

# CLASS SCHEDULE

## January through June 2010

Classes are held in the EEVC building at the Arboretum, 1/2 mile west of 179th & US Hwy. 69 in Johnson County, KS. Proceeds go to support FOTA. There is a 10% discount on class fees for FOTA members. Cash or checks only. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.** To confirm reservations contact Phyllis Merrick at 913-685-3604 or at [volunteercoordinator@opkansas.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@opkansas.org)

### January

**Learn To Play the Native American Flute**  
**Saturday, January 9**  
**10 am to 12:00 pm**  
**\$25.00 per person**

The Native American flute is a very inventive, simplistic and often meditative sound. Because it is so easy to play—much easier than traditional Western instruments such as guitars, French horns, clarinets, pianos and silver flutes—it lends itself easily as a meditative tool. Many people find it earthy and grounding. Others find it transporting and ethereal. The beautiful haunting sound is great for facilitating an inward experience. In this experimental workshop, you will learn the basics of the native scale and how to create native style music from the heart. Everyone will have a flute to play with a plastic tube (for sanitary reasons). This class is facilitated by a music therapist and is very non-threatening. No prior musical training needed! Many have taken this class who thought they have no musical talent and have left joyful at having discovered their inner musician! We will also cover some of the therapeutic aspects of this wonderful instrument.

**New Volunteer Orientation**  
**Saturday, January 16**  
**9:00 am to 11:00 am FREE**  
 Consider spending part of your leisure time volunteering at Overland Park's 300-acre Arboretum and Botanical Gardens. This hidden jewel at 179th and Antioch is a great place for people to get back in touch with nature, admire the

beauty of numerous flower and water gardens, and become part of a wonderful volunteer experience. You can find out about volunteer opportunities such as gardening, greeting, prairie restoration, greenhouse operations, weddings, photography, birds, special events and plant sales. Join our volunteer team on January 16, or if you can't make it in January, attend the session on February 20. Your requirement is 30 volunteer hours per year.

**Annual Flowers for Your Gardens: What has worked for us, what has not!**

**Wednesday, January 20**  
**10:00 am to 11:30 am**  
**\$10.00 per person**

Join OPABG Supervisor Karen Kerkhoff as she discusses annual flowers for our area and how our challenging climate and soils affect the success of your garden. Learn which species and varieties work for us and which we have been challenged by. We'll also provide a heads-up on what we will be trying for 2010.



**Enhancing Our Local Bluebird Population**  
**Saturday, January 30**  
**10:00 am to 11:30 am**  
**\$10.00 per person**

Milt Noelken will talk about recent efforts to attract bluebirds to the Arboretum during the past three years. This program will cover the installation of 27 nest boxes designed especially for bluebirds with guards to prevent several kinds of predators from invading the nests, as well as the OPABG bluebird monitoring program. Hugh McCreery and Bob Buehler will discuss the building and designing of bluebird houses. This year's bluebird program produced 30 nests, 70 hatches, and 69 fledged bluebirds—amazing results.

### February

**Gardens in Flight**  
**Wednesday, February 10**  
**1:00 pm to 2:30 pm**  
**\$10.00 per person**

Doc and Diane Gover, owners of two Wild Birds Unlimited nature shops, will discuss the importance of continuing to feed songbirds in the spring. They will also discuss problem solving solutions, including raccoon, squirrel and grackle avoidance, and clean feeding alternatives. Diane and Doc will suggest various natural habitat, feeding stations, and nest boxes for attracting various birds to your yard and various food choices for specific birds and predator solutions. There will be time for questions during the class. Handouts provided. Join us for this wonderful and informative class.

**Monet Gardening Kansas Style**  
**Wednesday, February 17**  
**10:00 am to 11:30 am**  
**\$10.00 per person**

Claude Monet, the famous French impressionist artist, was also a masterful gardener. He planted his garden to paint, and painted what he planted. The Monet Garden at the Arboretum is a one-acre replica of the Monet Garden in Giverny, France, done in the Kansas style of gardening. Learn about the hundreds of bulbs, perennials, annuals, trees, shrubs and wildflowers featured in the Arboretum's Monet garden. Hear about adapting the Monet concepts of plants, themes and colors to thrive in a Kansas growing environment. With tips from one of the Master Gardeners who help create and maintain this wonderfully colorful garden, think about designing your own personal Monet garden. Susan Berlinski, a Johnson County Extension Master Gardener and staff person at the Arboretum, is our own Monet specialist hosting this in-depth class.

