

Bluegrass Blossoms & Butterflies

As if you needed an excuse to invite friends or family to the garden parks or to get away with your Main Squeeze for a few romantic hours, two upcoming festivals are surely the answer.

Up front is the Fifth Annual Bluegrass & Blossoms Concert, 1-5 p.m. Saturday, June 26. A month later is the Second Annual Butterfly Festival on Saturday and Sunday, July 24-25.

Both will feature vendors offering plants and crafts, and this year the Bill Roston Butterfly House is even bigger, with more host plants and more beautiful creatures.

The butterfly house started welcoming visitors May 15, and is already populated with winged Missouri varieties of lepidoptera.

The festival will again feature classes on butterfly gardening (growing host plants, that is), butterfly identification and photography, in addition to child-friendly activities such as face painting and a

butterfly life-cycle education station. Last season, more than 12,000 visitors wandered through the screen door.

Bluegrass & Blossoms will again feature two bands, "Ozark Mountain Gang" with Larry Mayfield, playing traditional and contemporary bluegrass; and "Reel Greene," offering traditional Irish and American music. Fans are reminded to bring their own chairs and blankets to repose in the shade of the walnut grove alongside Lake Drummond; and to inquire about free tours of the gardens, including the acclaimed Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden (normally \$3 per person, per visit); and the stunning Master Gardener demonstration gardens.

Ah, but there's one more addition this year, a self-guided cell-phone-based tour of the gardens. The Guide By Cell system is now operational simply by calling 417-213-3016. After a brief introduction, callers may dial a number followed

by the # key for information on various gardens. introductions for virtually every garden (and the Butterfly House) have been recorded, with beautiful signage in place listing the numbers for each garden.

The centerpiece for all this, the Botanical Center is now under roof with much of its exterior work nearing completion in time for a scheduled fall opening.

Even in advance of these events, free tram tours are now available on weekends for those who may not be up to walking the entirety of garden. This should make the parks an even more attractive destination.

Those of us who visit again and again quickly realize that watching the "rhythm of the gardens," as well as the development of new ones each year, is what makes the gardens a place like no other.



Above, Reel Greene is ready to turn it up for the Fifth Annual Bluegrass & Blossoms Concert, followed by the Second Annual Butterfly Festival. Free tram tours on weekends should make the gardens available to visitors with limited mobility.

VISIT FOG
ONLINE
CLICK HERE



Profile: Bob Childress

Page 2: Meet Garden Chairman Bob Childress. He's done some heavy lifting along the way.



What's to dig about worms

Page 4: They may not actually dance about, but there's more to dig about worms than fishing.

Also inside:

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AboutFOG

Vol. 5, No. 2, Summer 2010

P.O. 8566, Springfield, MO 65801

Friends of the Garden is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation founded in 1999 to develop the Close Memorial Gardens, located at 2400 South Scenic in Springfield, home of The Botanical Center, opening in Fall 2010. We seek a dynamic relationship with other organizations working to benefit the garden parks. This newsletter is published quarterly in print and online to members and friends. Past issues and other information can be found at www.FriendsoftheGarden.org.

Officers:

George Deatz, President
Bob Kipfer, Vice-president
Gail Stineburg, Secretary
Kauleen Volentine, Treasurer

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Chris Barnhart (Environment)
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Cindy Willis (Butterfly Festival)

Editorial board: Jeanne Duffey, Frank Shippe, Lee Coates, Cindy Willis, George Freeman.

Our Mission:

"To establish and facilitate a Botanical Center, gardens, and arboretum at Close Botanical Gardens and Lake Drummond to inspire the discovery, understanding and appreciation of nature."

