When will the Domes Reopen?

By Sandy Foloran  
Director, Mitchell Park Domes

That is the big question! Installation of protective netting continues in the Tropical Dome this summer. The projected completion date and opening of the Tropical Dome is September 24 to coincide with the opening of the Fall Harvest Show.

Things are moving along quickly and efficiently. The horticulturists keep one step ahead, pruning and prepping the areas for the contractors. This work helps to expedite the installation of the 100+ rolls of stainless steel mesh to the frame. To maximize both the equipment on-site and the labor force, efforts have been made to stage double shifts when feasible and work simultaneously in the Desert Dome, which is projected to open at the end of October. It’s good to know that very soon we’ll be back at full capacity and enjoying all three conservatories once again!

Milwaukee’s Best Halloween Party!

By Liz Fehring  
Events Coordinator

Put on your best costume (please no blood or gore) and join us for the annual Ghosts Under Glass family event sponsored by The Friends of the Domes. This is an all-ages, indoor evening of safe trick-or-treating on Friday, October 28 from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM.

Visit the Dome of Doom for a new, but still frightening, twist this year. For those who don’t want to be scared, less spooky activities and entertainment will be available throughout the Conservatory. The event includes live entertainment, costume judging with prizes, kids’ crafts, and candy bags. There will be additional opportunities to collect more treats throughout the evening. Food and beverage will be available for purchase through Zilli’s Hospitality.

For more information, visit our website at www.milwaukeedomes.org.

Advance admission available online and at the Domes Gift Shop beginning October 1st. Tickets will also be available at the door the night of the event.

When: Friday, October 28 from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Cost: Please visit our website for ticket information www.milwaukeedomes.org
Sweeten Your Sweetest Day at Cupcake Fest MKE 2016

By Sandy Foloran
Director, Mitchell Park Domes

Cupcake Fest MKE, one of our most popular events, returns Saturday, October 15 from 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM. The event, sponsored and planned by Erica Elia, the owner of Classy Girl Cupcakes, features attractions for kids of all ages. Activities include Cupcake Land (a life-sized Candy Land style board game), carnival games, cupcake scavenger hunt, community cake decorating, an interactive cupcake factory, red carpet photos, cupcake coloring station, DJ dance party, and a cupcake creation contest.

YouTube sensation Gina Naomi Baez will perform her hit song “Cupcakes” and other favorites throughout the day!

Classy Girls’ team of bakers, decorators, and event planners have been hard at work designing innovative activities to engage children and adults in the art of baking, which has become quite popular in recent years. Join us for Cupcake Fest MKE, and have a sweet day with your friends and family while you enjoy our beautiful Conservatory.

Due to the popularity of the event, VIP tickets will also be available for early entry and special attractions. These will go on sale August 1 at CupcakeFestMKE.com and Eventbrite.com.

When: Saturday, October 15, 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Cost: Standard admission price for non-members; Friends of the Domes Members free.
VIP tickets available for $39 at www.cupcakefestMKE.com

From the Director’s Chair

By Sandy Foloran
Director, Mitchell Park Domes

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times” Certainly, I don’t believe that our situation is comparable to the French Revolution, but it does feel that we are at a major turning point for the facility. We face the challenge of making the right decisions at the right time!

As the installation of the netting continues, so does the dialogue and discussion about our future. A committee was formed of members who represent a variety of groups with an interest in the Domes. We are creating surveys and reaching out to focus groups. Soon, public town hall meetings will take place to present information that will inform decisions about possible next steps. New facility, full restoration or a combination of both; it’s all on the table for discussion.

This has been a tough year, but we are getting through it! With the support of all those who see the value in this Conservatory, we’ll work to make the best decisions and create a legacy that we will be proud to pass on to our children and grandchildren.

We only get one chance to do it right so get involved, learn all the facts, and engage in the process. We’re creating history!

www.milwaukeedomes.org

Mystery Chef Dinner

Interested in enjoying an exciting night of fine dining at a premier Milwaukee restaurant while supporting the Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory? Don’t miss your chance to be a part of Mystery Chef Dinner, a new event sponsored by the Friends of the Domes!

