

# Woodcrest Villa Flower Factory, Nature Trail & Arboretum

<http://rhodyman.net/WCV>

January 2021 Newsletter

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## Even While Dormant, the Root Systems are Growing and Developing



Now, in winter, while the 7 honor/memory trees in the Woodcrest Arboretum remain dormant, the root-systems are in what is called “winter quiescence.” When the root-systems are above freezing the roots grow in search of water and nutrients in advance of

spring bud break. Meanwhile, the above ground part of the tree remains dormant. The arboretum committee is monitoring rainfall and will water the trees when necessary. Root development during winter is very important to these young trees.

### Arboretum Dedication May 1

A Dedication Ceremony will be held May 1, 2021, to dedicate the Arboretum and Honor/Memory trees. We will announce details. We hope that those with trees & those involved in the arboretum will attend. We planted 2 trees in November of 2019, 2 trees in October of 2020, 3 trees in November of 2020, and will plant more trees in April of 2021.

Those wishing to make a donation for the Arboretum and Nature Trail may mail a check to:

**Dennis Good,  
Woodcrest Villa Trail Board  
216 Vinca Place,  
Lancaster, PA 17601**

Editor: Steve Henning: [acer103@earthlink.net](mailto:acer103@earthlink.net)

### Thanks for the donations & volunteers

Thanks to the many residents, families, & staff who contributed to the projects carried out in 2020. These projects included the planting of 5 honor/memorial trees; improving the trail including planting grass & spreading wood chips; extending the nature trail to Pheasant Pointe; removing invasive plants & debris in the arboretum; raising flowers to make into arrangements to sell to raise funds for the MHC Benevolent Care Fund; installing tree identification signs; purchasing Lew’s equipment storage shed; creating Meadowlark Victory-Over-COVID Garden; planting 200 flowering shrubs & small trees & 100 Daffodil bulbs; Lew & Gloria’s plaque dedicating the trail; & other supplies as needed. Thanks to those that donated for the purchase of plants & materials. Thanks to Woodcrest for always being there to help when needed & providing encouragement. Special thanks to those that volunteer to maintain the trail; clear brush in the arboretum; plant trees, shrubs & bulbs; make sure the honor/memorial trees get watered when necessary; and raise flowers & arrange them.

# **Fun Facts**

## **Nature Trail Fun Facts**

1. The Nature Trail was started in 2013 by Lew Kauffman shortly after moving to WCV.
2. The Nature Trail extension to Pheasant Pointe was completed in 2020.
3. The Nature Trail is a half-mile long extending from the Dog Park to Pheasant Pointe.
4. A small crew of residents maintains the trail with the help of donations from residents.
5. The Woodcrest Facilities Department helps when necessary and installed the bridge and signs.
6. The Nature Trail was featured in the Summer 2017 Soaring Magazine.

## **Flower Factory Fun Facts**

1. Jerry Lawrence started flower seed in the greenhouse when it opened in the winter of 2018-2019.
2. In spring Jerry transplanted them into outdoor beds and tended them, thus began the Flower Factory.
3. Each Friday in season, Jerry brings in buckets of cut flowers for volunteers to arrange into bouquets.
4. These are displayed in the Welcome Center and also sold to benefit the Benevolent Care Fund.
5. Jerry starts seed in the greenhouse, and raises multiple beds of annuals, perennials, and dahlias.
6. If you enjoy raising flowers, Jerry could use some help. Call Jerry Lawrence at 717-381-5400.

## **Arboretum Fun Facts**

1. The Arboretum was started in 2019 by Jerry Lawrence with the planting of two trees.
2. It was created after a resident wanted a tree planted in memory of a loved one.
3. Now anyone can have a tree planted in honor or memory of a resident or staff member.
4. Among the 7 trees is one planted in honor of Woodcrest & Mennonite Home's Healthcare Heroes.
5. 35 residents, family members, & staff helped plant 200 flowering shrubs and small trees, & 100 bulbs.
6. The Woodcrest Facilities Department oversees the varieties and placement of the trees.
7. The Arboretum was featured in the Winter 2020 Soaring Magazine.

## **Dawn Redwood Tree in the Arboretum Fun Facts**

1. Dawn Redwood trees were found in fossils 100 million years old.
2. Dawn Redwoods were in North America with fossil evidence in North Dakota.
3. Dawn Redwood trees were common when dinosaurs roamed the earth.
4. Dawn Redwood trees were thought to be extinct until they were found in China in 1944.

## **Franklin Tree in the Arboretum Fun Facts**

1. Franklin trees were discovered in 1765 in an isolated area in the state of Georgia.
2. After John Bartram collected seed in 1773, they have never been found again in the wild.
3. All Franklin trees today descend from seed collected by Philadelphia botanist Bartram.
4. The Fall-blooming Franklin tree was named after John Bartram's friend, Ben Franklin.

## **Ginkgo Tree in the Arboretum Fun Facts**

1. Living Ginkgo trees were found in China in 1691 and are used in some medicines.
2. The Ginkgo tree is a living fossil with some Ginkgo fossils being 270 million years old.
3. Ginkgo trees were common before dinosaurs roamed the earth, even in North America.
4. Our Ginkgo tree is male. Female Ginkgo trees produce a smelly fruit.

## **Other Trees in the Arboretum Fun Facts**

1. Apple Serviceberry is the first tree to bloom and attracts approximately 30 bird species.
2. Flowering Crabapple has spring flowers and the leaves turn bright orange in the Fall.
3. Kousa Dogwood blooms after the leaves come out and its fruit attracts birds.
4. Red Maple attracts 300 species of butterflies, then the leaves turn bright red in the Fall.
5. If you would like an honor or memory tree, contact Jerry Lawrence at 717-381-5400.