, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor, NC State University**  
**Tuesdays, March 14 through April 11 – 6:30 PM**

Learning to identify insects can be daunting—there are over a million described species and at least that many undescribed ones! This course will help you sort out all that diversity.

\* = Children's program  
 + = Start time, drop in anytime  
 \$/\$ = Member/nonmember fee charged  
 ✂ = Registration required

## April Events

**Saturday 1** **Raulston Blooms!** 9:00 AM+  
 A Garden Festival for All Ages Free/\$  
 Includes 17th Annual Birdhouse Competition and Spring Plant Sale

**Sundays 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30** **Arboretum Guided Tours** 2:00 PM  
 Volunteer Tour Docent Free/Free

**Tuesday 4** **Plantsmen's Tour** 1:00 PM  
 "Lindens, Hornbeams, and More" Free/\$  
 Tim Alderton, Research Technician

**Tuesdays ... 4 & 11** **Introduction to Insect Identification: The Good, the Bad, and the Buggy Continued** 6:30 PM  
 John Meyer, Ph.D., NC State University \$/\$

**Thursday 6** **Friends of the Arboretum Lecture** 7:30 PM  
 "You Can't Make a Living with a Specialty Mail Order Nursery" Free/\$  
 Tony Avent, Plant Delights Nursery and Juniper Level Botanic Gardens

**Mon.-Sun. 10-16** **Sixth Annual Spring Egg Hunt\*** Varies  
 Free/Free

**Tue. & Wed. 11 & 12** **Spring Egg Hunt Storytime\*** 10:30 AM  
 Free/\$

**Saturday 15** **North American Rock Garden Society (Piedmont Chapter) Lecture** 10:00 AM  
 Cohosted by the Piedmont Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society and the JC Raulston Arboretum Free/\$  
 Matt Mattus, President, North American Rock Garden Society

**Mondays 17 & 24 ...** **Plant and Garden Photography** 6:30 PM  
 Bryce Lane, NC State University \$/\$

**Thursday 20** **Photography Walk** 2:00 PM  
 "Depth of Field" \$/\$  
 Susan Bailey, Susan Bailey Photography

**Saturday 22** **Recreational Tree Climbing at the JCRA** 10:00 AM+  
 Open to Youths and Adults \$/\$  
 Patrick Brandt, Piedmont Tree Climbing Eight, Fifty Minute Sessions

**Monday 24** **Gardening Adventures with Extension Master Gardener Volunteers** 10:00 AM  
 Free/\$  
 Cohosted by Extension Master Gardeners and the JC Raulston Arboretum  
 "Pollinator Gardens"  
 Leah Dail and Karen Kattman, Wake County Extension Master Gardeners

**Tuesday 25** **Day Tripping to Pat McCracken's Garden and Camellia Forest's New Wendell Nursery** 9:00 AM  
 \$/\$

**Thursdays 27 ...** **Dig into Veggies!\*** 10:00 AM  
 \$/\$

**Saturday 29** **Landscape Potential VI: Activating the Backyard** 9:00 AM  
 \$/\$  
 Preston Montague, Landscape Designer and Botanical Illustrator  
 Five, Fifty Minute Practicum Also Available after the Class

**Dig into Veggies!**  
**Thursdays, April 27 through May 25 – 10:00 AM**

Explore all aspects of a vegetable garden from planning to making your plate beautiful with vegetables. Each week's class will consist of time in the garden and activities from the Junior Master Gardening program, "Learn, Grow, Eat and Go!"

\* = Children's program  
 + = Start time, drop in anytime  
 \$/\$ = Member/nonmember fee charged  
 ✂ = Registration required



## May Events

<b>Mondays</b> ... 1, 8, & 15	<b>Plant and Garden Photography Continued</b> Bryce Lane, NC State University	6:30 PM \$/\$ ✍
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>2</b>	<b>Plantsmen's Tour</b> "Gala in the Garden Sneak Peek" Mark Weathington, Director	9:00 AM 6:00 PM Free/\$
<b>Thursdays</b> ... 4, 11, 18, & 25	<b>Dig into Veggies! Continued*</b>	10:00 AM \$/\$ ✍
<b>Sunday</b> <b>7</b>	<b>Gala in the Garden</b>	3:30 PM+ \$/\$ ✍
<b>Thursday</b> <b>11</b>	<b>Photography Walk</b> "Macro" Susan Bailey, Susan Bailey Photography	2:00 PM \$/\$ ✍
<b>Thursday</b> <b>11</b>	<b>Friends of the Arboretum Lecture and Book Launch</b> "Gardening in the South" Mark Weathington, Director	7:30 PM Free/\$
<b>Sundays</b> 14, 21, & 28	<b>Arboretum Guided Tour</b> Volunteer Tour Docent	2:00 PM Free/Free