**New Volunteer Orientation**  
**Saturday, February 20**  
**9:00 am to 11:00 am FREE**  
 See January 16 listing

**Learn to Play the Native American Flute**

**Saturday, February 27**  
**10:00 am to 12:00 noon**  
**\$25.00 per person**  
 See January 9 listing

### March

**Let's Talk Herbs & Herb Gardening**  
**Wednesday, March 3**  
**10:00 am to 1:00 pm**  
**\$20.00 per person**

You will learn about herbs—how to identify them, how to use them, and where to plant them. Class will include theory, practical use, folklore and science, plus herbal refreshments, recipes and handouts of the topics covered. Come be inspired by Lenora's warmth, knowledge and humor.

*More herb information can be found at end of listings.\**

**Learn, Listen & Identify the Birds**  
**Saturday, March 27**  
**7:00 am - 9:00 am FREE**  
**but limited to 10 adults**

*More bird walk information can be found at end of listings.\**

### April

**Tree Care 101**  
**Wednesday, April 7**  
**10:00 am to 12:00 pm**  
**\$10.00 per person**

We know trees provide us with oxygen, store carbon dioxide, shade our homes, and reduce storm water runoff. So why aren't we all planting trees? If only it were that easy! With our urban conditions, planting a tree and seeing it reach maturity is a rare thing. In this session OP City Forester Sarah Patterson will cover general topics such as species selection, planting and pruning to ensure you are providing all that you can for your new investment.

**Basic Landscape Photography**  
**Saturday, April 10**  
**10:00 am to 11:30 am**  
**\$10.00 per person**

If you've ever wanted to know how to take your landscape and scenic photographs to the next level, this is the class for you. When you are finished with

your class you can move outside to the gardens and test your newly acquired knowledge. Instruction will be done by members of the Photo Committee at the Arboretum.

**Hands on Flower Photography**  
**Saturday, April 17**  
**9:00 am to 12:00 noon**  
**\$20.00 per person**  
**Enrollment limited to 8 for each session.**

Want to improve your camera skills shooting beautiful flowers or floral scenes, as well as enjoy the beauty of the Arboretum? We are holding these classes during each season, since the Arboretum has beautiful and different photo opportunities throughout the year. Each season's session will focus on hands-on photography instruction by members of the Arboretum's Photography Committee. There will be plenty of chances to ask questions with both group and individual instruction. Bring your camera (film or digital—and camera manual), lenses, tripod, memory cards, spare batteries and knee-pads (if desired). This class will primarily be outside, so dress for the weather.

**Woodland Wildflower Walk**  
**Friday, April 23**  
**9:00 am to 11:00 am FREE**  
**SPACE LIMITED**

Join our two experts as they take you on a walk through the woodlands at the Arboretum to see the vast selection of native wildflowers in bloom. Ken O'Dell specializes in growing native woodland wildflowers and prairie plants. Lynda Ochs has taught at JCCC, developing courses such as Environmental Science & Natural History of Kansas. Please wear sturdy shoes as you will be walking on wood-chipped trails that can be uneven and sometimes slippery, depending on weather. Don't miss out on this wonderful experience.

**Learn, Listen & Identify the Birds**  
**Saturday, April 24**  
**7:00 am - 9:00 am FREE**  
**but limited to 10 adults**  
*More bird walk information can be found at end of listings.\**

**Woodland Wildflower Class & Wildflower Walk**  
**Saturday, April 24**  
**9:00 am to 12:00 noon**

**\$10.00 per person**  
Beginning in the classroom you will learn how to identify the varieties of native woodland wildflowers we have in this area. You will then take a two-hour woodland wildflower walk with our two native plant specialists to see our vast selection of native woodland wildflowers in bloom. Please wear sturdy shoes as you will be walking on wood-chipped trails that can be uneven and sometimes slippery, depending on weather.

