A publication of Greensboro Beautiful, a volunteer organization

2015-16 ANNUAL REPORT

2015-16 YEAR IN REVIEW

Thanks to you and the support of thousands of individuals, businesses and community organizations, our mission to conserve and enhance the beauty and ecology of our community through public and private cooperation continues to be fulfilled through work in three key program areas: Public Gardens, Urban Forestry, and Clean Community.

PUBLIC GARDENS

Groovin' in the Garden

A Celebration of Music at Gateway Gardens was held on May 15th and featured jazz performances on two stages; with a Jam Session for musicians under 18; instrument making using recycled items; food vendors; and food trucks. 2,250 visitors enjoyed a beautiful day in the garden. This event was a collaboration between Greensboro Beautiful, the Greensboro Parks & Recreation Department, with generous support from Bob Krumroy and WFDD Public Radio for the Piedmont.

Parisian Promenade

This popular event was held on June 5th in the Tanger Family Bicentennial Garden. This event featured a Poodle Parade; Musical Entertainment, Sidewalk Cafe, Children's Area, French cooking demonstrations, roaming mime and accordion player, aerial artists, turn of the century children's games at Caldwell Park, and of course, 20 artists lining the sidewalks to showcase their works. These annual events draw thousands of visitors to our gardens on a single Sunday afternoon! And of course, we couldn't present these events if it weren't for our fabulous P&R Botanical Gardens Staff! Garden Event Sponsors included Greensboro Beautiful, the Greensboro Parks & Recreation Department, the Tanger Family Foundation, and 88.5 WFDD Public Radio for the Piedmont.

Gardening Programs

The Environmental Education Series - "Growing the Green Way" continued to be offered at the Extension Service, Bur-Mil Park Wildlife Education Center, the Arboretum Education Center, and the Edwards Branch Library. This program is sponsored by the Greensboro Parks & Recreation Department, Greensboro Beautiful, the NC Cooperative Extension Service in Guilford County, and Master Gardeners volunteers.

Gateway Gardens

At Gateway Gardens, we commissioned and installed a unique "larger than life" Apple Sculpture by Jim Gallucci, which was unveiled in the Michel Family Children's Garden at the "Good Night Moon" Gala in September. We also repaired the Vegetable & Fruit Seats; the Geometric Shaped

Seats; the Carrot Arbor, the Musical Instruments, and installed "weep holes" in the Main Entrance Gates. Greensboro Beautiful established a Public Art Maintenance Fund to help fund future maintenance and repair of artwork in our public gardens. We continue to seek funding to complete the interior of the Visitor Center; and the public will have an opportunity to vote for Bond funding for this project in the upcoming November election.

Bog Garden at Benjamin Park

The Bog Garden continues to be a popular visitor destination; and the resident Barred Owls and other wildlife entertain young and old alike.

Greensboro Arboretum

At the Greensboro Arboretum, we completed planting in the Robin B. Ward Meditation Garden & Groundcover Collection and Hart Chimes area; replaced garden map signs; and completed the Monarch Butterfly Waystation; funded by a generous gift from VF Corporation.

Tanger Family Bicentennial Garden

In the Tanger Family Bicentennial Garden, more plants were added on the Wildflower Trail and Rock Garden. Garden staff established the Lee Britt Leadership Award; and dedicated the re-purposed fountains in September in her honor. The fountains were transformed into a decorative planter for reuse. Becca Pritchard was the 2015 award recipient for her tireless work on the Wildflower Trail for the past several years.

Future Garden Projects

Funding in the amount of \$135,500 has been approved by Greensboro Beautiful to construct the Old Mill and Mill Pond in Bicentennial Garden near Holden Road. The proposed Old Mill is to be an open-air structure reminiscent of an original mill from the early 1800s. In concept, it is an open ceiling, barn-like structure, with a free-standing water wheel that will work from an independent pump and simulate a working wheel. Water will be pumped up the pipe that carries water through the "race" and pours water onto the wheel. The original millstone to be displayed inside is from when David Caldwell operated a small mill on this site. Through the continued efforts of Gary Brown, we have succeeded in bringing one of the two millstones back to Greensboro. It is our hope to be able to get the second one back in the coming years. Construction is expected to be complete by Spring 2017.

URBAN FORESTRY

NeighborWoods Community Tree Planting

In the Urban Forestry area, we continued our Neighbor Woods Community tree plantings. Despite a steady rain, over 100 Greensboro Beautiful volunteers donned gloves and shovels to plant 103 trees in the Cone Mills Community. Trees were planted at Smith Senior Center on Fairview Street; at the Greensboro P&R Department & Greensboro Beautiful Offices on Fourth Street; at the Greensboro Police Department Eastern Division Substation at Maple & Vine Streets; and at Fairview & Water Streets. This year's tree planting was a tremendous success thanks to the support of the City of Greensboro's Planning & Community Development, Field Operations, and Parks & Recreation Departments; and the Guilford County Master Gardeners. This was the 13th year that Greensboro Beautiful's Urban Forestry Committee has planned and implemented the Neighbor Woods program, designed to restore the tree canopy in our community.