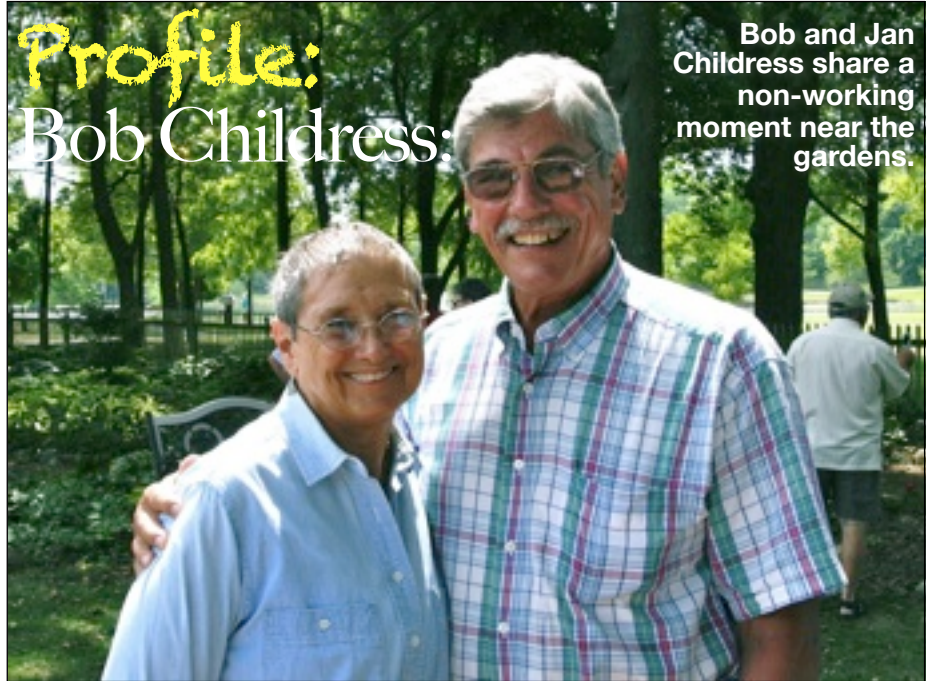
Volunteer

Friends of the Garden.org

One way to identify a Friends of the Garden volunteer is by the bright T-shirt they're wearing with "Volunteer" on the front and back. Every volunteer undergoes a background check and receives an identification badge. Join us, won't you.

Profile: Bob Childress:

Bob and Jan Childress share a non-working moment near the gardens.



Garden Committee Chairman excels at getting it done

For nearly as many years as the Close Gardens have existed, Bob Childress has been making a difference almost on a daily basis. And he's not alone. Childress, Major Close, Drs. Bill Roston and Stan Horsch were all designated Honorary Life Members by the Friends of the Garden at a recent board meeting honoring their service.

These days you're more likely to find Bob muscling up a purple martin house that he donated to the park, or supervising a crew of volunteers during planting several hundred spring annuals, or off-loading five cubic yards of rich compost into the new Dwarf Conifer Garden, or helping install the new netting over the expanded Butterfly House, or crafting a dozen industrial strength signage posts to accommodate the new "Guide by Cell" system now in place to provide visitors with garden details on their cell phones.

"Bob Childress isn't just a leader, he's a doer," says George Deatz, FOG president. "He leads by example, and he can outwork someone half his age. He does the work of two or three good hands." He also serves as vice president of the Greater Ozarks Hosta Society, and an active member of Master Gardeners. He's been FOG president three times.

This year Childress has watched over the creation of three new gardens: the new Dwarf Conifer Garden the Cercis Garden and the Native Shrub Garden. On a recent afternoon, he could be found unloading shrubs at an undisclosed park location for future use.



A paradise for birds: Above, Charley Burwick, Audubon Society member, consults with Bob Childress, during the installation of a Purple Martin House. Bob donated the Troyer-designed house and installed the poll and pulley system. So far, the martins have taken a "wait-and-see" approach, looking and lingering, but not nesting. In this economy, they may be looking cautiously for a lower rate. At left, George Deatz and the "Four Hoemen" (Bill Roston is inset at the Butterfly House).





Botanical Center Update

If you don't make the time to go to the gardens regularly, you might be astonished to discover how far the Botanical Center has progressed despite the rains that make the garden parks erupt with color. The center is under roof and virtually enclosed, so that work can now continue inside regardless of the weather.

The view from the deck overlooking the vista and Lake Drummond is testimony to what for years was a vision, a dream, a passionate possibility and then a plan offered to office holders, voters and donors now a stunning reality. A very few were there in the beginning, and even now their energy is hard to match.

