

Opening Night Goes Hollywood

The Northwest Flower & Garden Show returns in mid-February, 2013, and once again the Arboretum Foundation will kick off the show with its annual Opening Night Party. On Tuesday, February 19, guests can enjoy a fabulous evening of delicious food, fine wines, live music, and silent auctions, and the opportunity to view the beautiful display gardens at the Garden Show the day before it opens to the public—all while helping us raise important funds to support Washington Park Arboretum.

In keeping with the theme of this year's Garden Show—"The Silver Screen Takes Root: Gardens Go Hollywood"—the party will capture some of the glamour and magic of Tinseltown. Don't miss your chance to walk the red carpet, pose for paparazzi, and gossip with your favorite Northwest horticultural celebrities. You'll also be the first to see the Arboretum's display garden, which pays homage to the flora of New Zealand and Peter Jackson's new movie of *The Hobbit* (see page 5 for details).

General Admission: The cost of general admission is \$75 for Foundation Members and \$100 for Non-Members. Dinner is not included as part of the general admission benefits. Members and Non-Members will enjoy a light nosh as well as some tasty desserts and wines!

Patron and Benefactor Specials: Along with exclusive viewing of the display gardens, complimentary parking and coat check, and a delicious buffet dinner, our Patron and Benefactor ticket holders will get to enjoy a special tour of the Show gardens with designer and author Billy Goodnick (www.billygoodnick.com). Billy, who blogs for *Fine Gardening* magazine, will discuss his Top 10 design tips for sustainability and outdoor living in the 2013 show gardens. Billy's design eye, combined with his keen wit, promises to make this an entertaining way to discover new trends. Patron tickets cost \$250; Benefactor tickets are \$500.

Tickets go on sale on Wednesday, December 19. You can purchase them online at

www.arboretumfoundation.org, by phone at 206-325-4510, or over the counter in the Arboretum Shop (open daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

Gala Tickets Make Great Gifts: Wondering what to buy the plant lovers and green thumbs on your holiday list? It doesn't get much better than a trip to Opening Night, the region's premier horticultural party. Your gift is also an important donation, helping us to fund the maintenance of the Arboretum and its education programs for the coming year. ↪

Opening Night Party is presented by the Arboretum Foundation as a benefit for Washington Park Arboretum.

Opening Night

At the Northwest Flower & Garden Show

Join us Tuesday, February 19, at the Washington State Convention Center

TICKET LEVELS AND BENEFITS

— General Admission —

\$75 for Foundation Members; \$100 Non-Members

6:30 to 7:30 P.M. / Hosted wine reception, light fare, live entertainment, silent auctions in the South Lobby

7:30 to 9:30 P.M. / Garden viewing, delectable desserts, hosted wine & entertainment

— Patrons & Benefactors —

\$250 Patrons; \$500 Benefactors

5:00 to 6:00 P.M. / Exclusive reception with live entertainment, and silent auctions in the South Lobby

6:00 to 6:30 P.M. / "Top 10 Design Tips from Show Gardens," with Billy Goodnick

6:30 to 7:30 P.M. / Exclusive garden preview and buffet dinner

7:00 to 9:30 P.M. / Continued garden viewing, auction bidding, and entertainment

News and Notes

Horticultural Helpers

Volunteers from all walks of life worked hard to help care for the Arboretum this past fall. On Friday, September 21, close to 100 volunteers representing Microsoft, Nordstrom, *The Seattle Times*, NetApp, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Japan Business Association, and CenturyLink worked on mulching and weeding projects in the Arboretum as part of United Way of King County's Day of Caring. Projects included covering ¼ mile of the Waterfront Trail in wood chips, and picking and hauling 5 cubic yards of weeds from Pacific Connections.

On the very next day, 64 young men from Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity at UW joined forces with our Pacific Connections Garden Stewards to weed and mulch the Gateway to Chile garden slope. They worked for approximately 3 hours, vastly improving the appearance of the display.

