

Creating a New Pacific Connections Unit

In response to the ongoing budget crises affecting our University and City partners, the Arboretum Foundation is creating a new volunteer unit dedicated to the care and maintenance of the Pacific Connections Garden at the south end of the Arboretum. Our goal is to recruit and train a dedicated cadre of 20 to 25 volunteers who will, under the supervision of the Arboretum's horticultural staff, assist in caring for this new garden. We hope that this unit will be just one of several created in the next few years to support specific plant collections in the Arboretum.

In early spring, we assembled a group called the Pacific Connections Unit Task Force to design a plan for the recruitment and training of the new volunteer unit. The task force is co-chaired by our *Bulletin* editor, Jan Whitner, and *Bulletin* editorial board member, Walt Bubelis, and also includes Foundation executive director Paige Miller, UWBG grounds supervisor David Zuckerman, and the new Pacific Connections gardener, Kyle Henegar. It has been meeting once every two weeks to strategize about the development of the unit.

In May, the Foundation also hired a half-time temporary employee, Rhonda Bush, to assist the task force by managing the recruitment and scheduling of the new volunteers, and coordinating with the UWBG staff at the



EMERGENCY RESPONSE:

In the face of tough economic times, the Foundation is creating a new volunteer unit to help Arboretum gardener Kyle Henegar (pictured here) and other Arboretum staff care for the Pacific Connections Garden. Kyle is a new, ¾-time UWBG gardener working exclusively on Pacific Connections. Her salary is entirely funded by the Arboretum Foundation.

Arboretum. Rhonda is a landscape designer with a lot of experience in pruning and landscape maintenance. A graduate of the landscape design program at Edmonds Community College, she also has a background in managing staffing groups of both paid employees and volunteers.

Rhonda, who is contracted for a full year, is working on a precise timeline for the creation of the new unit, but we're aiming to have it up and running by early fall. Modeled on our volunteer Unit 86, which provides docents for the Japanese Garden, the new Pacific Connections

unit will focus primarily on maintenance. Weeding and mulching will be the main tasks, but there will also be opportunities to participate in new planting.

Commitment requirements for the new volunteers are currently being developed, as is a progressive reward program. The benefits of

volunteering are many: Our new recruits will receive maintenance training from the Arboretum staff and will get to share in the camaraderie of caring for these special new displays. We are also planning to build in learning opportunities for our volunteers—in the shape of lectures and instructional talks from the many plant experts in the Arboretum's extended family.

If you are interested in being involved or would like further information, please contact Rhonda at rbush@arboretumfoundation.org or 206-941-2550. ☺

Budget Crisis Update

We have good news to report on the budget front. Half of the state funding for the University of Washington's operation in the Arboretum—\$287,000 over the next two years—is now secure. This is an advocacy success for the Foundation and the citizen members of the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee who worked hard to persuade state officials to include the funds as a line item in the state budget. We would like to thank everyone who supported the Arboretum's cause, in particular Senator Ed Murray, chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, for his important leadership role in making this happen.

News and Notes

Farewell to Bulb Sale



In early 2011, as part of our efforts to streamline Foundation operations and respond to fiscal crisis affecting our Arboretum partners, we created an Events Evaluation Task Force to examine the cost-effectiveness of our six major fundraising events: Arbor Eden, Early Bloomers, FlorAbundance, Art in the Park, Bulb Sale, and Gifts & Greens Galore. The task force—made up of long-time Foundation volunteers, staff, and Board members—used a comprehensive analytical framework to evaluate each event and come up with a set of recommendations on how to maximize their financial benefits, while also reducing their costs and risks.

One unanimous recommendation was that we should retire our annual Fall Bulb & Plant Sale. In recent years, the sale has lost the Foundation a sizable amount of revenue and has suffered from a significant drop in attendance. Having consulted with our Board of Directors about the findings, Foundation executive director Paige Miller made the decision to retire the sale, effective immediately. While we are sad to see the Bulb Sale go, we are excited to announce that we will be designing a new, more cost-effective fall event in the near future to take its place—one we hope will attract new audiences and sources of revenue, and that is in tune with the Foundation's mission, vision, and strategic goals. Stay tuned!

Staff Transitions at the Foundation

The Foundation is bidding farewell to three of its valued staff members. Our Finance Manager, DeVere Pollom, retired at the beginning of June. DeVere joined the Foundation in May 2007 and has done a great job keeping our books in order – and making us all laugh with his signature jokes. Our Development Coordinator, Gregg Cato, is leaving at the end of June to pursue a Master's Degree in Public Affairs at the University of Washington. Gregg joined the Foundation back in early 2008 and has been our "Jack of all trades," doing everything from writing membership renewal letters to trucking in plants from out of state. In May, our Volunteer Resources Manager, Elly Lien, decided to move on to pursue other adventures.

Elly was with us since late 2008 and did a marvelous job updating our volunteer management systems for the digital age. We thank them all for their exemplary work and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors. DeVere's position has already been filled (see below). We are currently in the process of re-evaluating some of our staff assignments and responsibilities, and will soon post announcements for the other two positions.