Two new staff members, Katie Steinhoff, coordinator of the center, and Peter Longley, horticultural interpreter, have begun their duties, aiming for dedication and a week of celebration planned for Oct. 11-17. This is not the end of a journey. It is the beginning of an adventure.



Above, Katie Steinhoff and Peter Longley, new Botanical Center staff members at the garden parks. At top and right, some of the 150 SPARC Program participants help plant annuals. Each student was furnished a trowel and coupon for a flower from Wickman's Garden Village. SPARC is a partnership between the Springfield-Greene County Park Board and Springfield Public Schools, promoting youth and families through after-school and recreational enrichment, summer camps, special outings.



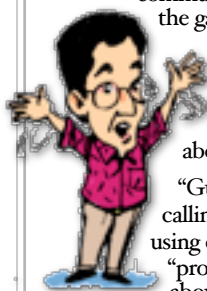
Oh so Zen

One of the benefits of membership in Friends of the Garden is free admission for two throughout the year to the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Gardens. Now there's a renovated Meditation Garden to visit. The joint project of the Botanical Society of Southwest Missouri, the Springfield Sister Cities Association and the Springfield/Greene County Park Board is part renovation and part redesign. It's all sublime.



FOG Forum, Facebook, 'Guide by Cell,' help focus online interest in gardens

FriendsOfTheGarden.org has many strategic goals, none more important to than staying in touch with you – and with the larger community we want to introduce to the garden parks. One way is through the use of technology; now visitors can use their cell phones to receive specific information about the gardens.



"Guide by Cell" is as simple as calling a local phone number, then using one of the growing number of "prompt" numbers to learn more about each of the stops

throughout the gardens. For example No. 4 on the tour is the Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens.



Friendly new signage

Another way to be in touch is through our blog, which continues to be updated almost daily, thanks to the writings and offerings of **George Deatz** and others. Send him your observations on almost any gardening topic and you're likely to enjoy at last 15 minutes of fame in the blogosphere. Amazingly, the blog is attracting an average of at least 50 separate visitors daily. That's nearly 20,000 visits a year. And if you're reading this newsletter online, many of the web sites we discuss are hyperlinked. Just click on the blue type and you're instantly online.

The **Friends of the Garden Community Forum** exists thanks to the tag-team efforts of several members. Master Gardener and FOG board member **Christine Chiu** constantly adds to the comprehensive **Garden Event Calendar** for enthusiasts. Webmaster **Lee Coates** is continually updating our web site with graphics and goodies. Our **Facebook** page continues to reach our social networking friends and fans spreading the word about FOG.

Meanwhile, the **Forum** serves an interactive "chat room" where comments, questions and gardening expertise can be shared. Columnist and board member **Jeanne Duffey** is now sending her column on FOG to the Community Free Press and handling media relations. It takes all of us working together to help tell the evolving story of the gardens and all that's happening these days.

Are Worms man's better friend?

The worms go in, the worms go out. They may not actually dance about, but worms do create compost and even the occasional tall tale

Hardly anything is more pleasing than to learn something new, so original that hardly anyone knew until that "aha" moment when, as they say, the worm turns. Such is the search for the gigantic Palouse earthworm. Comparisons have even been made to the Loch Ness Monster or the Ivory-billed Woodpecker.

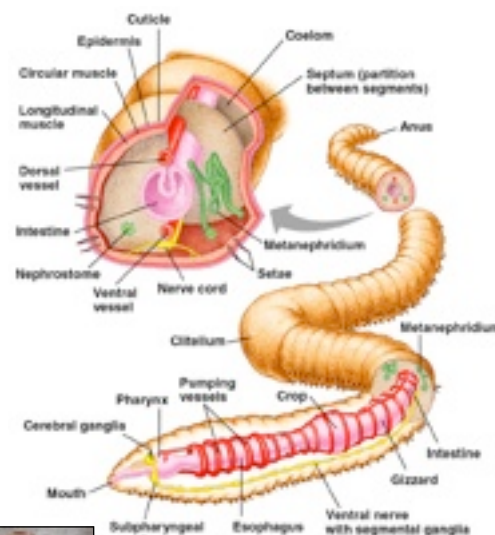
The Palouse Earthworm was said to grow almost three feet long, smell like a lily, and even spit at predators. (We don't make this stuff up.)

