

# Friends of Boone County Arboretum



2016 Annual Report

Dear Friend,

I am proud to present to you the 2016 Annual Report of the Friends of Boone County Arboretum. While summarizing the highlights from the past year, we recognize the accomplishments of the generous volunteers and sponsors for their gifts to Friends.

Fiscal year 2016 was one of steady growth for Friends. In this report, you will discover enhanced programming, a newly-established Annual Giving Fund, new grants received by Friends of Boone County Arboretum, and a fiscally sound budget. In this publication, we recognize you, our volunteers and sponsors. We want you to know the positive impact you have on Friends and the Arboretum.

The coming year brings excitement as Friends continues to expand its outreach to the surrounding Tri-State area. This will be especially exciting as we bring an Arboretum on Wheels to grades 4-7 at our local schools. Opportunities abound at the Arboretum and we will continue to look to you to make Friends even more successful in the coming year.

Once again, you have my deepest appreciation for your support, I thank you for your dedication to Friends of Boone County Arboretum.

Sincerely,



Jean Snyder  
President  
Friends of Boone County Arboretum

## ***Vision***

To promote, maintain and beautify the Boone County Arboretum, assist in volunteer recruitment and training, participate in program planning, Arboretum projects and fundraising.

## ***Mission***

Friends seek to create community awareness and participation at the Arboretum by involving individuals, families, schools, sporting groups, community organizations, garden clubs and other interested parties through membership, donations, public events and active volunteerism.

Dear Arboretum Supporter,

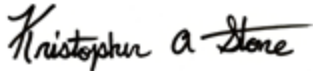
The Arboretum's foundation is its educational mission, supported by its members, donors, staff, volunteers, and visitors and bolstered by its public events.

In 2016, we achieved several milestones. The Friends of the Arboretum expanded and developed its Board of Directors and fundraising capacity toward the goal of increased organizational capacity. This organizational restructuring supported a pre-capital campaign study and encouragement to hold our first-ever Annual Appeal.

In support of our mission, we also received grant funding from private and public funders. Significant among the projects supported were plant-label-signage development, launch of the Arboretum-on-Wheels initiative via our Annual Appeal, and projects completed by the Boy Scouts of America.

We enjoyed increased attendance at all programs and events this past year, helping us to sustain and increase a myriad of offerings for the public to enjoy. We look forward to an even more prosperous 2017, and hope for your continued support and encouragement of others to join in our success.

Sincerely,



Kristopher A. Stone,  
Director, Boone County Arboretum

# Friends of Boone County Arboretum

## Board of Directors

Kris Stone, Boone County Arboretum Director

Lacey Kessell, Volunteer Coordinator

David Koester, Boone County Horticulture Extension Agent

Bob Carlin, Boone County Extension District Board Representative

James Crawford, Boone County Extension Council Representative

David Whitehouse, Boone County Parks Department Representative

Matthew Webster, Boone County Fiscal Court Representative

Todd Baeten, Owner of Baeten's Nursery & Greenhouse

Alvera Kincart, Friends of Boone County Arboretum Volunteer

Bonnie Hampton, Friends of Boone County Arboretum Volunteer

Joan Klahr, Friends of Boone County Arboretum Volunteer

Mike Klahr, Co-Founder of Boone County Arboretum

Scott Maddox, Owner of Maddox Garden Center & Landscaping

Lorna Harrell, Friends of Boone County Arboretum Volunteer

Kevin O'Dell, Co-Owner of Kendrick & O'Dell Landscape

## Marketing Committee

The Marketing Committee promotes community and public awareness of the Boone County Arboretum and markets the value of the Arboretum and its contributions in elevating the quality of our lives.

We aim to connect people to people and people to nature through educational, cultural and social experiences.

In 2016, Friends of the Boone County Arboretum has reached out to the community in many ways. Examples of this outreach include participation in the: Cincinnati Flower Show, Krohn Conservatory's Butterfly Show, Best of Northern Kentucky at the N. Ky. Convention Center, Community Fair, Spring Tea, Concert in the Park, Boone County Fair, Family Nature Day, and Autumn Affair.

We awarded a scholarship to one student in the Master Gardener Class, and staffed the gift shop at various presentations and classes.

