

Dyck Arboretum of the Plains

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

VISIONS & LEGACIES

By Janelle Flory Schrock, Office Manager

"The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit."
- Nelson Henderson

At what point does someone's vision or dream for the future become their legacy? Is it when that person is no longer living? Is it when certain milestones or goals are reached? Does it happen slowly, over time, with each acorn or seed that is sown, or with each adult or child who learns something new? Is it when the vision is passed on, capturing the imagination of a new generation?

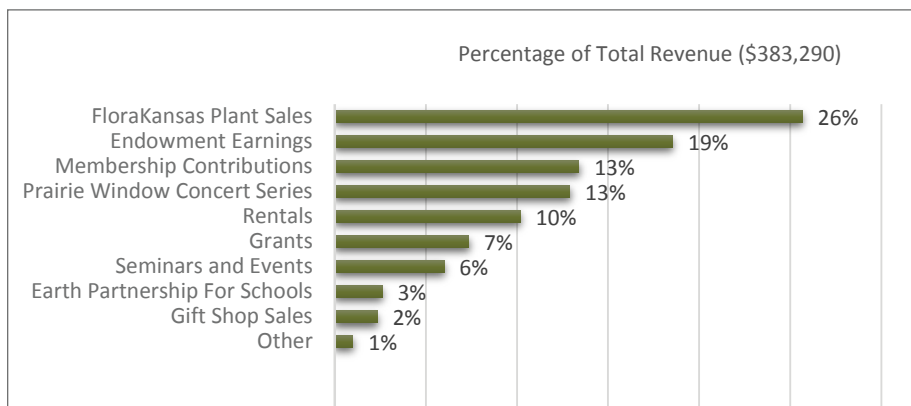
When Evie and Harold Dyck first shared their idea of an arboretum in Hesston with their family, friends and community members, they only had a vision and an empty piece of land with which to inspire others to join them. But they planted that first bur oak tree, and the vision began to grow.

That tree is now on the eastern edge of our parking lot. It is easy to miss, but for the many acorns it drops on the pavement in autumn. Many will not notice it, nor the small plaque at its base that reads "Bur oak, *Quercus macrocarpa*. The first tree planted in the Arboretum, October 10, 1981." It is only one of many trees, shrubs, wildflowers and grasses that have since been planted here, all playing a part in creating a living, breathing, dynamic landscape.

In the median of the parking lot, there now also grows a small "Leopold" black oak sapling - planted this fall on the 35th birthday of the Arboretum - the shade under which our children and grandchildren may take refuge. It is a reminder that our work isn't done yet. It begins a new legacy for us.

We hope you will join us this year in sharing the vision of the Dyck family and in building on the ever-growing legacy of the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains.

OVERVIEW OF REVENUE 2015-16



BY THE NUMBERS

So much has happened at Dyck Arboretum over the past twelve months! Here are some of the accomplishments you helped us achieve!



150
VOLUNTEERS

17,257
NATIVE
PLANTS
SOLD

23
WEDDINGS



33
TEACHERS
AT EPS



694
MEMBERS

2,390
CONCERT
GOERS



2,200
VOLUNTEER
HOURS



10 NEW
EDUCATIONAL
SIGNS



A PARTNERSHIP AND A LEGACY

By Scott Vogt, Executive Director

"Whoa, these roots go as deep as a basketball goal!"

"I didn't know these plants could be medicines...I'd rather eat seeds than swallow pills."

"You mean buffalo and cows and grasshoppers really eat these things?"

These are all observations overheard from children as they planted wildflowers at their schools as part of the Earth Partnership for Schools program. This program is more than fun for these schoolchildren, it is having a profound impact on the way they view and interact with the natural world. These children may become advocates, protectors, and stewards of the prairie.

The Arboretum continues to make its mark in Kansas. Our mission has never been more important. With your gifts, we will continue to develop a community that understands, values, and protects the Kansas landscape.

When you give a gift to the Arboretum, you are planting a seed that is "growing Kansas leaders." Your support of the Arboretum is a partnership not just for today, but for your future, our future, THEIR future.

Whether through membership, a gift-in-kind, donation to a program, planned giving, volunteering, a memorial gift, and/or sponsorship, you are leaving a legacy.

By becoming a contributing member, you not only get to experience the Arboretum for yourself, but you invest in its growth, for the joy and enlightenment of others.

Please consider continued support of the Arboretum this year. Your gifts are truly making a difference.

You can think of the Arboretum...

...as a literal link to your roots

...as your personal landscape consultant

...as a day-trip getaway

...as an outdoor classroom for your children or grandchildren

...as your own nature walk

...as your year-round lawn and garden show

...as an advanced course in ecology

...as a seasonal showplace to bring family and friends

...as a gift to your descendants

Thank you for your connection to the Arboretum. We greatly appreciate your support.

Help Us Celebrate 35 Years with a Year End Gift

___ \$35 (35 years x \$1) ___ \$70 (35 years x \$2)

___ \$105 (35 years x \$3) ___ \$350 (35 years x \$10)

___ \$700 (35 years x \$20) ___ \$1,225 (35 years x \$35)

___ \$ ___ Other Amount

Please mark this box and return to the Arboretum with your gift, or donate online at dyckarboretum.org/giving-opportunities

Make checks payable to:

Dyck Arboretum of the Plains

PO Box 3000

Hesston, KS 67062.

On behalf of our board and staff, we thank you for your continued support!