**Gala in the Garden**  
Sunday, May 7 – 3:30 PM–7:00 PM

Gala in the Garden is much more than a garden party. At this event, you'll enjoy great food and drinks, stroll the gardens, and have a chance to bid on a dazzling array auction items.

<b>Friday</b> <b>19</b>	<b>Garden Storytime*</b>	10:30 AM Free/\$ ✍
<b>Sunday</b> <b>21</b>	<b>Girl Scout Program</b> Juniors: Flowers	10:00 AM Free/\$
<b>Monday</b> <b>22</b>	<b>Gardening Adventures with Extension Master Gardener Volunteers</b> Cohosted by the Extension Master Gardeners and the JC Raulston Arboretum "Feeding Your Soil: Composting" Rhonda Sherman, NC State University	10:00 AM Free/\$
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>23</b>	<b>Day Tripping to Paul J. Ciener Botanical Garden and High Point University</b>	8:45 AM \$/\$ ✍
<b>Friday</b> <b>26</b>	<b>Garden Storytime*</b>	10:30 AM Free/\$ ✍
<b>Saturday</b> <b>27</b>	<b>Propagation Workshop</b> Tim Alderton, Research Technician, and Christopher Todd Glenn, Programs and Education Coordinator	9:00 AM \$/\$ ✍

**Propagation Workshop**  
**Tim Alderton and Christopher Todd Glenn, JCRA Staff**  
**Saturday, May 27 – 9:00 AM**

Learn how to asexually propagate some of your favorite plants at the Arboretum from softwood cuttings. Participants choose which plants they want to propagate from the JCRA's collection of over 6,000 taxa. Techniques discussed can be done at home. A propagation workshop for past participants is available on Saturday, June 3.

\* = Children's program  
+ = Start time, drop in anytime  
\$/\$ = Member/nonmember fee charged  
✍ = Registration required

# JC Raulston Arboretum

## June Events

**Friday 2** **Garden Storytime\*** 10:30 AM  
Free/\$  
✂

**Saturday 3** **Propagation Workshop** 9:00 AM  
Christopher Todd Glenn, Programs and Education Coordinator  
\$/\$  
✂

**Sundays 4, 11, 18, & 25** **Arboretum Guided Tour** 2:00 PM  
Volunteer Tour Docent  
Free/Free

**Tuesday 6** **Plantsmen's Tour** 9:00 AM  
"Exotic Aquatics"  
Christopher Todd Glenn, Programs and Education Coordinator  
6:00 PM  
Free/\$

**Mon.-Fri. 12-16** **Project PLANTS Summer Camp\*** 8:30 AM  
\$/\$  
✂

**Thursday 15** **Photography Walk** 10:00 AM  
"Composition"  
Susan Bailey, Susan Bailey Photography  
\$/\$  
✂

**Friday 16** **Garden Storytime\*** 10:30 AM  
Free/\$  
✂

**Saturday 17** **Herbaceous Perennials Propagation Class and Demonstration** 9:00 AM  
Douglas Ruhren, Ironwood Gardens and JCRA Volunteer  
\$/\$  
✂

**Mon.-Fri. 19-23** **Garden Critters Summer Camp\*** 9:30 AM  
\$/\$  
✂

**Thu.-Fri. 22-30** **Gardens, Wine, Art, Food, and Markets—Italy, Monaco, and France with the JC Raulston Arboretum** \$/\$  
✂

**Mon.-Fri. 26-30** **Nature Detectives Summer Camp\*** 9:00 AM  
\$/\$  
✂

**Monday 26** **Gardening Adventures with Extension Master Gardener Volunteers** 10:00 AM  
Free/\$  
Cohosted by the Extension Master Gardeners and the JC Raulston Arboretum  
"What You Don't See"  
Louise Romanow, Wake County Extension Master Gardener

**Wednesday 28** **Landscape Color and Professional Field Day** 9:00 AM  
\$/\$  
✂



### JC Raulston Arboretum's Summer Camps

The sounds of play and laughter from summer camp fill the JCRA's gardens all summer long. Your camper can be part of our fun-filled summer camps if you register now! Sign your child up for a summer of exploring the gardens, solving mysteries, cooking up healthy treats from fresh produce, or creating artwork inspired by the gardens.

