



May Center Report – September/October 2018

May Arboretum Report

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The May Arboretum Society hosted Art and Nature, Sunday September 23rd in the arboretum. Painters, weavers, poetry readings, live acoustic musicians, dancers, and food trucks participated.
- ◆ The Horticulturist employed the Arboretum Educator this past month. Katie Bird, AmeriCorps member, will be managing and developing new educational programs for the Arboretum. Funding for this position is made possible by the May Arboretum Society (\$9,200.00).
- ◆ Greenhouse concrete floor. A concrete floor (3,500 sq. ft.) was poured this past month thanks to a generous donation and support from the May Arboretum Society (\$37,000).
- ◆ Winter help for the Arboretum. The May Arboretum Society funded nearly 3 winter positions for the Arboretum (approximately \$34,000.00). The winter seasonal staff will address noxious weeds and trees, make infrastructure repairs, prune, as well as other projects in the gardens.
- ◆ The Arboretum received two new Yamaha utility vehicles to replace two 30 year old carts from the Arboretum fleet. Funding was provided by the May Arboretum Society (\$19,200).

May Arboretum Volunteers

- ◆ The May Arboretum volunteer hours for September of 2018 totaled 568.5, a service value of \$12,819.68 for the month.
- ◆ The May Arboretum volunteer hours for October 2018 totaled 173 hours of service which has a value of \$3,918.00. May Arboretum trained volunteers and the May Arboretum Society members recorded 80 % of the hours, while the remaining 20% of hours were logged by the Cross Roads program.
- ◆ Many thanks to Denise Evans, Volunteer Coordinator and Phil Brazier, Horticulture Assistant, for their part in training and assisting with a successful intern and volunteer program.

May Arboretum Educational Programs

- ◆ May Arboretum volunteers assisted AmeriCorps members with Little Sprouts. The series continues through fall and winter of 2018. Workshops are designed for families with children ages 2-5. The series is FREE and open to the public. Space is limited to 20 children.
- ◆ Volunteers continued to offer “Good Nature Tours” this past month. Tours are for older adults (50+). Each walk is designed around a theme and is carefully thought out to accommodate all those who attend. Walks are led by volunteers, professionals, and enthusiasts.

May Foundation

- ◆ The horticulturist has been meeting with several developers for the May Foundation \$1 million dollar children’s garden. The 1 or 2 acre garden will be designed and built for early childhood education through elementary school. The children’s garden will feature a theme garden with educational panels and activities along with a water features, e.g., misting rocks or a low volume mountain fabricated mountain stream for toddlers along with topiaries.
- ◆ The Horticulturist is requested \$40,000 from the May Foundation for garden improvements and professional development.



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Tours

- ◆ The horticulturist provided tours to UNR’s Public Health Biology Class (60) and the UNR’s Museum Studies course (60). Emphasis was on plant communities and ecosystems for the plant Biology class. The Museum Studies course emphasized curating and operating an Arboretum.
- ◆ The Horticulturist provided a tour of the gardens to the Sierra Lutheran High School from Carson City. Forty students attended the tour. Emphasis was on plant communities and ecosystems.