Whether it was extinct made this a mystery for scholars until a team of scientific worm researchers from Idaho University used electrical shock waves on the nearby prairies to persuade several of these mysterious creatures to give themselves up.

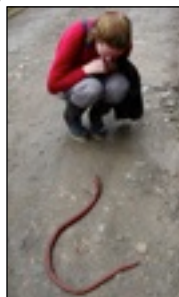
But then came the cruel reality: Palouse earthworms do not smell so fine, nor do they spit (how gauche even for a worm). They weren't even all that long, just longer than most. Rare, still, in that they had hardly been seen since the 1980's. Scientists surmised that as the prairies gave way to the plow, so went the worm into extinction. Now there's a whopper of a tale, and poor logic, as you will soon see, dear reader.

For many of us, our first contact with the *ver de terre*, i.e., nightcrawler, was to impale it on the business end of a fishing hook. The night-crawling nickname coming from the old bromide that the best time to hunt for worms is at night at certain undisclosed locations.

Words like "icky" and "gross" no doubt have their origins as some boy of a certain age tried to impress a girl of his gumption by chopping a writhing worm in half, and then insisting that both ends would live, which is at least partially accurate, but requires more space to explain than we have just now. And that does not even address whether worms feel pain.



Above is a cross-section of the earthworm, which has five pairs of stomachs and an appetite to match. Below is the Palouse earthworm, hard to find. At left is the Australian Gippsland Earthworm, which can grow to 22 feet.



To gardeners, worms are one of our best friends and hardest workers. They deserve respect. Earthworms do good work, aerating the soil as they gobble up yard waste equal to their weight each day, leaving behind their castings. Their "slimy" secretions contain nitrogen. Some of us even feed them coffee grounds in hopes of perhaps creating a bit of bouquet in the garden.

Good soil can have as many as a million worms per acre, though who actually counts them is not clear.

These invertebrates (animals without a backbone) can be brown, red, or even blue, and range in size from a few inches long to over 22 feet long – with five pairs of hearts! The rest of the inside of an earthworm is filled with the intestines, which digest its food. Although each earthworm is hermaphroditic (having both male and female reproductive systems), it takes two worms to reproduce, which is why they come to the surface.

The longest earthworms live in South Africa and Australia. The Australian Gippsland Earthworm can grow to 12 feet long and weigh half a pound. Hey, mate, now there's a worm I wouldn't want to meet down under.

New and renewing* members, memorials, tributes, garden donations

Peggy & John Appling
Michelle Atkinson
Helen Atnip
Ruth Ann Auner*
Donald & Nancy Back*
Mardell Bontrager
Mia Bottarel
Ernest & MaryLou Braswell
Donald & Patricia Brinker
Barbara Brockschmidt
Beverly B. Brown*
Jim & Patricia Buckley
Marilyn Burkhardt
Patrick Byers
Carol Calton
Emelita & Mario Canlas*
Michael K. Carlie*
Ron & Leslie Carrier
Dr. Elaine Carter*
Jane Chrisman*
Nathaniel & Barbara Clark*
James & Nancy Claxton
Joseph & Julie Close*
David Crump
Sandy Cunningham
Debbie Cushing*
Jane Derington
Rose Dixon
Designed 2B Different
Douglas & Linda Duncan*
Richard Edgar
Jean England
Dan & Patricia Faffak

Lee & Pam Ferber*
Ron & Martha Firestone
Mr. & Mrs. J. Howard Fisk
Bill Fitzgerald
Randy & Scarlett Freeman
Joe & Sue Gann
Liz Gerleve
Sandy Garoutte*
Nicole M. Glenn*
Greater Ozarks Hosta Society*
George Grice Jr.*
Dorothy Haase
James & Christa Hall
Carolyn Harris
Gary & Toni Hart
Mary Henry*
Janice A. Hinsey
Cynthia Hollander
Avis & Wallace Holloway*
Home Pride*
Stan & Wilma Horsch*
Mary Ann Hough
Sherrie Householder
Kathy Hunter
John Huntley
Sandra & Jerry Huston
Anne & Steve Iler
Dave & Tammy Jahnke*
Steve Johnson
Claudia Johnston
Kristi Jones
Katherina Kalman
Margaret & Clark Kelly*