Memorial & Honor Tree Program

Greensboro Beautiful's Memorial and Honor Tree Program continues to offer citizens the opportunity to plant a tree to honor and remember special occasions and loved ones. This past year, GBI raised over \$12,000 through the Memorial and Honor tree program.

CLEAN COMMUNITY

Big Sweep

In the Clean Community program area, Big Sweep was held on September 12th as our fall community waterway cleanup. Thanks to the help of our sponsors, Big Sweep Greensboro was a huge success! We exceeded our goal of 1,000 volunteers with a record 1,376 volunteers who signed up to clean up Greensboro, and collected nearly 4 tons of litter and trash from roadsides, creeks, and neighborhoods!

All cleanup volunteers received a t-shirt courtesy of Terry Labonte Chevrolet, tickets to the Carolina Fair courtesy of the Greensboro Coliseum, and Chick-fil-A gift cards courtesy of Chick-fil-A. Volunteers were also treated to great music and pizza at the collection site. Greensboro Beautiful thanks Terry Labonte Chevrolet and Dave Hansing; WFMY-News 2; the Rotary Clubs of Greensboro; the Greensboro Coliseum; Chick-fil-A; and the City of Greensboro for their support.

Winter Wipeout (new in 2016!)

Litter is much more visible during the winter months; which makes it seem like there is so much more - on exit ramps, at intersections, in ditches, along railroads, around shopping centers, in creeks and streams, and all along wooded areas. This past January, Greensboro Beautiful conducted its Community Appearance Index and compiled a list of "Litter Hot Spots" that needed to be cleaned up. During the three-week period from February 15th – March 5th, over 250 volunteers participated in our first Winter Wipeout, collecting more than 100 bags of trash littering our community.

Great American Cleanup

Thanks to the help of nearly 500 volunteers, more than 1.5 tons of debris and litter were removed from our community's neighborhoods, roadsides, and streams on Saturday, April 9! The spring cleanup was sponsored by the Greensboro Regional Realtors' Association with support from the Greensboro Field Operations Department.

FINANCES & FUNDRAISING

We ended our 2015-16 fiscal year raising over \$141,691 for our Annual Operating Budget.

As of July 31st, the Garden and Gateways Fund balance stood at \$335,355 and is designated for Gateway Gardens, the Greensboro Arboretum, Bog Garden, the Old Mill at Bicentennial Garden, the Tree Fund, the 2016 "Good Night Moon" Gala, and other public garden enhancements.

As of June 30th, the Greensboro Beautiful Endowment Fund stood at \$288,707; with \$14,128 in the GBI Matching Endowment Fund. The GBI Public Gardens Endowment Fund reflected a balance of \$920,900. To date, Greensboro Beautiful has raised over \$1.2 million in Endowment Funds!!! These endowment funds are held by the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro.

Forever Green Society

We continue to seek new members of the "Forever Green Society" – GBI's planned giving program; which allows individuals to include GBI in their estate plans and provide long-term funding for our organization. We'd like to recognize and thank our charter members:

- -Robert N. Capen -Elaine & Nelson Stover
- -Bob Krumroy -Doris & Stanley Tanger -Horst & Judy Stierand -An Anonymous Donor

"Good Night Moon" Gala & Silent Auction

Greensboro Beautiful's first annual "Good Night Moon" Gala & Silent Auction was held on Saturday evening, September 19th. And was it a grand event! With an extensive selection of food and beverages; live music by two bands, aerial artists, moon and star gazing, and an impressive Silent Auction with over 100 items up for bid; a great time was had by all! We unveiled the new Apple Sculpture by Jim Gallucci in the Children's Garden, and raised \$20,000 for this new public art piece.

Holiday Greenery Festival

Last year, our annual Holiday Greenery Festival was held on Sunday, November 23rd from Noon to 5pm at Lewis Recreation Center just off Battleground Avenue. We offered wreaths, roping, and poinsettias for sale. The event also featured local vendors selling their holiday art and fine crafts; a Children's Art Activity area; live Harp & Guitar music in the lobby throughout the afternoon; and "Wreath Valets" (high school and college student volunteers) who assisted customers with getting products to their cars. This fundraiser netted over \$11,500, with a record 442 Mobile Meals recipients receiving a wreath and a bow for the holidays, thanks to our Circle of Caring donors. The Circle of Caring program is supported by private donations and a grant received through the Duke Energy Retirees. We donated unclaimed/unsold wreaths to Hospice; the Women's Resource Center; and Higher Ground.