The evening begins at 5:30 at the Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory with a Garden Cocktail Party and a silent auction, filled with wonderful items including art, wine, and gift certificates. At 7:30, the mystery will be solved when you are handed an envelope with the name of the restaurant where you will enjoy your dinner, expertly prepared by one of Milwaukee’s best Chefs. Visit www.milwaukeedomes.org for a list of participating restaurants. A limited number of tickets are available; reserve your seats today!

When: Saturday, October 1, 2016 at 5:30 PM
Cost: $125 per person includes Cocktail Garden Party, dinner, and gratuity
Help us Help the Domes—Opt to Receive your newsletter electronically

By Sally Sullivan
Executive Director, Friends of the Domes

As you know, we recently conducted a member survey to determine if receiving a digital (email) copy of our newsletter would be a popular option. We found that over half of those who responded would prefer an electronic copy of the newsletter over a printed, mailed copy. If you would prefer to receive future issues of our newsletters electronically, please email Sally at friendsofthedomes@gmail.com to indicate your preference. If you did not receive the survey or the email blast, we probably do not have your current email address on file. Please know that we will never sell your email or use it for anything other than FOD updates.

We want to keep you informed of everything happening at the Domes and of all opportunities you have to impact the future of our conservatory, in a format that suits you best, and makes the best financial use of the funds you entrust to us in our mission to support the Domes.

Electrical Upgrade Scheduled

By Sandy Foloran
Director, Mitchell Park Domes

Just when you thought our construction projects were wrapping up, the Domes will be closed completely to the public from September 11 through September 14 for an electrical facility upgrade. This is good news, in fact, given that the new system will replace the antiquated system, address inefficiencies, and provide better power services for the conservatory. The Domes will reopen on September 15 and host the annual Orchid Show as planned. Thank you for your patience.

Fall 2016 Wellness Talks—Presented by Dr. V. Shrinivas Murthy

Dr. Murthy will present three 45 minute talks, followed by time for discussion. Cost $10 for members; $15 for non-members. Pre-register at www.milwaukeedomes.org; sessions limited to 40 participants. Attendees meet at the front lobby of the Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory.

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<th>Topic</th>
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<td>Wellness in Everyday Life—Good health is not the absence of disease but a state of physical, mental, and social wellbeing. Dr. Murthy will present a physician’s view of wellness and the components that influence it. He will explore each component, its impact on wellness, and various ways in which we may improve it. This talk will provide a great introduction to this dynamic wellness series.</td>
<td>Saturday, September 24</td>
<td>10:00AM to 11:30 AM</td>
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<td>What Should I Eat Every Day—Nutrition is a key component of wellness and quality of life. The almost endless number of food choices and conflicting information about nutrition can make deciding what to eat a complex issue. We will discuss the difference between healthy food and food-like, commercial, mass-produced substances. Join Dr. Murthy and sample some healthy treats.</td>
<td>Saturday, October 22</td>
<td>10:00AM to 11:30 AM</td>
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<td>Be Mindful and Stress Free in Everyday Life—Dr. Murthy will help you recognize stress as a reaction to our perception of simple events and understand how this perception can be altered by changing our lifestyle. The practice of various methods of relaxation will be demonstrated such as breathing exercises, guided imagery, progressive muscle relaxation, and meditation. Audience participation is strongly encouraged.</td>
<td>Sunday, November 20</td>
<td>1:00 PM to 2:30 PM</td>
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V. Shrinivas Murthy, MBBS, MD, PhD. Dr. Murthy has over 40 year’s professional experience as a physician, research scientist, educator and administrator. Currently Dr. Murthy is the Director of Cardiac Rehabilitation, Aurora St. Luke’s Medical Center, Director of Preventive Cardiology, Aurora Cardiovascular Services, and Adjunct Clinical Professor of Medicine, School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Wisconsin

Do We Have Your Contact Information?

If you have moved or changed your email address or telephone number, please let us know so we can keep your membership information up to date. We will never share or sell your contact information. Please email any changes to Sally at friendsofthedomes@gmail.com

Not sure if we have your email address? If you do not receive emails or links to surveys from us occasionally, we probably do not have your current email address.