Make sure that your child spends time this summer digging deep into the environment. Their time in our gardens will be the start to a lifelong love of nature!

\* = Children's program  
+ = Start time, drop in anytime  
\$/\$ = Member/nonmember fee charged  
✂ = Registration required

Visit <http://jcra.ncsu.edu/events/> for more information or to register. Have questions? Please call (919) 513-7011 for children's programs, otherwise, call (919) 513-7005.

# Travel with the JC Raulston Arboretum

By Mark Weathington,  
Director

The 2016 Arboretum trek to South Africa was a smashing success! Stunning gardens, delicious food and wine, wild animals, and great guides made for a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Moving and educational visits to the prison where Nelson Mandela spent decades of his life and to his home in Soweto made for a cultural milestone, while the safari drives brought us almost within touching distance of elephants, giraffes, rhinos, and within yards of lions.

The one common thread through all of our trips—whether to South Africa, Cuba, Vancouver, or England—is the wonderful friendships developed and experiences shared with other Arboretum members. Even the self-described “non-gardeners” in the group have all had great experiences.

Our next garden adventure will be to experience the gardens, wine, art, food, and markets of one of the most beautiful areas of the world—the Italian Lake District, Monaco, the Riviera, and

Provence. Our trip will begin on the shores of Lake Como where we will stroll through stunning gardens and charming lakeside towns with breathtaking views. Our garden adventure will continue as we head south toward Menton on the French Riviera. We’ll explore some of the planet’s most beautiful gardens and visit the botanical gardens of Monaco.

From Monaco, we will make our way to Arles, one of Vincent Van Gogh’s homes in Provence, and a charming town full of great restaurants and Roman archaeological treasures. It was here

that Van Gogh painted his famous café scenes and lived with Paul Gauguin in the Studio of the South. The hill towns beckon, so we’ve planned excursions into the countryside to soak up the sunny ambiance and one of the famed Provençal open-air markets. We’ll end our journey in Nice on the Côte d’Azur.

Whatever your passion—gardens, food, wine, art, or history—this experience will provide a lifetime of memories. For more information, go to <https://jcra.ncsu.edu/travel/> or e-mail Mark Weathington at [mark\\_weathington@ncsu.edu](mailto:mark_weathington@ncsu.edu).

Participants in the South Africa trip





# Embracing a Variety of Events at JC Raulston Arboretum

By Emily Peters,  
Facility and Rental  
Coordinator

If you stroll  
through the JC  
Raulston Arbo-  
retum on any

given weekend, you will inevitably run into a few well-dressed folks dashing to a specific garden in a hurry. Directional signage and reserved notices are a common occurrence on most spring and fall weekends because the JC Raulston Arboretum is quickly becoming a hotspot for events of all kinds.

With gardens as manicured and artfully cultivated as ours, it is no surprise that wedding parties flock to this ten-acre, lush space for ceremonies and receptions. The JC Raulston Arboretum had the honor of hosting 60 weddings in 2016, with an average of two to three per weekend, mainly in spring and fall. Groups appreciate the ten different outdoor spaces, along with our versatile indoor space—the York Auditorium. Since we have no vendor restrictions, many wedding parties also decide to use the York Auditorium for their wedding showers, rehearsal dinners, cocktail hours, and

the entire reception.

In addition to the numerous weddings at the JC Raulston Arboretum, there are a variety of other functions whose organizers have enjoyed using a garden or indoor room to entertain guests. The York Auditorium can function as one large room or be divided into three smaller spaces, comfortably fitting groups from 20 to 150 people. This leads to the potential for a wide variety of events, such as retirement celebrations, baby showers, corporate meetings, team retreats, and birthday parties. Furthermore, it is an honor that the JC Raulston Arboretum is often used in “Celebration of Life” memorials to remember the lives of outdoor enthusiasts and environmental advocates.