We purchased brochure/flier holders for display at local businesses promoting Arboretum activities as well as small flashlights and hand sanitizers for giveaways. The gift shop now sports a wooden display holder for our notecards. Also new to the gift shop are travel mugs and wonderful matted photographs which are unique tributes to the beauty of Mother Nature and the Boone County Arboretum.

2017 will provide many more opportunities to market our lovely Arboretum.

Stephanie Schenk, Volunteer

# Plant Collection Review and Improvements *Josh Selm*

Due to a very warm March, plants that typically start emerging from dormancy in late winter and early spring got an early start in 2016. Luckily there were no subsequent freezes severe enough to cause widespread damage.

There were many collection-related projects in 2016, including installation of the interpretive sign and plant labels in the rain garden, installation of the interpretive signs for the Overhead Utility Planting Demo Area, and receiving an order of 300 individual plant ID labels. We also installed a new foundation landscape around the new restroom near the dogwoods, a turf plot demonstration in the same area, and a replacement rose garden which had to be moved to a new area near the weigelas and spireas.

I was also able to perform an audit of our plant database to check for botanical name changes of the 1230 species and cultivars in our collection. (Changes will occasionally result from research into plant species ancestry and relations.) These updates were incorporated into a new printing of the full plant collection, which took several months of production and detailed editing by the GIS Services Division of Planning and Zoning. The number of plants in our collection has grown so much we are running out of room and the next map edition will need to be a larger format.

In the fall, several new plants were donated to the Arboretum from the Autumn Affair auction, and 35 volunteers helped us install 32 replacement trees and

shrubs as part of our annual “Make A Difference Day” planting event. Many of these new plants were direct replacements, but some were changed to a newer, improved cultivar.

At the end of 2016, we began the initial steps for eventual replacement of our facility-wide irrigation system (new control boxes and other various repairs) which will hopefully be completed before this coming summer. We were also awarded a grant to help create, purchase and install another set of plant identification labels, which brings our collection close to being 100% labeled. Our identification labels are extremely detailed – containing information such as mature size, flower and fruit characteristics, growing requirements, and more – the most detailed and complete our staff has seen in our visits to many other arboreta and botanic gardens throughout the country. The research required to accomplish this is no small feat, and also provides the even-more-complete information provided on our website’s plant-search feature. We hope to have our research finished by this summer, with label installation soon after.

This year is already starting out with unusual warm spells, hopefully these stop so plants don’t come out of dormancy too soon. With the plant labeling endeavor and other developing projects in the works, 2017 is shaping up to be a very busy year, with plenty of volunteer opportunities.

## **Eagle Projects**

Gazebo Started in 2015, finished in 2016

Flagpole and flag

Little Libraries (started, not yet finished)

Rose Garden Arbor Wall (started, not yet finished)



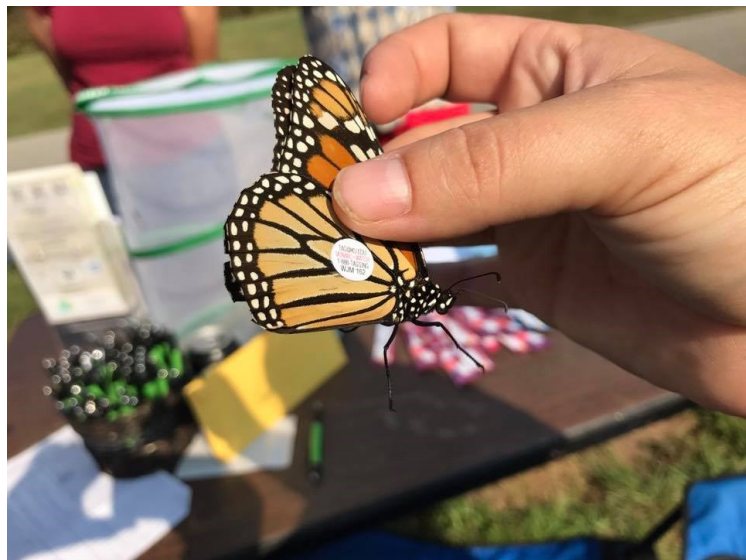
On Monday, October 17 we dedicated a new flagpole at the front entrance. This flagpole project was the Eagle Scout project for Nick Guenther, Troop 805- Union. Our flagpole includes a brand-new perennial and annual bed to accent the pole and is lit from above via a solar-powered LED lighting system. A ceremony to raise the American and Kentucky flags was held at 6:30pm on the 17th with State Representative, Addia Wuchner, other officials, scouts and scouts’ parents.