MARKETING

Our Marketing initiatives provide ongoing program and organization support and exposure. We provided promotional kiosks and a GBI tent at public events and continued to produce our newsletter, "The Seed". We continued to maintain and update our website; distributed regular email blasts; and maintained our social media sites, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Our Speaker's Bureau conducted programs for a number of civic organizations and we offered Garden Tours to numerous groups and clubs from all over the state. We hope you'll visit us regularly at GreensboroBeautiful.org to see what's new and upcoming.

Business Landscape Awards

A Business Landscape Award was given to The Animal Medical Centre of Greensboro on Spring Garden Street. The judging committee has revised the program to offer the award only as properties warrant recognition, rather than monthly.

VOLUNTEERS

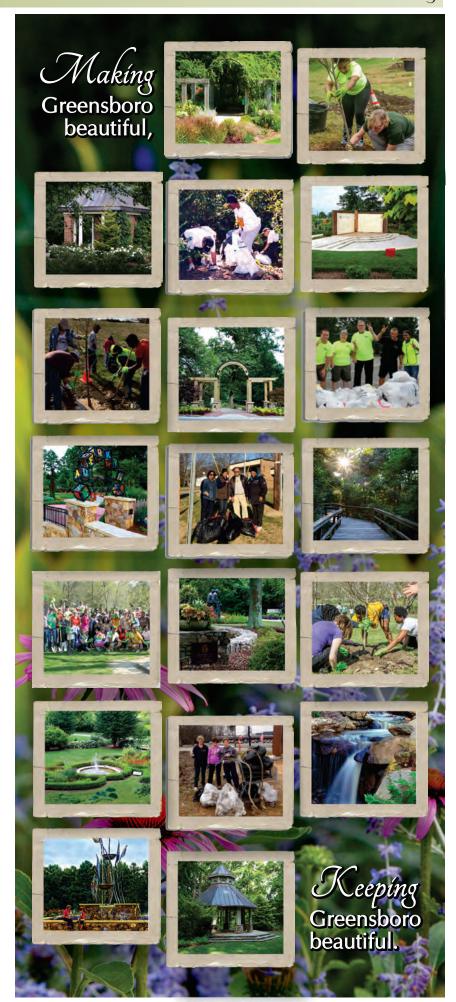
Volunteers & Partnerships! The Key To Our Success For Over 48 Years! Last year, 3,639 volunteers gave 11,013 hours of service to the community through Greensboro Beautiful projects and programs. That's a value of over \$259,466. What a gift to our community!!!

LOOKING FORWARD

In the coming year, we are looking forward to

- Garden Events for the entire community
- 2016 NeighborWoods Community Tree Planting & Arbor Day Celebration
- Fall, Winter, & Spring Litter Cleanups
- "Good Night Moon" Gala & Silent Auction in September
- The 34th Annual Holiday Greenery Festival
- Completion of the Old Mill at Bicentennial Garden
- And continued enhancements in all of our public gardens

YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS AND VOLUNTEER SUPPORT HAS MADE A REAL IMPACT TO HELP CONSERVE AND ENHANCE OUR COMMUNITY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS....



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS!

Greensboro Beautiful thanks the following businesses, foundations, individuals, and community organizations for their gifts for the 2015-16 fiscal year. List reflects gifts received between August 1, 2015 and July 31, 2016.

*Includes in-kind gifts and services.

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Tanger Family Foundation 2016 Parisian Promenade

\$5,000-\$9,999

Duke Energy Foundation / Greensboro Retiree Chapter 2015 Circle of Caring

\$2,500-\$4,999

First Citizens Bank 2016 "Good Night Moon" Gala

\$1,000-\$2,499

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Jonathan D. Bell 2016 "Good Night Moon" Gala

Greensboro Regional Realtors Association 2016 Great American Cleanup

Stearns Financial Group 2016 "Good Night Moon" Gala

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Margaret & Bill Benjamin 2016 "Good Night Moon" Gala

Susan Brewer 2015 Circle of Caring in honor of Greensboro Beautiful volunteers

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Tar Heel Garden Club

GATEWAY GARDENS BENCH GIFTS

Connie Leonard & Eliza Harmon

PAVER GIFTS

Gate City Council of Garden Clubs

LaDonna Gore-Tisdale in honor of Beta Iota Omega AKA Sorority Gateway Gardens Pavers, continued
Carolyn Allen, Alexa Aycock, Sylvia Bray, Susan Brewer, Louise Britt, Lee & Bill Britt, Kathleen Gleason, Mebane Ham, Deb DeGol & Bob Krumroy, Peg & Skip Moore, Russ & Jean Moxley, Betty Potter, Becca & Graham Pritchard, Tom & Emilie Sandin, Tennie Skladanowski,

Dan Smith, Elaine & Nelson

Stover, Roger & Cilie Sutton,

Brenda Valle in honor of Lynne Leonard