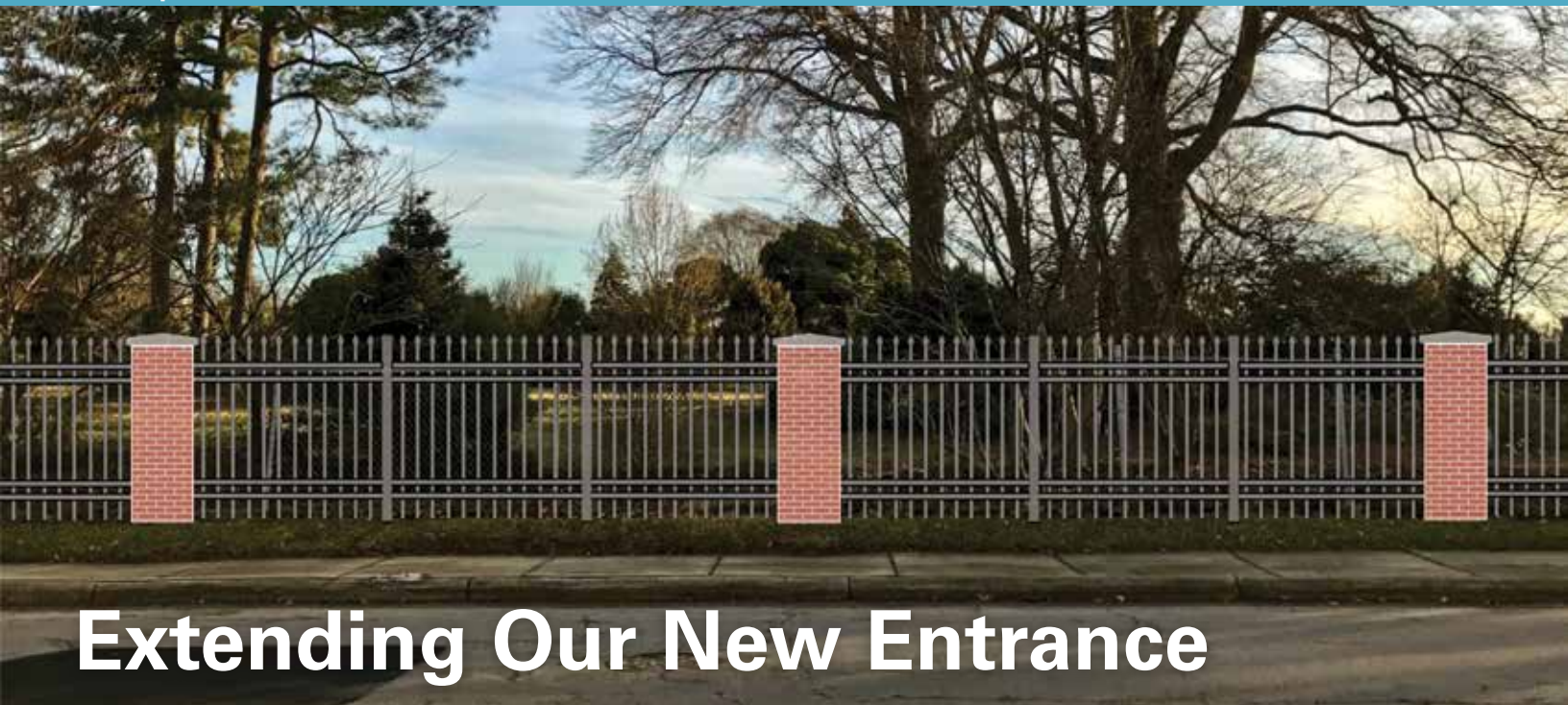
Rental revenue supports many different aspects of the garden’s mission. On the surface, the financial component of these events directly supports keeping the garden free and open to the public every day. But the lasting value of these special occasions occurring at the JC Raulston Arboretum supports the mis-

sion of engaging the public and creating long-term stakeholders.

To enjoy our spaces, indoor or outside, for an event you are planning, contact Emily Peters at [emily\\_peters@nsu.edu](mailto:emily_peters@nsu.edu) or (919) 513-7457 or visit <https://jcra.ncsu.edu/rentals/>.

David and Helen Kilpatrick were married at the JC Raulston Arboretum on October 1, 2016





# Extending Our New Entrance

By Sonia Murphy,  
Director of  
Development

The beautiful new  
entrance that now  
announces the Ar-  
boretum illustrates

the place is and what people live behind  
this new gate!