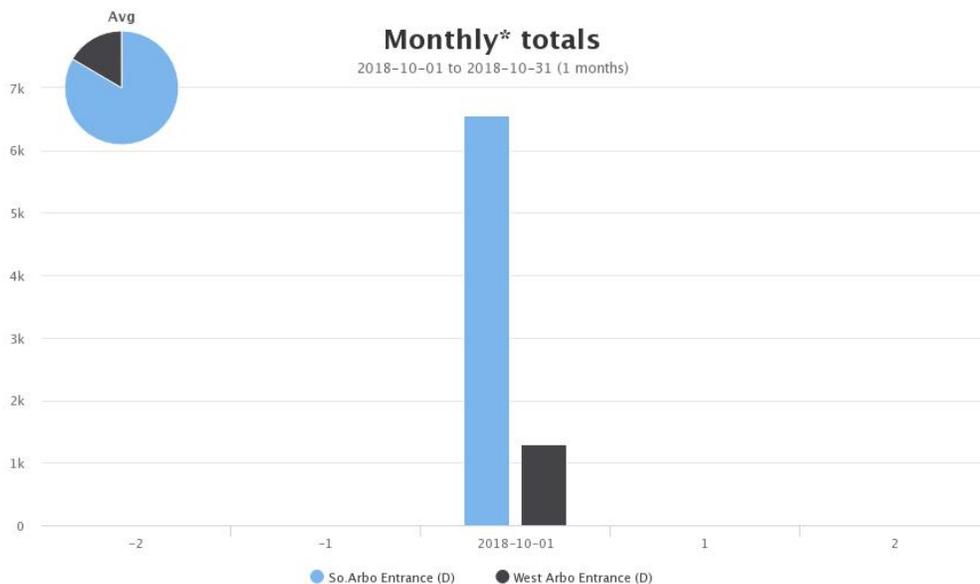
Arboretum Upgrades and Projects

- ◆ In November the Arboretum staff will be preparing Burke Garden for a complete renovation thanks to a generous donation from the May Arboretum Society (\$45,000).

Arboretum Operations

- ◆ Phil Brazier, Horticulture Assistant, is completing the installation of a new controller to the former Great Basin Adventure Park, now the Nevada Farms and Family. Bradon Franklin, Maintenance Worker II, is currently upgrading parts of the irrigation on the north side of the slope.
- ◆ The May Arboretum webpage is currently being updated by Katie Bird, AmeriCorps member.

Visitor Data Program



Master summary suggest 96,953 people will visit the Arboretum by the end of November although there is missing west entrance data for February, March and April due to technical issues. We estimate by the end of calendar year and according to TRAX counters and Dragon Lights event attendance, over 150,000 will have visited the Arboretum this year.



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Master Summary

Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	ADT [†]	ADT [†] x365	Days with data
2018	So.Arbo Entrance [‡]	2,925	2,742	3,191	6,201	5,836	8,204	16,596	8,724	4,695	6,561	4,440*		215.813	78,772	305
	West Arbo Entrance [‡]	2,057*				1,257*	2,342	1,192	1,152	1,488	1,299	1,200*		49.811	18,181	201

ADT[†] = Average Daily Traffic

* = based upon that month's ADT [Learn more](#) Indicates months with less than 6 days of data.

[‡] = divide by 2 applied [Learn more](#)

Memorials

- ◆ The Horticulturist manages and oversees the memorial program. Seven new benches have been ordered and several memorial bricks.

May Museum Report

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The Museum hosted *Work, Fight, Give* in the art gallery. The traveling exhibition featured WWI relief posters and objects. The exhibition was on display for one month in September and brought in approximately 400 visitors.
- ◆ The Museum offered free admission during the Great Reno Balloon Race. More than 800 people came through the Museum during the three-day event in the park.
- ◆ The Museum participated in Smithsonian Magazine's annual Museum Day event, offering free admission to visitors. We were one of only four museums in the state to participate. Attendees were required to download a special ticket through the Smithsonian to get free admission. Two hundred people visited the Museum that day.
- ◆ The May Center had a booth at the Lockett Shows Wedding Fair at the Grand Sierra Resort. Staff promoted rentable facilities at the May Center.
- ◆ The Museum hosted a lecture and book sale with Nevada researcher Stan Paher. He gave an hour-long presentation on the history of Nevada and afterward, sold and signed copies of his books.
- ◆ The Museum hosted a lecture and book sale with Bernice Ende, a famous equestrian traveler. Bernice gave a presentation on her journey and, afterward, sold and signed copies of her book.
- ◆ The Museum installed a new exhibition in the art gallery of watercolor paintings from Sierra Watercolor Society. The paintings are for sale and visitors can vote for their favorite to win the "People's Choice Award." The exhibition will be on display through mid-December.
- ◆ The Museum hosted a two-day Steampunk Expo. The event featured vendors, performances, and workshops during the day and an evening ball.
- ◆ The Museum began its annual end-of-the-year charity drive. This year the Museum is conducting a "Presents for Pets" drive, collecting supplies for the SPCA of Northern Nevada. The drive will continue through the end of the year.
- ◆ [November] The Museum participated in Museum Store Sunday, a nationwide initiative through the Museum Store Association. The Museum offered 25% off everything in the museum store.



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UPCOMING

- ◆ The Museum will host the annual Tuba Christmas concert in December. This event is expected to bring in more than 300 people for a free concert of holiday carols, refreshments, and free admission to the collection.
- ◆ The Museum will host the annual Christmas Art Angels workshop. Volunteers from the Sierra Watercolor Society will give painting instruction to children in this free class.