On November 15, Scot Eckley Inc., a local landscape design and construction firm, crafted a “personal Day of Caring” by sending a maintenance crew, at its expense, to work 4 hours in the Pacific Connections Garden. The crew was spearheaded by Kathleen DeMaria, a Pacific Connections Garden Steward, and helped install new plants in the Siskiyou Slope section of the Cascadia Forest. Thanks to all the volunteers who help care for our beloved Arboretum!

Foundation Donates Club Car to City

At its board of directors meeting on November 28, the Foundation donated a 2013 Club Car Turf 252 to the Seattle Parks and Recreation staff at the Arboretum. Board president Craig Trueblood presented the new electric utility vehicle to the Arboretum's senior City gardener Paul Smith and Seattle Parks and Recreation Property and Acquisition Services Manager Donald Harris. The vehicle can travel on the gravel paths in the Arboretum and will be especially useful to Karen Stener, the City gardener in charge of maintaining Azalea Way.



HISTORIC TRANSPLANT: On November 6, three 30-to 40-foot-tall southern beeches (*Nothofagus*) were transplanted from the New Zealand High Country Collection—across Arboretum Drive—to their new home in the New Zealand Forest, the latest garden in Pacific Connections. These were the largest transplants ever performed in the Arboretum, with each tree's root ball weighing between 12,000 and 20,000 lbs. Big Trees, Inc. from Snohomish were hired to move the trees using a huge 175-ton crane. The grading for the New Zealand Forest is currently being done, and new pathways and rock walls are being installed. The main planting of the forest will take place in 2013.

A Generous Bequest

This past fall, the Arboretum Foundation received a very generous bequest of more than \$60,000 from the estate of Mary M. Johnston. Mary, who passed away in June, was a long-time Foundation member and volunteer. She was a dedicated member of volunteer Unit 5, the Kirkland-based Margaret Mulligan Unit, since 1977. Even when she moved to Camano Island in the late 1980s, she maintained her ties with her unit and never missed a meeting—traveling down from her home with her dear friend Renee Marquette the day before and staying overnight with another friend and unit member Leslie Norton.

An avid gardener and wildlife observer with an encyclopedic memory of plant names, Mary created a beautiful and spacious tree-and-shrub-based garden at her home on Camano, which she famously named after her dog, Alice. Her fellow unit members remember Mary fondly as a productive and inspirational figure, always happy to share her keen knowledge of and delight in nature. Mary also wrote occasional articles for the *Washington Park Arboretum Bulletin*, including a delightful piece in the fall 2005 edition on watching a squirrel wrestle with

some mushrooms in her garden.

“Mary personified what is so special about so many devoted Arboretum Foundation members,” says fellow Unit 5 volunteer Elizabeth Moses. “As with Leslie and Renee, who are also no longer with us, we were so fortunate to have had her friendship, knowledge, and enthusiasm.”

If you would like to leave a bequest or other gift for the Arboretum in your estate plan, please contact Richard Bray at 206-577-0549 or rbray@arboretumfoundation.org.

520 Update

Construction of the new 520 bridge from Medina to the “high rise” just east of Foster Island is underway and scheduled to be completed in 2014. The Washington State

Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has also secured federal funding to continue some construction westward across Foster Island to the Montlake Interchange. This work will begin after July 1, 2014, and WSDOT's current interim plan is to leave the existing bridge and eastbound ramp in place for now and build

one of two new elevated spans just north of the existing structure. This hybrid configuration will provide three lanes of eastbound traffic on the old bridge and three lanes of westbound traffic on the new span—and it will stay in place until WSDOT finds a new source of funding to complete the project.