Join in and help us complete the  
new “window” into the Arboretum by  
naming a portion of the extension of the  
new entrance extension on Beryl Road.  
We are extending the red brick columns  
of the entrance all the way down Beryl

Road. Naming  
opportunities are  
\$25,000–\$50,000.

Contact Sonia  
Murphy for infor-

mation or questions at (919) 513-0637 or  
sonia\_murphy@ncsu.edu.

how far J. C.’s belief in “tomorrow” has  
inspired us to go.

At the wise age of 40, our arbore-  
tum—and our generous community of  
gardeners—is  
consistently taking  
on new projects  
and embarking on  
new adventures  
such as Moonlight in the Garden, a newly  
renovated rose garden, and a future orna-  
mental edibles garden.

*“To plant a garden is to believe  
in tomorrow....”*

*Audrey Hepburn*

Already, new people driving by on  
Beryl Road are coming in, asking what

## Help Us Put the JC Raulston Arboretum in the Spotlight

The JCRA’s Moonlight in the Gar-  
den event opened our eyes to the  
growth potential of having events  
after dark. We invite you to join  
our initiative to bring permanent  
landscape lighting and improve-  
ments to one of the South’s great  
gardens.

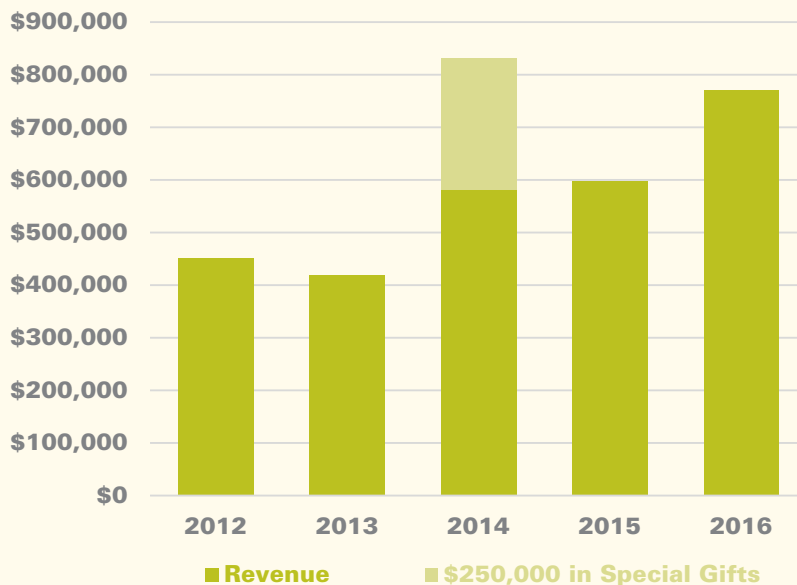
Landscape lighting is an invest-  
ment in the Arboretum’s future—  
and the future of gardening. We’ve  
created a list of improvements  
(<https://jcra.ncsu.edu/wish-list/>)  
that will help attract more rental  
opportunities to our gardens and  
to the Ruby C. McSwain Education  
Center. Please consider helping  
us make them a reality. For more  
information, please contact Sonia  
Murphy at (919) 515-0637 or [sonia\\_  
murphy@ncsu.edu](mailto:sonia_murphy@ncsu.edu).



# 2016 JC Raulston Arboretum Annual Report

Our 40th year was a great one for the Arboretum. We set records in membership, installed a new pedestrian entrance, and celebrated our anniversary with several events including a 40th Anniversary Symposium and Moonlight in the Garden. We did a lot of traveling, including a speaking engagement in South Korea, plant collecting in China, and leading a tour to South Africa. And, more than \$47,000 was given towards our end-of-year appeal for garden improvements, landscaping lighting, and other renovations.

