

# Take pictures for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Arboretum photo contest!



Photo courtesy of Arboretum Staff.

**What is that tall, red-purple grass in the prairie?...**

The scientific name for this prairie grass is *Andropogon gerardii*. Its genus name is from the Greek words andro for “man” and pogon for “beard”. Its seed head resembles a man’s beard, but has also been called “turkey foot” or more commonly, Big Blue Stem. This perennial grows up to 8 feet tall, and turns red-purple as it matures. The plant serves as food and shelter for many wild and domestic animals. Farmers often refer to big blue stem as “ice cream grass” because cattle will eat this grass before anything else.

<http://www.northern.edu/NATSource/GRASSES/Bluest1.htm>

**Q: What did the big flower say to the small flower?**

**A: What's up bud.**

**Q: What do you call two young married spiders?**

**A: Newly webs.**

**Q: What does the letter "A" have in common with a flower?**

**A: They both have bees coming after them.**

**Q: What gets bigger the more you take away?**

**A: A hole.**

## Upcoming Events

**Timberdash 5K Race** **Saturday, September 19, 10:30 a.m.—Noon**

**Join the Arboretum at this year’s annual Timberdash 5K race! Come for a fun filled morning race through the trails of the Arboretum. Preregistration before Thursday, September 17th is only \$5. Register the day of the race for \$10. Registration includes snacks at the finish and an Arboretum bandana. Sign up on our website, or just click on the link below: [http://www.csbsju.edu/arboretum/arb\\_highlights/fall/Timberdash.htm](http://www.csbsju.edu/arboretum/arb_highlights/fall/Timberdash.htm)**

**Homecoming Open House** **Friday, October 2, 2-3:30pm**

**The Arboretum Staff will be hosting an open house in honor of Saint John’s homecoming celebration. Come and see our accomplishments over the years and talk with the staff. Meet us at our offices in the New Science Center, just down the hall from the pendulum.**

**Minnesota Natural History Lecture Series**

**Third Tuesday of the Month  
September—May, 6:30—8 p.m.**

**Free—Arboretum members and students of all ages  
\$5—Non-members/non-students**

**Alternative Energy in Minnesota** **Tuesday October 20**

**Dr. Derek Larson, CSB/SJU professor of environmental studies**

**Meet at the pendulum of the New Science Center of Saint John’s University.**

**Check the Arboretum Web site for updates to this year’s lecture schedule!  
[http://www.csbsju.edu/arboretum/arb\\_highlights/Minnesota%20Natural%20History%20Lecture%20Series.htm](http://www.csbsju.edu/arboretum/arb_highlights/Minnesota%20Natural%20History%20Lecture%20Series.htm)**

**2009 Arboretum Photo Contest** **Entries Due November 17**  
**Submit up to 5 photos per category per person. A panel of judges will choose the "Best in Category" for each age group. See the [Arboretum website](#) for categories and more information!**

If you would like to be on the volunteer e-mail list for the Arboretum, please e-mail [arboretum@csbsju.edu](mailto:arboretum@csbsju.edu).

We’ll be in touch...

Your friends at the Arboretum

**It's your backyard, so get out and play!**

\*\*\*Nature Notes is a weekly publication designed to keep you informed about exciting events offered by the Arboretum!

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