



August, 2008 Newsletter

I hope you all got the message there was no meeting in July. That doesn't mean nothing has been happening. The "Brainstorming" meeting happened with about a dozen in attendance. We'd really like your reactions to these ideas. They include working with area nursing home residents in raised beds; assisting with horticultural therapy sessions; planting and labeling native trees and shrubs in the Greenway in conjunction with the adjacent schools and/or the scouts; working up a children's program at the library; working with the Botanic Garden on a Plant Select test garden; helping develop a community garden in a different part of town; taking on the responsibility for designing, planting and maintaining some of the smaller garden plots around the city, scheduling regular "plant problem clinics" in different locations, and developing a beginning gardening series of classes. Please give careful thought to these suggested projects. All will require time for planning and development and a commitment of time. Let us know what you think!

For those of you who may not have heard, Beth Pratt has had an accident. I'm attaching a letter she dictated so you'll know what is going on. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers and honor her wishes as far as visiting is concerned. She is being kept very busy and can't have visitors during the week. The last I heard, she is unable to hold a telephone, but she'd love to get cards and letters from you.

Roberta had an opportunity to attend the most recent meeting of the Friends of the Arboretum. At this meeting she learned they need a cattle guard/gate and is proposing we make this purchase for them. It would be a good, tangible way to show our support. She'll have information about cost at our next meeting and we'll ask you to vote on this.

Our next meeting will be a picnic on August 20, from 5:30 – 8:30 at the pavilion north of the pool in Lions Park. We'll provide drinks, plates, napkins and hot charcoal for grilling. Please bring a side dish to share and something to throw on the grill for yourself. Feel free to bring your family. We'll be collecting the travel size toiletries and make up Jutta has requested for distribution to families in Afghanistan if you'd like to donate some. If you have questions, please either email or call me (214-5280).