Paul & Dyanne Kirk*
Steve & Linda Kittle
Kenny & Martha Knauer*
Mike & Julie Kohr*
Eve & John Kucharski
Ben Lampe
Larry & Corine Larson
Walt & Bev Long
Peter Longley*
Marie Main
Carlene McDaniel
Paula McLaggan
Martha Dean McLean*
Michael & Kathleen Meek*
Thomas & Michal Miller
Dr. Don & Anna Mobley
Patti & Bruce Moore*
Carrie Morgan
LaDonna Morris
Myron Royce Gardens
Donald Nicholson
Jim & Barbara O'Brien
Trish & Brad Pearson
Charles & Shirley Peiter
Carlos & Susie Perez*
Amy Robb
Virginia & Richard Roberts
Harold & Sandy Robinson*
Dr. Bill & Judy Roston*
Bill Sachs*
Jane Sanders
Rebecca Sanker
Fred & Melanie Schattauer

John & Ramona Schlichting
Jewell Schweitzer*
Yuriko Mizumoto Scott*
Keri Sees*
Mary Seiner
Ruth Ann Seth
Mike Shade
James Shaeffer*
Susan & Michael Shikany*
Stephanie Smallwood*
Smiling Sun LLC
Marcie Smith
Springfield Hot Glass*
Katie Steinhoff
Nadine Taylor*
Jon & Joyce Thompson
Tim & Sandy Thompson*
Teresa Thompson
Linda Truitt
Lenna Tubbs*
Lance & Claudia Uptergrove
Patricia White Walker*
Gene Wallace
Janet Wallace
Tuell & Marilyn White*
Jennifer White
Kris Williams
J. Randolph & Marge Wilson*
Carolyn & David Wilson
Donnie & Susan Wilson*
Melissa Wittmer*
Iris Wylie
Ashleigh Yoder

Tribute Bricks

Glenda Barnard
Cherry Court Garden Club
Bob Childress
John Huntley
Joan Menchetti
Richard & Ruth Santer
Kathy Shatto
Sam Webber
Jennifer White
Gregg & Donna Zeller

Growth & Maintenance Fund

Kristofer Bolz
Dr. Jordan Burkey
Nathaniel & Barbara Clark
Ever Green Garden Club
Carrie Morgan
Pink Dogwood Club
Positronic Industries Inc.
James Shaeffer

In Memory of Annette Close Pennell

William & Jeanne Buckner
David & Carolyn Dundes

*Since the Spring 2010 newsletter

Feedback

A plea for help:

Why we need garden volunteers

Part of the physical work at Close Park is done by four dedicated men – one over 80, another soon to be 80, another in his mid-70's and the other's age unknown (but he qualifies for senior discounts!). They have been involved since the beginning of the park and continue to work almost daily. Various physical problems occur from time to time, which puts an even greater load on the others. In addition, there are other very faithful volunteers for whom we are very thankful, plus some of the gardens have been "adopted" by regular volunteers. Additional helpers to assist throughout the park would make a tremendous difference.

This is a plea from a wife who would like to see some younger volunteers step up to assist. The park is enjoyed by thousands of visitors, and being an active part of the team should bring great satisfaction to those willing to help. Major Close's specialty is "unskilled labor," and some additional unskilled, but willing, laborers would be much appreciated.

A few hours on a regular basis to help with watering, weeding and general assistance would be a win/win situation.

We hope to see friends at the park often – as visitors and, hopefully, as newly committed volunteers. Please have anyone interested in joining the volunteer crew to shape the park for the future call Bob Childress at 838-9454, or by e-mail at ulmusfan@mowisp.net.

Thank you from the wife of a dedicated volunteer.