**Woodland Wildflower Walk**  
**Tuesday, April 27**  
**9:00 am to 11:00 pm FREE**  
**SPACE LIMITED**  
*See April 23 listing*

**Aromatherapy: The Fragrance of Calm, Beauty, and Health**  
**Wednesday, April 28**  
**10:00 am to 1:00 pm**  
**\$20.00 per person**  
What is Aromatherapy? This class will cover what it is and the basics of using scent for balance. Don't miss this extraordinary topic. Come be inspired by the warmth, knowledge and humor of instructor Lenora Wuattoux-Ray. Class will include herbal refreshments, recipes and handouts of the topics covered.  
*More herb information can be found at end of listings.\**

## May

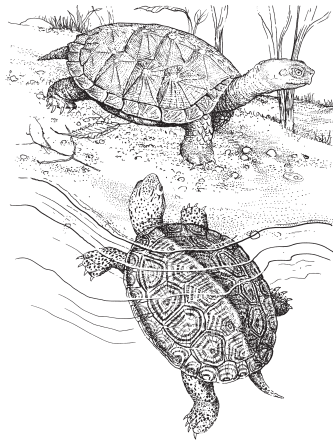
**Herbs with Lenora at the Spring Plant Sale**  
**Friday, May 7 & Saturday, May 8**  
**12:30 pm to 1:30 pm FREE**  
Learn with Lenora Wuattoux-Ray as she talks about and demonstrates herbs during the Spring Plant Sale under the big tent. You won't want to miss this demonstration—and then you can purchase your herbs at the plant sale.  
*More herb information can be found at end of listings.\**

**Learn, Listen & Identify the Birds**  
**Saturday, May 22**  
**7:00 am - 9:00 am FREE**  
**but limited to 10 adults**  
*More bird walk information can be found at end of listings.\**

## June

**Good Food is a Blessing**  
**Wednesday, June 2**  
**10:00 am to 1:00 pm**

**\$20.00 per person**  
Ever wondered about vegan cooking? Here's your opportunity to learn from our expert Lenora Wuattoux-Ray as she shares her recipes, tips and a taste of two dishes that you will make during the class. An expert in herbs, Lenora is also an expert in vegan cooking. Class will include herbal refreshments, recipes and handouts of the topics covered.  
*More herb information can be found at end of listings.\**



**Basic Photography for Kids**  
**Saturday, June 5**  
**9:00 am to 11:00 am**  
**\$10.00 per person**  
**Class limited to 10 children ages 9 through 12**  
Children have a unique way of seeing the world. How better to capture that creativity than with a camera? This two-hour workshop will focus on activities that will teach kids how to take an interesting photograph. We will practice techniques such as framing, composition, lighting, and camera angle. Any type of camera can be used in this class. The first part of the class

will be in the classroom (20 minutes), with the remainder of time spent photographing outside in the Arboretum.

**A Day in the Life of An Urban Forester**  
**Wednesday, June 9**  
**10:00 am to 11:30 am**  
**\$10.00 per person**

As a forester you will learn about our urban forest and its benefits, the importance of a tree inventory, tree preservation, and a number of other common questions and concerns experienced on any given day. Class will end by taking a short walk through the wooded trails at the Arboretum.

**Basic Flower Photography**  
**Saturday, June 12**  
**10:00 am to 12:00 pm**  
**\$10.00 per person**

Flower photography at its finest! Everyone wants to take beautiful pictures when visiting the Arboretum—or just in their own backyard. Carol Fowler, local photographer and FOTA committee member, will focus on teaching the basics of composition and lighting, as well as other techniques to help you take interesting and beautiful flower photographs. This is a classroom session. Hand-on classes will be held throughout the year to work on your techniques and skills.

**Learn, Listen & Identify the Birds**  
**Saturday, June 26**  
**7:00 am - 9:00 am FREE**  
**but limited to 10 adults**  
*More bird walk information can be found at end of listings.\**

### \* BIRD WALK INFO

Join Trent Reed, an avid bird enthusiast for many years, as he takes you on a walk through the Arboretum sharing knowledge about birds and how to identify them by their songs and calls. Please dress appropriately (closed toe shoes and long pants are recommended). Bug repellent and binoculars are encouraged. Bird Walks are FREE, BUT SPACE IS LIMITED TO 10. The 8:00 am walks are ADULTS ONLY. Bird Walks are sponsored by the Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop, 10143 Wornall Road (816-942-4887) and 7347 Quivira Road (913-962-0777) [www.wbu.com/kansascity](http://www.wbu.com/kansascity).

### \* HERB CLASS INFO

Many of you already know our expert, Lenora Wuattoux-Ray, a native New Yorker who learned about herbs from her Bahamian grandmother. She has a Masters Degree from Columbia University, where she developed her interest in science and the effect of chemicals in our bodies. She has been in the herb industry for 45 years and is an avid plantswoman who has educated many companies internationally in the medicinal uses of herbs. Come be inspired by her warmth, knowledge and humor. All classes will include herbal refreshments, recipes and handouts of the topics covered.