

CEDAR VALLEY
ARBORETUM
& BOTANIC GARDENS

AT HAWKEYE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



ANNUAL REPORT
2016

In 2016, our volunteers put in over 4,200 hours of work!



THANK YOU!

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- | |
|--------------------------------------|
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In 2016...

We had visitors from over 37 states and 7 foreign countries



Our membership increased by 46% from 2015

End of year donations were up by 42%

We were excited to be the location for TEN weddings this year

We welcomed over 13,000 visitors to our gardens

We had many new events including Monarchs & Margaritas and Shakespeare in the Gardens



Thousands of people came to see our new tulip display of over 3,500 tulips

Black Hawk County Gaming Association
Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa
Green Scene of Black Hawk County
Max & Helen Guernsey Charitable Foundation
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In memory of Karen Helms

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In Memory of Ike & Marjorie Leighty

On behalf of the Leighty Fund

In Memory of Jack Wright

Dorothy Wright
Mark Alan Wright

In Memory of Jean Reichert

Craig Smith

Memorials & Tributes

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1923 - 2016

Helen Guernsey
1919 - 2015

Ralph Leymaster
1923 - 2015

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Continued on next page

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Mary Weber
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Thank you so much to anyone who has donated in any way
to the Cedar Valley Arboretum during the past year.
Everything that we do is possible because of you.

We have made every effort to include all supporters as accurately as possible.
If you see an error, please contact our office at 319.226.4966 or
office@cedarvalleyarboretum.org

Have you considered donating to our endowment fund?
Visit cedarvalleyarboretum.org/give to learn more!

Hobbit House & Garden

In 2015, we made the decision to remove the Train Garden from our award-winning Max & Helen Guernsey Children's Garden. We really wanted that part of the garden to be more interactive for its young visitors. Staff and volunteers spent 2015 and part of 2016 brainstorming ideas for how to fill this section of the garden.

One idea was the clear winner. Thus, the dream of the Hobbit House & Garden was born. Thanks to a small group of dedicated, generous volunteers and donors, we were able to install the first part of this project, the Hobbit House, in 2016. The impressive new structure is almost six feet tall at its center and weighs close to 2,000 pounds. Our goal is to finish the surrounding garden, including a winding trail for children to explore, during the spring of 2017.



Volunteers construct the Hobbit House



A Letter From the Director

It's amazing to look back at pictures from a cold, spring day 20 years ago, when volunteers were planting the first trees at the Arboretum, and then take a walk in what is quickly becoming a real forest. The growth and change are incredible.

In 2016, we started a fun, new project for the Children's

Garden (our Hobbit House), planted 57

new trees, created a new buffalo plant sculpture

(mosaiculture), finished planting the new Master Gardeners

Orchard, and created a trail through our new 4-acre

Butterfly Meadow. It's been a busy season!



There are three main reasons why we can grow and continue to offer such a beautiful resource in our community:

1. The incredible work and thousands of hours our volunteers put in every season. We greatly appreciate their help and couldn't do it without them!

2. The income from donations, membership, admission, and foundations. It requires funding to keep the gardens maintained and growing. This money goes not only to special projects but also to everyday expenses like payroll, gas, utilities, plants, and fertilizer!

3. Visitors to the garden! Our primary goal is to help people connect to nature in a multitude of ways. This can be demonstrated by a quiet walk on our Arboretum Loop Trail, a child eating a strawberry right from the plant, or simply learning something new about a tree or plant while in our gardens.



As we enter 2017, the winter fences are in place, and we are well into planning an exciting season!

See you in the gardens!

Rob

