



Bessie Spaur Butterfly Garden

On the south lawn of
Knoxville Hospital & Clinics
Hwy. 14 South, Knoxville, IA

Founded in 1994 by Ron Hueelse, the late Dwight Visser and Karen Balmer, Jill Dickerson, Connie Bailey and Kathy Dugger, what is now known as the *Bessie Spaur Butterfly Garden* began as 52 plots spaced alongside a single waterway just south of the Knoxville Area Community Hospital. Caretakers for each plot plan, plant and care for flowers designated as "butterfly friendly." Local Master Gardeners were instrumental in guiding the developers, directors and plot sponsors.

During this time, Bessie Spaur, a Long Term Care resident at KH&C, was celebrating her 100th birthday. She so enjoyed the butterfly garden that she contacted the butterfly group and then asked her friends and family to donate to the new garden in honor of her birthday.

When Bessie passed away at 101 years old, her family dedicated the memorial money to the butterfly garden. It was then that the garden was named the *Bessie Spaur Butterfly Garden* and a plaque and stone were placed in the arbor area in her honor.

When the Knoxville Federated Garden Club was established in 1998, the new club voted to sponsor the butterfly garden and the continued development of the area. In 2001, Bessie's *Garden Path* was constructed making the garden more accessible. The club continued the development with the addition of a beautiful bridge and gazebo in 2002. Many visitors come to enjoy the flowers that adorn the garden including KHC patients, family, friends, visiting garden clubs, local residents and, of course . . . the butterflies! 🦋



GARDEN GALA

2023

APRIL 1TH

@

DYER HUDSON HALL
Marion Co. Fairgrounds

HWY #14

KNOXVILLE, IA

Knoxville Federated Garden Club
Box 645
Knoxville, IA 50138

Schedule

April 1, 2023

8:30-9:00 Registration, Coffee, Shopping

9:00-9:15 Welcome Lois Davis
President KFGC

9:15-10:15 Derek McKay
"Creating a Fragrant Garden"

10:15-10:45 Shopping Break

10:45-11:45 Marla Mertz
"Unexpected Good Luck"

11:45-12:00 "Announcements"

12:00-1:15 Lunch & Shopping

1:15-2:00 Dr. Russ Benedict
"Bats"

2:00-2:30 Door Prizes
must be present to win

2:30-3:30 SHOP VENDOR BOOTHS
Plants and Assorted Garden Paraphernalia

For more information please contact:
Lois Davis

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Mary Dee Dykstra

641-660-6562

mdtyk43@gmail.com

2023 Garden Gala Speakers

Derek McKay grew up in the wooded hills of Northern Wisconsin. He graduated with honors from the University Center Rochester, MN in 2013. He has a passion for native plants and dinosaurs and bringing prehistoric plants to the prairie. He has been a professional horticulturist at the Ted Late Garden Center for the past 9 years.

Marla Mertz's career began in Conservation as secretary for Warren County Conservation Board in 1981, attended Simpson College and became the Naturalist for Marion County in 1995. Marla works with numerous ecosystems in the Lake Red Rock area.

Dr. Russ Benedict has studied bats for over 30 years, has published several articles in the scientific literature on bats and has given many talks to the public and other researchers. Dr. Benedict earned Bachelor's & Master's degrees from the University of Nebraska Omaha & Ph.D. from University of Nebraska Lincoln. He has been professor at Central College, Pella, Ia. for 21 years, also conducts research on prairie conservation and ecology.

Join us on Face book: Knoxville Federated Garden Club

REGISTRATION

We are unable to accept late registrations or walk-ins
Please return no later than March 24, 2023

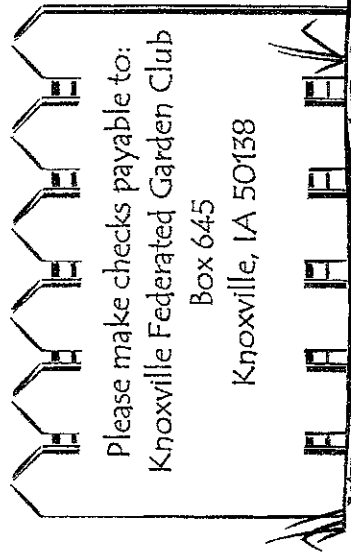
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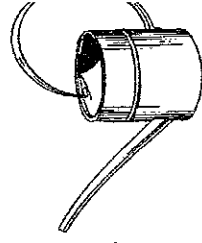
Garden Gala Registration Fee - \$40.00
non-refundable, lunch included



Continuing Education hours granted for
Master Gardeners.

Proceeds go to

Knoxville Federated Garden
Club to support community
projects.



Save the Date-Garden Gala April 6, 2024