Because final construction in the Arboretum won't happen until the eastbound ramp and old bridge are removed, planned mitigation projects such as the new North Entry and wetland restoration are being put on hold. However, a draft agreement between WSDOT and the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC), a group representing the Foundation and its UW and City partners, does commit \$7.8 million dollars of WSDOT funds to other planned mitigation projects in the Arboretum including a multi-use trail and improvements to the Azalea Way Pond. At press time, the draft document is still being negotiated, but both parties are aiming to reach agreement by early in the new year, and we expect the document will contain a written commitment from WSDOT to complete all the planned mitigation projects. Stay tuned!

Eddie Bauer Bellevue Donates to the Arboretum

As part of its parent company's "GivesBack" campaign, the Eddie Bauer store in Bellevue donated 10% of its profits from sales on Saturday, September 15, to the Arboretum Foundation. The total amount of the donation came to just over \$800. In addition, the store offered Foundation members a 15% discount on their purchases during the Saturday of the event and featured an information table and display promoting the work of the Foundation. Thanks to Eddie Bauer, Bellevue, for their generous donation and support!

Our New Development Director

The Arboretum Foundation is pleased to announce the hiring of Richard Bray as its new Director of Development. Richard is a highly experienced philanthropy professional with strong ties to the regional business, media, and non-profit community. He takes the helm of the Foundation's capital campaign and operations fundraising, both of which are essential to the preservation and enhancement of Washington Park Arboretum. Richard's most recent position was as the director of donor and community relations for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Seattle/King County, where he worked for four years. Welcome Richard! ⇨



SPREADING THE LOVE: Volunteers from CenturyLink spreading mulch in the Holly Collection during Day of Caring on September 21.

What's Happening

Gifts & Greens Galore

Friday, December 7, NOON—5 PM
Saturday, December 8, 10 AM—3 PM

Northwest Flower & Garden Show

Washington State Convention & Trade Center

Opening Night Party

Tuesday, February 19, 5—9:30 PM
(start time varies with ticket prices)

Arboretum Display Garden

February 20—24

Display Garden Plant Sale

Saturday, March 2, 10 AM—2 PM

Early Bloomers Plant Sale

Saturday, April 13, 10 AM—2 PM

Florabundance Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, April 27, 9 AM—5 PM
Sunday, April 28, 10 AM—3 PM

Member Pre-Sale

Friday, April 26, 5:30—8 PM

— ONGOING EVENTS —

ARBORETUM PLANT SALES

Pat Calvert Greenhouse

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 AM—NOON

Plant Donations Nursery

Closed for the season

Accepting donations again March 13
Reopening for sales April 3

Guided Arboretum Walks

Every Sunday, 1—2:30 PM,
GVC Lobby
Call 206-543-8800 to confirm

Master Gardeners Clinic

Saturdays/Sundays, NOON—4 PM,
GVC lobby

Native Plants Study Group

4th Mondays, 10 AM—NOON

All events occur at the Graham Visitors Center unless noted. Call 206-543-8800 for information on Arboretum events; 206-543-8801 for family and youth education programs or guided walks; 206-685-8033 for adult learning opportunities.

New Developments



100 YEARS OF NANCY! Gardening legend Nancy Davidson Short (right) chats with Karen McFadden during her 100th Birthday Party at the Graham Visitors Center on September 7. Nearly 100 guests came to the Foundation-hosted event to celebrate Nancy, raise money for the Arboretum, and enjoy a sparkling evening of food, fun, and friends—not to mention fire dancing!

Gifts of Stock: A Double Tax Benefit

Gifts of appreciated stock or securities are a smart way for you to give. You receive not one—but two—tax benefits. First, you save capital gains tax. If you sold your appreciated stock, held over a year, your stock would lose 15% of its current market value, because of capital gains tax. But if you donate your stock directly to the Arboretum Foundation, the full market value (100%) goes to our mission. Second, your gift is deductible and can help you save on this year's taxes. IRS charitable deduction rules allow you to deduct your stock in the year you make a donation. If you can't use the full deduction immediately, you have up to five additional years as needed to deduct any remaining balance.