## Revenue



Planned Gifts **\$13,225,241**

**680** Meetings, Classes, and Events

Rental Hours **1,755**

**60** Weddings with over 5,000 Attendees

New Accessions **1,005**

**7,367** Taxa in Living Collection (92% Percentile Among Other Gardens)

Plants Distributed to Members, Other Gardens, and Nurserymen **7,204**

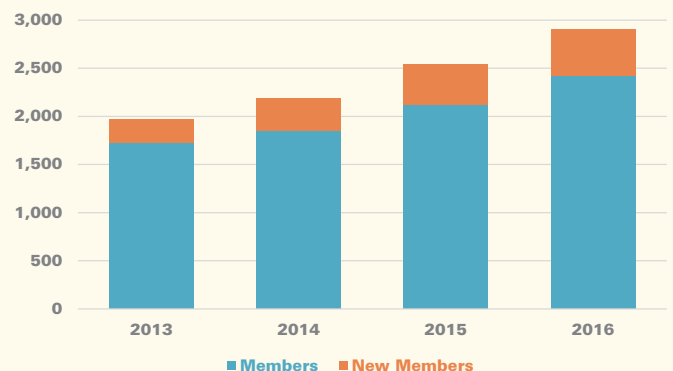
Events and Programs **261**  
(That's a Program Every 1.39 Days!)

**10,486** Volunteer Hours



Equivalent Full-time Employees

## Members



There are many people to thank for their continued support. In an effort to conserve resources, the full 2016 annual report is being offered on the JCRA Web site at <https://jcra.ncsu.edu/publications/annual-reports/> instead of printed copies.



# Volunteers Make a Difference

By Kathryn Wall,  
Membership and  
Volunteer Coordinator

We saw growth  
in our strong  
volunteer program  
in 2016, involving

290 total volunteers. Our top categories  
were gardening, Visitor Center, children's  
programs, and special events.

Moonlight in the Garden brought 77  
new volunteers: students from five area  
high schools, including a large group  
from the Green Hope High School Key  
Club, joined in. Students from NC State  
University and Meredith College as  
well as others who found out about us  
through the volunteer clearinghouse Ac-  
tivate Good or through our own Web site  
also helped. Many of these people had  
never been to the Arboretum before!

## 2016 Volunteer Contributions

### 400+ Hours

Maryann Debski

### 300+ Hours

Larry and Cathy Mack  
Kerry and Trish MacPherson

### 200+ Hours

Amelia and Richard Lane  
Jim Schlitt

### 100+ Hours

John Atkinson  
Penelope Booze  
Foss  
Laurie Cochran  
Cynthia Cromwell  
Heather Curcio  
Tom Dickey  
David Duch  
Michael Ferrell  
Vivian Finkelstein  
Marilyn Golightly  
Elise Hendley  
Annie Hibbs  
Norfleet Hoggard  
Sandra Horn  
Debbie Lackey  
Mary Leonhardi  
Austin Michels  
Jean Mitchell  
Sue Ellen Ott  
Charlotte Presley  
Douglas Ruhren  
Walt and Kathleen  
Thompson  
Robert Thornton  
Elisabeth Wheeler  
David White  
Bobby Wilder

## Volunteer Spotlight

Volunteers led another project focused  
on renewing and refreshing the Arbore-  
tum's outstanding conifer collection in  
advance of the national Conifer Society  
meeting here in June 2018. Volunteers  
also wish to strengthen the tradition

of conifers as a mainstay of the JCRA  
collections.

Current efforts are being concentrat-  
ed in the new planting beds installed in  
2013 near the Monocot Garden and the  
new rain garden. If you haven't visited  
this area recently, do take a look at the  
changes that have been made!

We installed many unusual conifers  
from leading grower Iseli Nurseries, fund-  
ed by a grant from the American Conifer  
Society.

Sizable salvaged boulders, located  
by conifer stalwart Beth Jimenez, were  
installed by a small but mighty crew, led  
by the intrepid Tim Alderton and his Ditch  
Witch.

In October, more plants, many do-  
nated by western North Carolina conifer  
guru Bruce Appeldoorn, were installed.


Some members of the group vis-  
ited the authority on conifers for the  
Southeast, Tom Cox, at his arboretum in  
Canton, Georgia. He provided cuttings of  
some of his rare and unusual conifers for  
propagating this January by our own Lizzi  
Lathers.

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# Raulston Blooms!

Saturday, April 1, 2017  
9:00 AM–4:00 PM



**Fun for the whole family! Enjoy gourmet treats, shop for your garden, and enter the birdhouse competition open to all ages! This early-spring event reaches out to members, home gardeners, families, and children—offering a day packed with garden and nature activities, shopping, and outdoor fun.**

[jcra.ncsu.edu/raulston-blooms/](http://jcra.ncsu.edu/raulston-blooms/)