Guided Tours of Mitchell Park

Join us for a beautiful and informative walk through Mitchell Park and the Conservatory this fall. Meet Domes Interpretive Educator Paula Zamiatowski at the Domes’ main entrance. To register, please call (414) 257-5600 weekdays between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM. Cost for each walk: $10 for FOD members; $12 for non-members. For more information, go to www.milwaukeedomes.org/education

- The Beauty of the Fall Harvest, Saturday October 8, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Twelve Plants that changed Human History, Saturday, November 12, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Summer Fun Captured—PokeNic in the Park!

The Domes caught Pokémon fever! Like many other parks in the nation, Mitchell Park contains several Pokéstops for players to collect items to play the popular game. PokeNic in the Park brought players together to play Pokémon Go and other Pokémon themed games. Thank you to all of those who made the event a success on that very hot July day!

Bruce Beene who attended wrote the following article about the event:

My name is Bruce Beene. My brother (Lucas) and I want to tell you about how much fun we had at the PokeNic in the Parks event on Saturday, July 23rd in front of the Mitchell Park Domes.

Our main reason for going was to play Pokémon Go, but there was so much more to do than that. There were games such as a Pokeball scavenger hunt, Lucky Egg relay race, team bean bag toss, and more. We got raffle tickets for all the Pokeballs we found, but we didn’t win a raffle prize.

We joined the Stone Wall Gym when it was owned by Team Instinct, but then it was taken over by Team Mystic. Team Instinct tried to take it over again, but failed.

There were a lot of Pokéstops, so we could get more Pokeballs when we needed to. That was good, because there were lures launched every 30 minutes to attract more Pokémon for us to catch. Lucas and I caught a Nidoqueen, Squirtles, Eevees, Polywags, and many more.

Luckily, my mom brought 2 phone chargers so we could charge our phones in the car while we ate lunch. We had just enough charge to make it to the end of the event.

The Domes’ Artist, Burt, couldn’t believe we were there the whole time. We met Roger, the President of the Friends of the Domes. Lucas and I shared stories and tips with him all day. Before we left we thanked Burt and Roger for the great time we had. We hope everyone that was there had a great time too.

Thank you Bruce for submitting your story!
Celebrating a Shared History

To continue our celebration of the Domes’ 50th year, we will be featuring stories of members’ special memories at the Domes. Send your stories and pictures to us at friendsofthedomes@gmail.com or mail them to: Friends of the Domes, Att: Sally Sullivan, 524 S. Layton Blvd., Milwaukee, WI 53215

This issue’s “Celebrating A Shared History” comes to us from Cynthia Heck…

I remember going to the Domes in November of 1966 when I was 12 years old. I am now 62, and I still visit the Domes. I first went with friends of our family the year the Domes opened. We wanted to show off our beautiful city to our friends from out of town, and no visit to Milwaukee would be complete without a visit to the Domes!

I have since acquired a Certificate in Museum Studies at UW-Milwaukee and a Masters in Information Science. My final project for the certificate was an analysis of the Domes which I chose as the museum for said project. The Domes is by definition a living museum with its collection from the plant kingdom.

I am also a long standing member of the Friends enjoying all the amenities that comes with membership. We also have a memorial brick laid in the Show Dome in honor of my parents, happily married for 50 years. Unfortunately, my mother passed before the brick was laid, but my father and other family members have been able to view it. I have brought many visitors to The Domes over the years and will continue to recommend them as a premiere attraction.

My love of The Domes started 50 years ago and will continue for the rest of my life. We plan a permanent move to Florida in the near future but I will continue to be a member of the Friends so that I may visit with family when returning to Milwaukee for visits.

Fall Workshops Offered by the Education Center

The Education Center is teaming up with the Victory Garden Initiative to present four workshops this fall. Please pre-register through VGI at VictoryGardenInitiative.org/classes

The fee for each workshop is $15 for Students and FOD or VGI members who preregister; $22 for others who have preregistered; or $25 day of/ at the door (outside of the Education Center) [fee includes Domes admission]. To get the discounted rate during preregistration, VGI members use code VGImember2016 and FOD members use code Domes2016.