For example, say you bought stock years ago at \$20,000. Today, the stock is worth \$50,000 and you would like to make a major donation to the Arboretum. If you sell the stock, you will pay a 15% capital gains tax on the \$30,000 of appreciation enjoyed since the original purchase, which amounts to \$4,500. Now, if you were to transfer the stock to us, without selling it yourself, the full \$50,000 would be available to foster the Foundation's mission. In addition, the \$50,000 would be deductible as you itemize your taxes. For more information or instructions on how to make a gift of stock to the Foundation, visit our website or contact our development director

Richard Bray at rbray@arboretumfoundation.org or 206-577-0549.

Opening Night Auction Update

We've already received some wonderful donations to our Opening Night Party silent auction on November 19, including local dining experiences, wine from regional cellars, and unique getaway packages. Thanks to all who have given so generously thus far! Proceeds from this event are a major source of funding for the support of collection maintenance and education programs at the Arboretum. If you or your business would like to contribute to the auction, please contact Sheila Beer at 206-325-4510 or sbeer@arboretumfoundation.org. You can also download an auction procurement form from the Opening Night event page on our website, www.arboretumfoundation.org.

Membership Makes a Great Gift!

This year for the holidays, why not share the Arboretum with a friend? You already know the value of being a member of the Arboretum Foundation. By giving a loved one a gift membership you'll be bringing him or her into our community of friends, and giving them a special connection the Arboretum. Memberships start at only \$35 and come with a host of benefits, including discounts at local businesses, invitations to special member events, and a subscription to our award-winning horticultural magazine, the *Washington Park Arboretum Bulletin*. It's a perfect gift for anyone who loves plants, nature, and gardening or has a passion for Seattle's iconic places. ☺

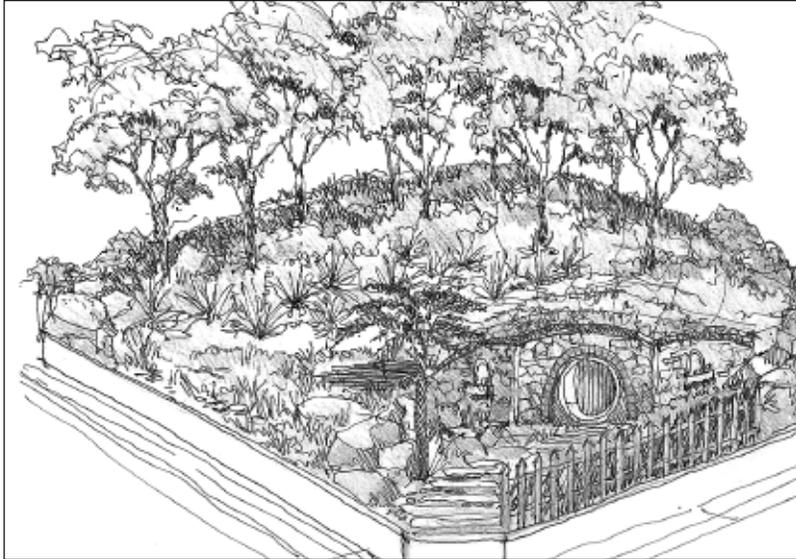
New Members

The Arboretum Foundation welcomes members who joined during the period of August 17 to November 27.

Barbara Agee	Marcia Dare	Linda Nicholl
Laurie and Paul Ahern	Ann Fenwick	Lila O'Mahony
Kathy Anderson	Patrick Howell, S.J.	Bud Schorr
Al and Ellen Carlin	Jeanne Marie Lee	Carol Thomte
Margaret Carroll	Susan and Patrick Lingenfelter	Linda Tyrill
Peggy Case	Anne and Matthew McCloskey	Whit and Caryl Worcester

To renew or enhance your membership, please call 206-325-4510 or visit www.arboretumfoundation.org.