Marthe Close

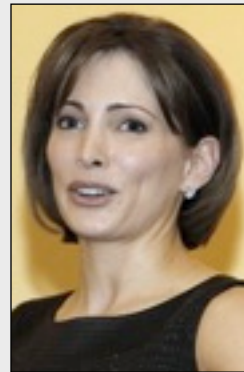
Olympian Shannon Miller will help MU Extension Service at fund-raiser July 10

You can help support University of Missouri Extension's programs at the inaugural "Stepping Up the Challenge Fund-raising Dinner," at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, July 10, at the Ramada Oasis Convention Center, 2546 N. Glenstone in Springfield.

Guest speaker is Shannon Miller, the most decorated gymnast in America. Miller earned seven Olympic medals (two gold) and nine World Championship medals (five gold). She is now an attorney and advocate of health and wellness for women and children. A native of Rolla, she grew up in Edmund, Okla., and now lives in Florida.

Seating is limited and tickets are \$25 per person. Friends of the Garden has sponsored a table and we hope to see you there. All proceeds benefit MU Extension in Greene County.

There is an additional cost for an early reception beginning at 5 p.m. Individuals who attend the reception



Shannon Miller

may have a professional photo taken with Shannon Miller and receive a copy following the event as well as an autographed photo.

This fund-raising event came about because of a 72 percent cut in the Greene County operational budget to the local MU Extension office. In order to keep offices open, private dollars must be raised.

More than 18,000 residents attended at least one MU Extension program in Greene County during 2009. Topics range from Master Gardener and Master Naturalist training to 4-H clubs and presentations dealing with family, economic development, sustainable communities and agriculture.

You can sign up online to be included on the invitation list by visiting the Greene County Extension website at <http://extension.missouri.edu/greene> or contact the Greene County Extension Center at (417) 862-9284.

Garden Notes & other good stuff

Positronics Industries funds Dwarf Conifer Garden

Another garden for you to enjoy is being developed in Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park and Arboretum, thanks to a generous donation from Positronic Industries in Springfield.

The company's donation will support a 7,200-square-foot dwarf conifer garden east of Lake Drummond, says Susan Boswell, chair of the Friends of the Garden Development Committee.

The garden will showcase this evergreen family of cone-bearing shrubs, including 82 varieties and 160 plants.

"We greatly appreciate this very generous donation from the Gentry family," said Boswell. "With this conifer garden, they hope to share their love of gardens and to give back to the community."

One of the conifers is *Chamaecyparis pisifera* 'Dow Whiting' trademarked as Soft Serve Chamaecyparis., developed by Dow Whiting, owner of Garden Adventures Nursery.

In addition to terraced dwarf conifers in multiple beds, the garden will be enhanced with meandering paths, a bridge, waterfall and rock outcroppings. Dr. Bill Roston, a Friends of the Garden volunteer who designed the dwarf conifer garden, plans to add color by planting both annual and perennial flowers among the dwarf conifers.

The Dwarf Conifer Garden, one of 24 new gardens being added to the 21 already in place at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park and Arboretum, will be completed for the grand opening Oct. 11-17, of the 12,700-square-foot Botanical Center.

Vigilance still necessary as garden thefts continue

One of the most frustrating trends at the gardens requires vigilance by the rest of us.

Thieves and vandals continue to destroy, steal and otherwise desecrate the gardens, most recently stealing a valuable hosta

planted as a memorial to one of our hosta garden benefactors.

Although a reward of up to \$500 has been established for information leading to the arrest and conviction of one of these culprits, it will take vigilance to do so.

Security is in place that will help, and more is on the way when the Botanical Center is complete. Meanwhile, please tell us if you notice vandalism or theft occurring.

Volunteer hours add up to \$2,000, so far

Some companies encourage their employees to contribute and even volunteer their talents locally. One is the Walmart Foundation in Bentonville, which matches volunteer hours with cash Volunteerism Always Pays (VAP) contributions.

This means that the ongoing volunteer hours donated by two FOG members, Frieda M.

Alexander and Cliff Garland have each provided another \$250 Walmart VAP Grant since our last newsletter. The total of their efforts has now reached \$2,000.