## Membership & Volunteers

Membership to the Arboretum is defined as becoming a member of the supporting non-profit organization, Friends of Boone County Arboretum. We are proud to announce that membership has grown significantly over the past year. Household membership to Friends of Boone County Arboretum increased by 43% from 2015 with a total of 196 households finishing the 2016 year. Out of the 196, 43% of these households were renewed from the 2015 year.

### Breakdown of Household Memberships

Individual	41
Family	74
Senior	50
Senior Family	14
Sponsor	3
Supporter	2
Patron	0
Student	1
Lifetime (Single & Joint)	11
Corporate	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>



Membership levels were transitioned in 2016 with the final transition taking place in 2017. The new levels are *Individual, Family, Senior, Senior Family, Patron, Lifetime Single, Lifetime Joint, and Corporate*.

Volunteers are a major part of the Arboretum's success. They coordinate fundraisers, create awareness, implement outreach, recruit members and help maintain the Arboretum's landscape gardens. In 2016 over 130 volunteers contributed 2,200+ hours toward the Arboretum's mission.

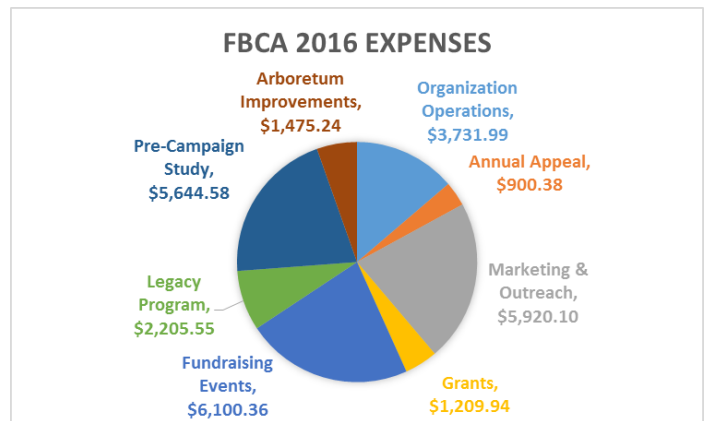
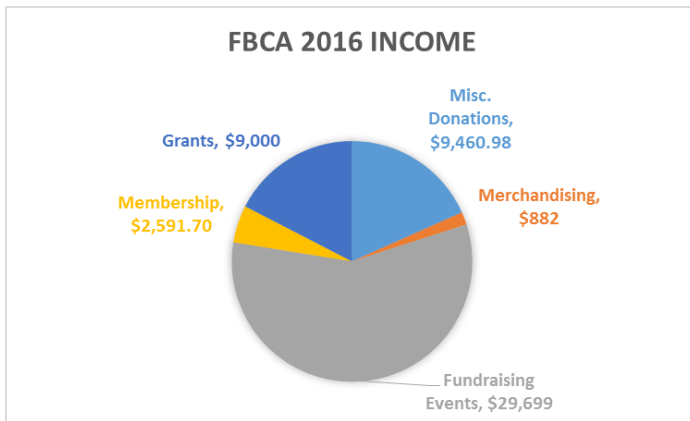
We are forever grateful for the dedication of all of our volunteers and the support of our members.

## Programming

Each year the Arboretum places a great deal of focus on educational and outreach programming. In 2016 we had wonderful program attendance totaling at 4,066 attendees with over 600 participants in youth education.

# Financial Highlights

Statement of Activities for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2016



\$12,207.43 was earmarked for a future Education and Visitor Center at the Boone County Arboretum.