2013 Arboretum Display Garden



HOLY MOLY: Sketch of the Arboretum's hobbit-inspired garden (courtesy Roger Williams).

A Hobbit's New Zealand Garden

Each year, the Washington Park Arboretum creates a unique display garden for the Northwest Flower & Garden Show. The inspiration for the 2013 garden comes from two sources: the Garden Show's movie theme—"The Silver Screen Takes Root: Gardens Go Hollywood"—and the 2.25 acre New Zealand Forest being planted in the Arboretum within the next year. What do you get when you cross-pollinate Hollywood and the flora of New Zealand? Answer: "A Hobbit's New Zealand Garden."

The 2013 garden display is sure to delight both adults and kids alike. It pays homage to the Arboretum's new forest exhibit AND Peter Jackson's new movie of the classic fantasy novel, "The Hobbit," which was filmed entirely on location in New Zealand. The garden will showcase plants native to New Zealand and at the same time will be a cozy home for hobbits—creatures famed for their love of gardening and growing things.

At the front of the garden, you'll see a house tucked into a hill covered with sedges and ferns, with a stone pathway leading to a round door just the right size for a hobbit. Granite boulders will sit on either side of the door, forming the hill in which the hobbit lives. A spectacular tree fern will stand sentry nearby. Light will emanate from the door of the house, exciting the curiosity of viewers.

Next to the house will be a bog exuberant with colorful New Zealand flax (*Phormium*). Low-lying fog over the wetland will create drama and mystery. The flowers of *Libertia* and shiny, variegated foliage of *Coprosma* will add color to the display. A small grove of tea trees

(*Leptospermum*) on top of the hill will form the backdrop of the garden. *Clematis* 'Avalanche' will drape the top of the house.

The garden will feature drought-tolerant plants that (with the exception of the tree fern) are suitable for growing in Pacific Northwest gardens. The use of foliage to create a rich color palette will also be a key design component.

Once again, the garden is being designed by Phil Wood, Roger Williams, and Bob Lilly—the same trio who created the Arboretum's multi-award-winning 2011 and 2012 displays. Several other individuals are playing important roles in the planning and implementation of the garden, including Rhonda Bush (associate designer), Randall Hitchin (plant advisor), Clint Staaf (Seattle-Christchurch Sister City Association), and Paige Miller (Arboretum Foundation executive director).

See "A Hobbit's New Zealand Garden" at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center from February 20 to 24. Visit the Northwest Flower & Garden Show website, www.gardenshow.com, for admission time and ticketing information. ☺

DISPLAY GARDEN PLANT SALE

Saturday, March 2, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. ~ Graham Visitors Center

Unleash your inner hobbit by growing some of New Zealand's beautiful flora in your garden. Come to the Arboretum on the Saturday after the Garden Show and purchase some of the high-quality New Zealand plants featured in our 2013 display. All sales benefit the maintenance and education programs at the Arboretum. ☺

VOLUNTEER VINE

Another Successful FallAbundance Sale—Our volunteer-run Pat Calvert Greenhouse and Plant Donations Nursery hosted the second annual FallAbundance Plant Sale at the Arboretum on Saturday, September 29. It was another successful event, netting nearly \$5,500 for the Arboretum. “A lot of enthusiastic shoppers came this year,” says Lynn Schueler, one of our core volunteers at the greenhouse. “They asked lots of garden questions and bought lots of plants,” she adds, “and we had lots of fun!” Thanks to all the volunteers who helped out at the sale.

Special thanks to this year’s specialty nurseries—Madrona Nursery, Botanica, and Foliage Gardens—and to Clinton Bamboo for their generous donation of bamboo plants to the sale.