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<tr>
<td>Aromatherapy—Essential Oils through Aromatherapy</td>
<td>Saturday, September 24</td>
<td>12:00 PM to 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Education Center</td>
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<td>Nutrition for Pregnancy and Children—Polly Muradas and Marian Lima Eisenberg</td>
<td>Saturday, October 1</td>
<td>10:00 AM to 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Education Center</td>
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<td>Worm Composting—Come to this workshop to learn how to transform this “waste” into garden gold. Founder Tony Farrell of Farmer Tony’s Mission Greens will cover various techniques including vermicomposting and composting in your yard.</td>
<td>Saturday, October 22</td>
<td>12:00 PM to 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Education Center</td>
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<td>Funky Fresh Fermentation—Ryan Dale will discuss how probiotics function, aid in digestion, boost the immune system, and improve overall health. Learn how to work with these organisms. Discussion will include home fermented vegetables, kefir, kombucha, and yogurt.</td>
<td>Saturday, November 5</td>
<td>10:00 AM to 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Education Center</td>
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<td>Preparing a Fresh, Thankful Table—Join Chef Chris Stoye as he shares healthy cooking tips just in time for Thanksgiving. Chef Chris will share his own recipes and cooking instruction on how to bring fresh, local products to your feast. Be prepared to wow your family and friends!</td>
<td>Saturday, November 5</td>
<td>10:00 AM to 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Education Center</td>
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Gifts Under Glass

Coloring Books: Not just for adults!

The recent coloring book craze has reminded many of us how fun and relaxing coloring can be! We are excited to announce that the new “My Trip to the Domes” coloring book is now available in the gift shop! Designed by Parks’ Artist Burt Gross, this beautiful coloring book will provide a fun souvenir of your trip the Conservatory or make a great gift!

The gift shop carries a variety of other coloring books as well. Come check out our wonderful selection of gifts and books—remember FOD Members receive 10% off all purchases. All purchases benefit the Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory!

From the President

By Roger Krawiecki
President, Friends of the Domes

On June 11th, the board re-elected me for another one year term. Also elected was Tim Teske as Vice President, Elise Libbey as Secretary, and Beverly Smiley as Treasurer. We are all honored to serve you.

We are currently going through our annual audit. Our fiscal year is July 1st through June 30th. I hope to see some of you at our annual meeting / holiday show dome preview later this year.

Last month I discussed when we started using the name “Domes”. When the new conservatory opened it was the “Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory.” The name focused on the structure being a place to conserve plants from around the world. Sometime in the 80s the nickname the “Domes” was more commonly used. We are trying to find out when that occurred. We know the original sign on 27th street was changed in the 80s. If anyone has information on the name change, please share it with us. If you have pictures of the original sign please reach out to me. It would be very helpful.

In this issue we are thanking our donors. When you think of a donation, the first thing you think of is money. Fiscal donations are a huge help to our organization. But there are other ways that you can donate such as in-kind donations. Do you have a business that could help our organization with a silent auction item or services? Do you have a special talent like Bruce Beene and Cynthia Heck who took the time to write articles for this newsletter? Does your employer offer matching funds? We have several members that take the time to submit the necessary paperwork to their employer so we can receive membership or donation matching funds. Thank you for doing that.

Renewing your membership helps our organization and is a donation. How about buying a Friends of the Domes gift membership for a birthday or anniversary? When the Conservatory reopens we will bring back our ½ price Gift Membership drive which will run through the Train Show. To me that is also a donation because you are helping us out. Do you have airline miles or hotel miles building up? How about transferring them to the Friends of the Domes. They could be used to send individuals to other conservatories while we plan our future. They could be used to send the Horticulturalists to national conventions. We could use them in a raffle or silent auction.

Please do not forget donating your time. We have a great volunteer base and our board is made up of volunteers. The estimated value of volunteer time in 2015 was $23.56 per hour. Our organization could not have done as much as we have without the donation of individual’s time.