## 2016 Event Sponsors

### Dogwood Dash

Archway's McDonalds  
Biggby Coffee  
Boone County Cooperative Extension  
Boone County Parks  
Chick-Fil-A, Official Dogwood Sponsor  
Cincinnati Reds  
Cincinnati Zoo  
Dick's Sporting Goods  
Florence Freedom  
Jump Zone  
Kroger Company  
Lawrenceburg Speedway  
Lazer Kraze  
Meijer, Oak Sponsor  
Panera Bread  
PNC Bank, Redbud Sponsor  
RoadID  
Sam's Club  
St. Elizabeth Healthcare, Oak Sponsor  
Strong's Pizza  
World of Golf

### Spring Tea

Bailey's Car Wash  
Baja Salon  
Boone Links Golf Course  
Burlington Pharmacy  
Butcher Betties  
Colonel De's Herbs & Spices  
Colonel's Creamery  
Costco  
Donatos Pizza  
Flowers by Flora

### *Friends of Boone County Arboretum*

Garden Art by Diane  
Gold Star Chili  
Jackson Florist  
Krohn Conservatory  
Maddox Nursery  
Mary Beth Eichenger  
Nancy Jacobs  
NKY Herb Society  
NKY Physical Medicine & Medical WeightLoss  
Rightway Nursery  
Skyline Chili  
Snappy Tomato Pizza  
Tastefully Simple  
The Flying Olive  
The Secret Garden  
Tousey House Tavern  
Uniquely Senise  
Wild Birds Unlimited

### Plant Sales

B.C. Nursery  
Clara Berger  
Dendrological Sales  
GardenAide  
Lagergren Nursery

### Autumn Affair

Owen Electric, Presenting  
Eason Horticultural Resources, Orchid  
Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum, Orchid  
Bob Adams, Magnolia  
AM Leonard  
Ammon Nursery

### *Aquatic & Garden Décor*

Baeten's Nursery & Greenhouses  
BC Nursery  
BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse  
Cincinnati State Technical and Community College  
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden  
Dendrological Sales  
Flipdaddy's Gourmet Burgers  
Foxglove  
Gainesway Horse Farm  
Greenfield Plant Farm  
Greg's Antiques & Garden Art  
Hidden Hill Nursery  
Jean Snyder  
Keeneland Association, Inc.  
Kendrick & O' Dell Nursery  
Lagergren Nursery  
Longwood Gardens  
Maddox Garden Center & Landscaping  
Mary Ann Harden  
Massey Nursery Sales  
Morphology  
Natorp Nursery  
Osage Belt & Buckle  
Renaissance Garden Ornament  
Rightway Nursery  
Spring Grove Cemetery & Arboretum  
Spring Hill Nurseries  
Springhouse Gardens  
Wild Birds Unlimited  
Yesterday's Tea Cafe  
Yew Dell Botanical Gardens

## Tribute and Memorial Program 2016

Christopher Stein  
*In memory of Joshua Shepherd*

Gene Cantrall  
*In Loving Memory of Janice Cantrall*

Friends of Boone County Arboretum  
*In Honor of Mike Klahr*

Boone County Cooperative Extension  
*In Honor of Mike Klahr*

# Thank you to our 2016 Supporters

Andy & Valerie Bailey  
Michael & Cheryl Berkel  
Jim Eason  
Marc Flick  
Tom & Shelley Goetz  
Suzanne Green  
Pat & Patty Harman  
Lorna Harrell  
Cheryl Johnson

*In Honor of Mike Klahr*

J Ford & Denise Johnston  
Deanna Karam  
Mike & Joan Klahr

*In Honor of their Parents*

Alex Kuhl  
Scott Maddox

Deanna Parobeck  
*In Memory of David Kadetz*

Carol Reis  
Rightway Garden Center  
Stephanie Schenk  
Cliff & Theresa Eubank  
Cindy & Woody Schuster  
Jean Snyder  
Tonia Spille  
Alison Vessa

*In Memory of Hermann Hoppe*

Michael Wagstaff  
Patricia Walker  
Grace Weaver  
Maggie Whitson  
Karen Puckett

## Take a look at 2016.....



Friends annual Spring Tea had a record breaking year in 2016 with 99 guests, 20 volunteers, and raised over \$5,000 that is earmarked for a future Education and Visitor Center at the Boone County Arboretum.



Make a Difference Day is a day to give back by replacing woody plants that died throughout the year. Thank you MUFG for your continued support of this event.



Autumn Affair brings together the garden and green industry community. This year participants learned about international plants and research.



Dig-in-the-Dirt volunteer work days keep the Arboretum beautiful and allow for the installation of new gardens. In 2016 over 300 volunteer hours were spent improving the Arboretum for its 200,000 annual guests.