Frieda and Cliff are also members in the Ozark Daylily Club, and volunteer in the Daylily Gardens, which will soon be in bloom with more than 5,000 plants.

Speakers' Bureau offers programs to interested groups

If you have attended a Friends of the Garden monthly board meeting, you know we try to have a plant expert say a few words before we get down to business.

FOG has a Speakers' Bureau so that we can offer the expertise of our members to groups who want to learn about the gardens. Lee Coates chairs this group and is often a speaker himself as one who grows hostas, Japanese maples and conifers. Peter Longley, Drs. Bill Roston and Bob Kipfer, Chris Barnhart and others are available for presentations along with FOG President George Deatz.



All that's left where a prized 'Guardian Angel' hosta and stone honored the late John Brehmer. The plant will be replaced.

Around & about the Gardens

Help us reach goal of 1,000 members – one at a time

The spring growing season is almost over, but it has been a time of growth and renewal at Close Memorial Park. Many of the early spring flowers have already come and gone, replaced by lilies, Japanese iris, and columbine.

Thousands of summer annuals have been planted by our volunteers. Three new gardens, the Cercis (Redbud) Garden, Native Shrub Garden, and Dwarf Conifer Garden, are underway, thanks to private donations.

The new Botanical Center Coordinator, Katie Steinhoff, has been hired and is on the job helping complete the details of the new Botanical Center. She is already a new FOG member and has even volunteered on her own time. The new Botanical Center building is growing right along with the plants this spring and should be completed about Oct. 1, 2010.

Our membership has surpassed 500 members with a goal of 1,000 by the time the new building opens. That is where you come in. If you have sent in your 2010 membership dues, thank you and please invite a friend! If you are still thinking about joining, it's now more important than ever to help us reach our community objectives.

Many people ask what they receive with a membership in Friends of the Garden. Tangible benefits include a free season pass for you and a guest to the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden. You also receive our informative newsletter that you're reading now. However, the real benefit is intangible: You become part of the growing Springfield/Greene County Botanical Center movement, assisting with the development and enjoyment of Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Gardens and Park which will include the new Botanical Center and numerous surrounding gardens and arboretum. We are members of the American Horticultural Society along with more than 200 gardens throughout the country. Your membership dues and donations, plus any volunteer time you contribute, helps us expand and maintain the gardens and the Bill Roston Native Butterfly House. Of course, as a member, you can walk or ride the paths while you enjoy the serene beauty of the gardens, attend special events, increase your knowledge and know that you helped make all of this possible.

Won't you make your tax-deductible investment in Friends of the Garden today?



George Deatz



Support Friends of the Garden: Become a member

Your interest in being a member of Friends of the Garden is the first step to make a lasting difference in developing The Botanical Gardens and Complex at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park in Springfield, Mo.

Purpose of Membership

Friends of the Garden Inc. is a non-profit organization, that supports the development, construction and maintenance of The Botanical Gardens at Close Memorial Park.

Membership Benefits

Friends of the Garden believes that gardens enrich our lives and those of future generations by giving some back. Members receive the following:

- **Newsletters** about gardening programs, events and other educational opportunities.
- **Free Seasonal Admission** to the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden for you and one other person.
- **Special events**, including the Friends of the Garden Butterfly Festival and exhibitions, Bluegrass & Blossoms concert, educational and other benefits.
- **New friends** who share your gardening interest and make Springfield a more beautiful city to visit and call home.
- **Opportunities to volunteer** on projects from gardening to fund-raising.

Membership levels:

- ☐ \$ 500 - Benefactor
- ☐ \$ 250 - Patron
- ☐ \$ 100 - Sponsor
- ☐ \$ 50 - Contributor
- ☐ \$ 25 - Friend
- ☐ \$ 25 - Gift Membership
- ☐ Other

Corporate Memberships:

- ☐ \$ 150 - Bronze
- ☐ \$ 250 - Silver
- ☐ \$ 500 - Gold
- ☐ \$1,000 - Platinum

☐ **Yes, I want to volunteer**

Please indicate Annual Membership Type:

New ☐ Renewal ☐ Gift (see below) ☐

How would you like to receive your newsletter?