Azalea Way Stewards Recruitment Report—In early August, the Foundation and Seattle Parks and Recreation launched a new volunteer program, the Azalea Way



VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE

Sharlene Welsh (right), with fellow volunteers Judy Phillips (left) and Rita Ray Cloney (center) at the UW Botanic Gardens/Arboretum Foundation Volunteer Appreciation Party, at the Center for Urban Horticulture, on October 18. Sharlene received the Foundation’s Volunteer of the Year Award for her extraordinary service. In fiscal year 2012, she clocked up 604 hours as a volunteer in the Plant Donations Nursery and for the Arboretum Display Garden. Thank you, Sharlene!

Garden Stewards, to provide support to Arboretum staff in maintaining historic Azalea Way. Work parties took place on the first Tuesday and third Saturday of each month through November, and they will resume this schedule in March 2013. As we go to press, 13 people have signed up for the program so far. If you are interested in participating, we ask that you have some gardening experience and commit to volunteering at least 24 hours over the period of March to November. For more information or to sign up, please contact Rhonda Bush at 206-941-2550 or RhondaBush@comcast.net.

Opening Night Party and Display Garden Volunteering—Recruitment of volunteers for our Preview Gala (February 19) and for the Arboretum display garden at the Northwest Flower & Garden Show (February 20 to 24) will begin in mid-December. Contact Randall Hitchin at 206-325-4510 or rhitchin@arboretumfoundation.org for more information. ☺

What’s In My Garden 🌿

Michael Shiosaki, Pacific Connections Garden Steward and former member of the Arboretum Foundation Board of Directors



What is in your garden this season? As I look out through rain-streaked windows I see a tall evergreen screen of *Cupressus nootkatensis* (Alaska yellow cedar) that contrasts with showy tall grasses—*Miscanthus sinensis*—and my espaliered *Camellia sasanqua*, which is in full bloom.

What is your favorite season to garden? Spring is my favorite time. By the time spring arrives, I’ve had an enjoyable break from gardening chores, and my garden is coming back to life—bulbs are emerging from the ground (and I then remember where I planted them!). I love to see all the lush new growth emerge as the days get longer.

Can you recommend a good gardening or nature book? For inspiration, Dan Hinkley’s *The Explorer’s Garden: Rare and Unusual Perennials*.

When did you start volunteering at the Arboretum? I’ve always been a big fan of the Arboretum and I started volunteering my time and energy in 2007 as a member of the Arboretum Foundation board. This past year, I joined the Pacific Connections Garden Stewards.

What is your favorite thing about volunteering at the Arboretum? I get to spend more time in one of the jewels of Seattle’s park system and have the opportunity to learn more about the plant collections and get to know other dedicated volunteers. ☺

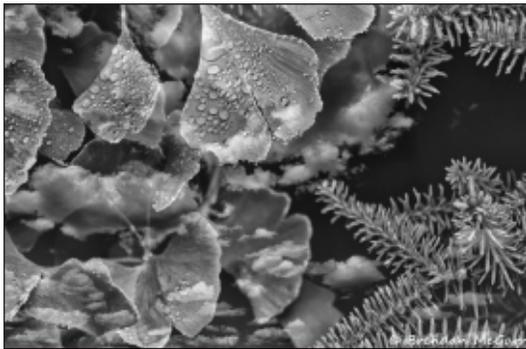
UWBG Events & Classes

Tour Cuba with Sarah Reichard in February

University of Washington Botanic Gardens Director Sarah Reichard is leading another tour to Cuba. The 2012 trip is already the stuff of legend. This year's tour (February 22 to March 5) will once again feature visits to botanic gardens, organic farms, and nature preserves, including the National Botanical Garden, Havana, the tropical forests of Soroa, and Zapata National Park. For more details and pricing information, contact Sandy Schmidt at 877-907-5360 or schmidt@holbrooktravel.com. The tour fee includes a tax deductible donation to UWBG that funds the education program. The deadline to register is December 22!

Photo Exhibit: "Grafted"— Multiple Exposure Images of Nature

January 1 to 31, 2013, Elizabeth C. Miller Library
Center for Urban Horticulture (CUH), 3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle



GRAFTED IMAGERY: A multiple exposure photograph of ginkgo, spruce, and clouds, by Brendan McGarry. See this and other photos at the Miller Library in January.

