
THE LYNN R. LOWREY ARBORETUM

of Rice University

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2007

Arboretum Project Highlights:

Main Street Project Completion

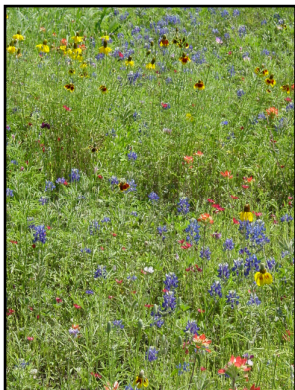
Just before the new year, the Arboretum's Main Street Project was completed. This experiment is to help us identify possibilities for rejuvenation of the famous Rice hedges. The Main Street Project can be found between entrances 2 and 3. It is most accessible via the outer loop trail.



Plants used in the landscaping include three species of ginger, two species of ferns, and two species of virburnums. More photos of the site can be found online at www.arboretum.rice.edu

Wildflowers Blossom

The spring bloom of wildflowers has been spectacular. Species include: Texas Paintbrush (*Castilleja indivisa*), Scarlet Flax (*Linum pubrum*), Gay Feather (*Liatris pycnostachya*), Cosmos (*Comos bipinnatus*), Texas Bluebonnet (*Lupinus texensis*), Tickseed (*Coreopsis lanceolata*), and Indian Blanket (*Gaillardia pulchella*). Thanks to the student volunteers and staff that made this a success.



Arboretum Events:

Wiess College Grove Dedication

On March 22nd, an ice cream social was held on a lovely Spring afternoon to celebrate the dedication of our first big project, the Wiess College Grove. Distinguished guests included President and Mrs. Leebron, along with several members of the Board of Trustees. A bench was installed so that visitors and students alike could enjoy the collection of native Texas plants. A commemorative plaque on the bench expresses the deep gratitude for the many contributions of Margaret Wiess Elkins and James Anderson Elkins. Photos from the event can also be found on our website.



Arbor Day Celebration: February 9th, 2007

In February, the Houston Federation of Garden Clubs came to the Rice campus to celebrate Arbor Day. Members were given a tour of the recently constructed research greenhouses by Professor Evan Siemann. We are grateful for their Arbor Day gift of a southern sugar maple (*Acer barbatum*) of known provenance (seed collected near Woodville, TX), which makes it an especially valuable addition to our maple collection.

Our Mission

Arboretum Project Updates:

Botany Garden

Plant labels have been ordered for the Botany Garden. Information on the labels will include the common name, latin name, phylum, family, and native range of each plant labeled. Keep an eye out for them at the end of the Spring season.



The mission of the arboretum is to enhance the beauty of the campus landscape while making it ever more useful for learning. Funding opportunities exist for projects of all sizes. Donations and suggestions are always welcomed.

The Lynn R. Lowrey Arboretum is a teaching and research resource of Rice University. An outdoor classroom spanning the Rice campus, it serves programs from biology to engineering to architecture to literature to interdisciplinary studies on the environment. Dedicated on March 18, 1999, the Arboretum honors the distinguished horticulturist whose life and work were devoted to spreading knowledge and appreciation for the trees and plants of the Gulf Coast of the United States and northern Mexico. The Lowrey Arboretum Collection is a set of woody plants that represents native and introduced species suitable to the soils and climate of the Houston area. At present, the Arboretum collection numbers 84 specimens, representing 76 species catalogued on the Rice grounds. Across campus, some 4,605 trees and shrubs have been recorded representing 128 different species.

Liddell Garden

Development of the Liddell Garden has actively continued with the installation of four benches. Architecture student Sarah Simpson's birdbath sculpture vision is soon to become a reality, along with a special gate to welcome visitors into the garden.



Friends of the Lowrey Arboretum (GM20)

The Lowrey Arboretum impacts the lives of Rice students, visitors to our campus, and the beauty of our Rice neighborhood. Gifts to the Lowrey Arboretum Fund help to expand our role as a resource for Rice and the city of Houston. With your financial support we can facilitate research and educational opportunities, catalog and document the growth of our trees, increase the size of the arboretum collection and positively influence air quality.

Yes, I would like to support the Lowrey Arboretum with a gift of
___\$1,000 ___\$500 ___\$250 ___\$100 \$____.Other

Yes, I would like to support the Lowrey Arboretum with a pledge of \$
_____ to be paid within five years (*minimum \$2,500*).

(Please print)

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State ZIP _____

Mail to: Lowrey Arboretum
P.O. Box 200175
Houston, TX 77216-0175

Or make a gift online at
<http://giving.rice.edu>

Payment is by: Check (*payable to Rice University*)

Credit card: MasterCard VISA American Express

Amount to be charged: \$ _____ (minimum \$10)

(name as it appears on credit card)

Account number

Expiration Date

Billing Address (if different from address on left)

Signature: _____