



May Center Report – April 2018

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting

May Arboretum Report

HIGHLIGHTS



- ◆ Vanishing Acts opened at the May Arboretum & Botanical Garden on March 2, 2018 and will run through June 10, 2018. It is free and open to the public. The horticulturist acquired the 17 panel educational program through the Morton Arboretum in partnership with the Global Trees Campaign. It was created to bring awareness about trees that are threatened and endangered.
- ◆ The May Arboretum hosted the Rare Plant Workshop in April and staff attended.
- ◆ Kristen's Garden upgrade (paver project) was completed this month. Funds were provided by a generous donation from the May Arboretum Society (\$35,000.00).
- ◆ A potting shed was installed adjacent to the greenhouse. Funding was provided by the May Foundation (\$5,724.90.00).
- ◆ John Crandell Tree Service was contracted to prune several large trees and remove noxious and invasive tree species and was completed this month. Fund for this project was made possible the May Foundation (\$8,000.00).
- ◆ The arboretum will be holding Arbor Day a few days early this year, April 24th. The Arboretum Educator will be offering children's activities in the morning "Little Arbor Day" from 10:00 am 11:30 am and in the afternoon the horticulturist will be offering a tour at 1:00 pm "Unusual and Common Conifers in the Arboretum".

May Arboretum Educational Programs

- ◆ Danielle Ornelas, Arboretum Educator and AmeriCorps member held the "Little Sprouts" program this past two month. On March 19 "Feathered Friends" was offered at 10:00 a.m. and April 16 "Flower Power" at the same time 10:00 a.m. The classes filled the first month it was offered. Workshops are designed for families with children ages 2-5.
- ◆ The Arboretum Educator also reformatted and rebranded the Arboretum Naturalist program to "Wilbur's" Naturalist Program to honor Wilbur D. May. The program was divided into two guides, the Wilbur's Jr. Naturalist guide and Wilbur's Naturalist Guide. By completing the guide children can earn a "patch" which was developed by the educator. The Wilbur Jr. Naturalist Guide is for ages 10 and younger, and our Naturalist Guide is for ages 11 and older.



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Greenhouse Program

- ◆ The Horticulturist is acting as the greenhouse manager and brought the greenhouse into full production this past winter. The horticulturist piloted the greenhouse school program this year. Twelve elementary schools participated. The arboretum with help of a volunteer and staff produced over 1,200 free vegetable “starts” from the greenhouse to meet the needs of the school science curriculum.

May Foundation

- ◆ The May Foundation approved \$6,500.00 for a new trail map for the Arboretum. The horticulturist is working closely with the Foundation and received bids.

May Arboretum Society

- ◆ The May Arboretum Society received its shipment of plants and is preparing for their annual plant sale which will be held over Mother’s Day weekend.
- ◆ The horticulturist received \$15,000 donation from the May Arboretum Society to subsidize the May Arboretum 2017-2018 Operation and Supply budget.

Tours

- ◆ The May Arboretum Society and the Arboretum Educator is offering the, “The Good Nature” Walking Tours for Older Adults. The first tour for this year was held on the February 9th from 1pm to 2pm in the Arboretum.
- ◆ The Arboretum Weekend Nature Walks began March 3, 2018. They offered every Saturday from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. and guided by the Arboretum Educator.
- ◆ You can also visit the May Center Facebook <https://www.facebook.com>. Admission is free and all older adults are welcome.

Community Educational Programs

- ◆ The May Arboretum completed their Volunteer Horticulture training in March. Over 20 people attended the 24 hour training. Volunteers are required to volunteer 25 hours in the garden as part of their training.
- ◆ The Arboretum is partnering with the UNR Stamford Center for the Aging. Currently plans are being made to provide activities in the Arboretum in the spring of 2018. The Arboretum will also partner with Washoe County Senior Services.

Arboretum Projects

- ◆ The horticulturist received approval from the May Arboretum Society to upgrade Burke Garden, the popular English Cottage Garden. The upgrade includes an English recirculating fountain to serve as a focal point, new planter area, steps, new circular pavers, stair lighting and up-lighting in trees. The Garden will be closed for reservation through June of 2019. Many thanks to the May Arboretum Society for their generous donation towards the project. ANTICIPATED PROJECT COST: \$45,000.00

Operations

- ◆ The May Arboretum webpage is updated by the Arboretum Educator on a monthly basis.



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- ◆ The horticulturist maintains the plant records/ plant curating and accessions using Iris BG and ESRI, ARC Map software weekly and throughout the year.
- ◆ The horticulturist maintains the Arboretum donor data bases and donor records which are also updated weekly.
- ◆ The Horticulturist continues to serve as Chairmen of the May Arboretum Society Endowment fund committee and serves as vice president of the state wide Nevada Shade Tree Counsel. The horticulturist also is a board member of the University of Nevada's arboretum.
- ◆ The horticulturist publishes monthly horticultural articles for the May Center newsletter (Botanical Bytes) and a quarterly article for the May Arboretum Society.
- ◆ Staff is busy install a new irrigation system for the greenhouse. Eight seedling "mist" benches are operating. Irrigation lines will be installed for the other 14 benches. They have also been busy with leaf removal, pruning, monitoring and cleaning irrigation ditches.

Seasonal Staff

- ◆ Two seasonal started work April 16th thanks to a generous donation from the May Foundation. The May Foundation has been subsidizing the seasonal budget for nearly 8 years (\$30,000.00). The horticulturist over several years has request the county to restore the original season Arboretum budget (\$67,000.00/year) as the budget was completely cut during the recession.

Volunteer Program

Wilbur D. May Arboretum Volunteers

- ◆ The May Arboretum volunteers and the May Arboretum Society recorded 203 hours of service in March which has service value of \$4,775.00.

Job Corps, Children's Cabinet& Nevada Youth Empowerment

- ◆ The Arboretum acquired one Job Corps member in April. Job Corps interns work 32 hours a week for two months and trained and managed by the Horticulture assistant, Phil Brazier. The rest of the interns are on winter break.

Wilbur D. May Arboretum AmeriCorps

- ◆ Danielle Ornelas, Arboretum Educator continues to develop educational program. She currently reached out the Samford Center for the Ageing at UNR and also the UNR's Student Engagement Program. update the Arboretum webpage which includes several new buttons.

Memorials

- ◆ Three new memorial benches were installed and long with the memorial plaques as well as several memorial bricks.



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May Museum Report

Highlights

- ◆ To wrap up the final weeks of the Hall of Heroes exhibition, the museum hosted several special events including three After Dark evenings (during which the museum was open late), a superhero meet and greet with costumed actors, and special sales in the store on superhero products. The exhibit will close on April 22.
- ◆ The museum hosted another County Night for County employees and their families. More than 160 people attended the free event.
- ◆ The May Foundation will visit the museum on April 22 for its annual meeting.

Future Events

- ◆ The museum will host the Sierra Watercolor Society's spring exhibition of watercolor paintings, called "A Bouquets for Reno's 150th Birthday." Admission will be free.
- ◆ The museum will take part in the annual "Day at the Museum" event with the University District Museums. This popular day gives visitors free admission to the museum.
- ◆ The museum will host an Art Angels workshop. Led by the Sierra Watercolor Society, this free program gives children watercolor painting instruction.