In January 2013, the Miller Library will host a photography exhibit by Seattle-based photographer and naturalist Brendan McGarry (www.brendanmcgarry.com). Entitled "Grafted," the exhibit will feature a series of multiple exposure and digital composite photos of the botanical world. McGarry layers together multiple images of plants and other natural elements to draw in the viewer and

inspire them to appreciate the beauty of nature. For more information about "Grafted," call 206-543-0415 or visit www.millerlibrary.org.

Connect Your Preschooler with Nature This Winter

The UWBG's popular new education program for preschoolers—the Fiddleheads Forest School—is offering classes through the winter season. The classes are designed for kids aged 2 to 5 and their caregivers, and they take place twice a month on Wednesdays, from 1 to 3 p.m., and Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to noon. Each class features a hike through the Arboretum, educational games, story time, and craft activities. Themes for this season's classes are "Hibernation" (January 16/17), "Nature through Our Nose" (January 30/31), "Rain and Water" (February 13/14), "Owls" (February 27/28), "Animal Tracks and Homes" (March 13/14), and "Signs of Spring" (March 27/28). The cost is \$16 per session for one adult and child, or \$12 per session if you sign up for the entire series. Register online at uwbotanicgardens.org. For more information, contact Sarah at sshort@uw.edu or 206-221-6427. ↪

Arboretum Foundation

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Office Hours: M-F, 8:30 AM–4:30 PM
Graham Visitors Center/Gift Shop:
10 AM–4 PM, daily
Information Hotline: 206-543-8800

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Sherrey Luetjen: Vice President
Jim Reid: Vice President
Iris Wagner: Vice President
Roger Williams: Secretary
Paul (Skip) Vonckx: Treasurer

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Sheila Beer: Development and Events Coordinator
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Randall Hitchin: Volunteer and Outreach Program Manager
Kristin Price: Events Manager
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WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM

is managed cooperatively by University of Washington Botanic Gardens and City of Seattle Parks and Recreation, with support from the Arboretum Foundation.

GROUND WORK is a publication of the Arboretum Foundation.

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Useful Phone Numbers

Arboretum Offices/Graham Visitors Center: 206-543-8800
Japanese Garden: 206-684-4725
Master Gardeners Hotline: 206-296-3440
Miller Library: 206-543-0415
Plant Answer Line: 206-897-5268
UW Botanic Gardens: 206-543-8616
Volunteer Info: 206-616-4890

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*The Arboretum Foundation promotes,
protects and enhances the
Washington Park Arboretum
for current and future generations
by strengthening and building a diverse
and engaged community of donors,
volunteers and advocates.*

Begin or renew a membership at www.arboretumfoundation.org

Arboretum Scene

Daphne bholua Nepalese Paper Daphne

The coastal Pacific Northwest is famed for the richness of its winter garden plant palette. And one of the very best winter-interest plants we can grow here is the Nepalese paper daphne, *Daphne bholua* (pronounced bow-LOO-ah). A small shrub with an upright, open habit and narrow, medium-green leaves, it reaches at least eight feet high and three feet across and can be evergreen or deciduous, depending on the cultivar. Flowering usually begins around New Year's and features starry clusters of white or pink blossoms that emit a sweet and powerful fragrance. In the plant's native range, throughout much of the Himalayas and neighboring mountain ranges, its thin outer bark is used in paper making, while the inner bark is harvested for fiber used in the production of rope. Generally not put to such practical purposes in Northwest gardens, *Daphne bholua* simply serves as a delight to the senses. It grows best in partial shade and moist, well-drained soil, and in a location sheltered from strong winds. In the Arboretum, see this daphne at its best in the Witt Winter Garden.



PHOTO BY JOY SPURR

—Randall Hitchin, Arboretum Foundation