

Woodcrest Villa Flower Factory, Nature Trail & Arboretum

<http://rhodyman.net/WCV>

May 2021 Newsletter

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Woodcrest Villa Arboretum is Dedicated To Those Remembered with Trees

110 Attend WCV Arboretum Dedication on May 1st, 2021



Arboretum Commitments

... reflect God's light in the world.

... reflect God's peace.

... cherish and enjoy as a sanctuary of beauty.

... be a place of reflection.

... be a place of joy.

... remind us of God's provision.

... be a loving tribute to the men and women honored there.

... be a place of rest.

... remind us of God's glory.

[Written by Dan Mortensen for the Dedication of the Woodcrest Villa Arboretum on May 1, 2021.]



Watch Video of Arboretum Dedication

A video of the Ceremony is on YouTube at:

<https://youtu.be/Tyugb3h2BY4>

Also a video featuring the journey in creating the Arboretum is available on Youtube at:

<https://youtu.be/FaQoLd6FTAQ>

The ceremony began when *The West End Ramblers* kicked off the event with their music. They feature our own neighbor Steve Patterson. This was followed by Jerry Lawrence's introduction of the Arboretum committee and his telling the story of how the arboretum came to be. Then the dedication was conducted by MHC Vice President, Dan Mortensen, who was

key in working with Jerry and the committee to create the arboretum a year and a half ago. Dan recognized those honored and remembered by the honor trees and their friends and families.

Dan recognized Jerry for being nominated for the Leading Age Volunteer of the Year award. Dan surprised Jerry by revealing that Jerry's friends and family honored him by planting a Royal Raindrops flowering crabapple, his favorite tree, in the arboretum. Then Dan led everyone in the responsive Arboretum commitments listed on the front page.

Following the ceremony, people enjoyed more music, refreshments, and visited the arboretum.

Jerry Lawrence - Volunteer of the Year

- *Significant volunteer service hours within a member community*
- *Extraordinary dedication to promoting the dignity, well-being and independence of community members*
- *Impact and level of service that inspires a positive community environment*

These are the qualifications for the Leading Age Volunteer of the Year Award. MHC Nominated Jerry Lawrence for this national award. Jerry along with 6 resident volunteers have created the Flower Factory of Woodcrest Villa. Jerry started this effort when he moved to WCV. They spend about 1,700 hours raising the flowers and making bouquets. The bouquets not only adorn the public areas, but also are available to residents to purchase. These sales have

raised over \$1,000 for benevolent care.

You can see Jerry in the garden early in the morning throughout the summer months to beat the heat to prune, water and care for the rows upon rows of blooms.

When the flowers are ready, Jerry gathers up the buds and hands them off to the talented Flower Factory ladies who get busy creating fascinating

bouquets. They just love the time they spend together (even with masks) and enjoy knowing that the hours they spend thoughtfully arranging the flowers will bring joy to residents in a multiple of ways – through the display of the flowers and the funds raised for residents in need of benevolent care.

Besides Jerry, the Flower Factory volunteers include Shirley Harms, Esther Murphy, P J Esbenshade, Nancy Landis, and Esther Suh.