A HUGE Thank You to everyone who has donated to the Friends of the Domes in any way possible.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the Friends or the Domes, please reach out to me. You can contact me by phone, 414-384-0161, or by email, rjkrawiecki@gmail.com.

Milwaukee Winter Farmer’s Market Returns November 5

You know it’s fall in Milwaukee when the Farmer’s Market returns to the Mitchell Park Conservatory! The market will again be held in the Conservatory Annex. When: Saturdays, from November 5 through April 8, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM [Exceptions: No market on November 26, December 24, or December 31] Cost: Admission to the market is free
By Marian French
Horticulturist—Desert Dome

As the days grow shorter and the nights cooler, the Show Dome will be planted with an entire spectrum of chrysanthemums for the Fall Show. They all look so different, it is hard to imagine that they descended from a single, wild ancestor.

It is thought that what we know today as the florist’s chrysanthemum originated over three thousand years ago in China, when *Chrysanthemum morifolium* was first brought under cultivation. Confucius, the great philosopher, wrote about “the chrysanthemum with its yellow glory” because the flowers were just simple, yellow daisies to start. Chinese breeders developed hundreds of new cultivars, the beauty of which inspired hundreds of poems across the ages.

In 386 A.D. the Japanese also started growing chrysanthemums. By the 9th century, the Emperor of Japan had founded the Imperial Gardens, where many new varieties were developed and kept secret. The mum was so beloved in Japan that it was added to the Imperial seal, was engraved into samurai swords, and even became the national flower. The Emperor’s throne came to be known as the Chrysanthemum Throne.

These beautiful flowers were unknown to the rest of the world until a French merchant visited China in 1789 and brought the first chrysanthemums home to Europe. Since that time, people everywhere have continued to enjoy these fall blooming plants, and their floral diversity has only increased.

In the Show Dome this season, you will be able to see spoon, incurve, spider, anemone, decorative (doubled), and daisy flower styles. Look closely at each type and you will see how differently the petals are shaped and arranged. Spoons have petals with a “spoon” ending, incurves look like pom-poms with inward-curving petals, and spiders have uniquely long, hooked petals. Anemones are shaped much like daisies, with varying numbers of petals, and the decorative flower type is a similar shape but full of colored petals instead of having a yellow center.

Chrysanthemums have inspired deeper meanings wherever they are grown around the world. In parts of Europe, mums are traditionally associated with death and used only in funerals and cemeteries. In some Asian cultures, white chrysanthemums also symbolize grief. However, in the United States, any type of mum is considered to be positive and cheerful. In fact, they are a reliable, long-lasting cut flower and are often used in arrangements for any occasion.

These flowers have a long history, rich in symbolism and emotion for many people. This fall, we invite you to take a moment to enjoy these exotic beauties and consider what they might symbolize for you.

**Join the Conversation!**

Milwaukee County is developing a long-term plan for the Conservatory at Mitchell Park, known as “The Domes,” and wants to hear from you. Now that short-term work is underway to safely re-open the Domes, we are soliciting your ideas for the future.

To learn more and to express your ideas:
- Complete the online survey at [http://county.milwaukee.gov/DomesSurvey](http://county.milwaukee.gov/DomesSurvey), or
- Call the Parks Department at (414) 257-PARKS to offer comments or request a paper survey

You can find general updates on the Domes at [http://county.milwaukee.gov/Domes](http://county.milwaukee.gov/Domes). We look forward to hearing from you!
Upcoming Events

September 11-14 ........ DOMES CLOSED for electrical system upgrade
September 17-18 .............................................. Orchid Show and Sale
October 1 .......................................................... Mystery Chef Dinner*
October 15 .......................................................... Cupcake Fest MKE
October 28 .......................................................... Ghosts Under Glass*
November 5—April 8** ..................... Milwaukee Winter Farmers Market
November 18 ............................................. Friends of the Domes Annual Meeting
November 26—27 .............................................. Urban Garage Sale
December 31 ......................................................... New Year's Eve Under Glass

* Sponsored by Friends of the Domes; special admission rates apply
** Winter Farmer’s Market will not be held on November 26, December 24, or December 31.

The Fall Show Opens
September 24 in the Show Dome!