Online by e-mail ☐

By U.S. Mail ☐

Please tell us how we can stay in touch with you:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

STATE _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

If this is a gift membership, please tell us about recipient:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

STATE _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Please send your tax-deductible annual membership dues to:

Membership, c/o Friends of the Garden Inc., P.O. Box 8566, Springfield, MO 65801

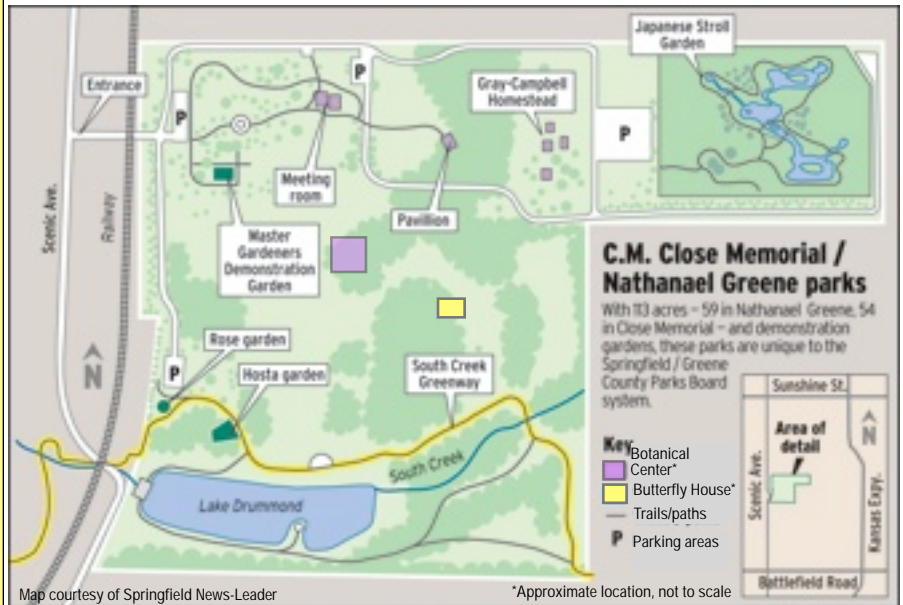
You or someone you know may wish to consider purchase of memorial bricks for the Memorial Walk in the English White Garden, memorial trees for the garden or help finance a new garden as a memorial to someone you choose. For more information, please contact our garden chairman, Bob Childress (417-838-9454).

June/2010

Mark your calendar:

- 🕒 **June 26:** Bluegrass & Blossoms, 1-5 p.m., Close Gardens
- 🕒 **July 24-25:** FOG Butterfly Festival, Close Gardens.
- 🕒 **Aug. 6:** Free Wheelin' Friday, Close Gardens (with The Discovery Center).
- 🕒 **Aug 20:** Insect-O-Rama, Conservation Nature Center.
- 🕒 **Aug. 24:** Frontier Days at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park.
- 🕒 **Sept. 10-12:** Japanese Fall Festival, Mizumoto Stroll Garden.
- 🕒 **Sept. 18-19:** Gray-Campbell Farmstead Lifestyle Exposition.
- 🕒 **Sept. 18-19:** Cider Days on Historic Walnut Street.
- 🕒 **Sept. 25-26:** Harvest Festival at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park.
- 🕒 **Oct. 9:** Botanical Society Mum Festival, Mizumoto Stroll Garden.
- 🕒 **Oct. 11-17:** Dedication and Grand Opening of the Springfield/Greene County Botanical Center.

Take the right turn to get to the gardens



First-time visitors to the garden parks describe their journey as a thoroughly invigorating and unexpected experience. But of course you've got to get there to enjoy it. Hence, this convenient map, which includes directions to the parks as well as convenient parking (and now a free tram so you can enjoy yourself even more). If you are new to this experience, be sure to mark your calendar for early October when the Botanical Center will open its doors after 10 years of planning and design, fund-raising and lately, a bit of exhilaration.

Newsletter produced by FOG member George M. Freeman, TheFreemanGroup.org

Springfield, MO 65801
PO 8566
Newsletter