Foundation Hires New Finance Manager

We are happy to announce that we've found a worthy successor to take over from DeVere. Dan Yuly joined us as our new Finance Manager in early June. Dan has a very strong background in non-profit financial management, having worked for such organizations as the Sightline Institute and Friends of the Children, in Seattle. His most recent position was director of finance and operations for the Atlantic Street Center, Seattle. Dan is also passionate about horticulture and the mission of the Arboretum Foundation. He's particularly interested in Japanese and Chinese gardens—he and his wife are creating an Asian garden at their home in Bremerton. Welcome Dan!

Sarah Reichard Appointed as UWBG Director

On July 1, Sarah Reichard will become the Orin and Althea Soest Director of the UW Botanic Gardens for one year. She has been serving as interim director, following the departure of Sandra Lier earlier this year. A professor at the UW School of Forest Resources, Sarah received her Ph.D. in 1994, working at the Center for Urban Horticulture. She returned there as a faculty member in 1997. Her research focuses on plant conservation, including the biology of rare plants and invasive species, and she is highly regarded in her field. In addition to publishing more than 40 scientific papers, Sarah is the author of *The Conscientious Gardener: Cultivating a Garden Ethic* (University of California Press, 2011). Congratulations Sarah!

Arboretum Summer Camp Update

The UWBG kids summer camp at the Arboretum is starting to fill up. The day camp, designed for kids aged 6 to 12, takes place over a three-week period in July, and is broken up into three themed sections: Native Plants & People (July 11 to 15), Little Green Thumbs (July 18 to 22), and Arboretum Detectives (July 25 to 29). Demand for the "Arboretum

News and Notes

Detectives” component, which teaches children all about urban wildlife, has been very high, and at press time, the week is almost fully booked. So, the UW education staff are changing things up a bit and offering a second Arboretum-detectives-type camp (entitled “Arboretum Explorers”) the same week as Little Green Thumbs, July 18 to 22. Each week of the camp costs \$250. Kids and grandkids of Arboretum Foundation members receive a 15 percent discount. For more information or to register, call 206-543-8801 or visit www.uwbotanicgardens.org.



INVASIVE BEAUTY: The attractive but noxious weed, garden loosestrife, is rampant in the Arboretum wetlands. Find out what’s being done to control it at UWBG’s Managing Aquatic Weeds symposium, on July 13. See page 7 for more details.

Hydrology Study Underway in Holly Collection

This spring, UWBG Arboretum staff noticed what appeared to be a small wetland developing on the north end of the Holly Collection. Standing water and holly trees don’t mix well, so the crew tried to determine the source of the flooding, but without any success. Now they are partnering with School of Forest Resources hydrology professor Susan Bolton and her student, Traci Amico, to get some answers. Soil pits have been dug around the site, and are being monitored on a weekly basis to try to figure out where the water’s coming from. Once a source is determined, the crew will be able to design and create a viable drainage system that will move the water away from our cherished hollies.

Hardy Perennials at the Donations Nursery

Looking for some hardy plants to fill in bare spots in the garden? The Plant Donations Nursery at the Arboretum has a good selection of hostas, Solomon’s seal, daylilies, and sword ferns to choose from. And remember, summer is a good time to plant fall crocus and fall-blooming cyclamen. The nursery is located just south of the Visitors Center and is open Wednesdays and second Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ↪

SAVE THE DATE!
“End of Summer” Plant Sale
Saturday, September 24th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Graham Visitors Center

Hosted by the Plant Donations Nursery and Pat Calvert Greenhouse
Free admission and parking!

What’s Happening

Arboretum Foundation Annual Meeting

Wednesday, June 15, 5:30—8 PM

Arboretum Walks & Talks

First Thursdays, 4—6:30 PM

July 7, August 4, October 6

(See page 4)

Arboretum Summer Camp

July 11—15: Native Plants & People

July 18—22: Little Green Thumbs

July 25—29: Arboretum Detectives

Japanese Garden Events

Saturday, July 9—Tanabata Star Festival

Saturday, August 15—Moon Viewing

— ONGOING EVENTS —

ARBORETUM PLANT SALES

Pat Calvert Greenhouse
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 AM—NOON

Plant Donations Nursery
Wednesdays and 2nd Saturdays
10 AM—2 PM

Donations now being accepted
2011 sales begin April 6

Guided Arboretum Walks

1st and 3rd Sundays, 1 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

An Extraordinary Gift

In March, 2011, Trudy Stack, a longtime member of Unit 45, and her husband Harold, made a very generous donation to the Arboretum Foundation. Half of the gift has been designated for the Pacific Connections Garden endowment, while the other half has been designated for more general purposes. In her own words, Trudy explained the emotion and connection behind this wonderful gift:

My reasons to donate to the Arboretum are many—the wonderful close woods for walks, the friends I enjoyed in Unit 45, the plant sales for my beautiful garden, the early memories of horseback with teen friends on Azalea Way—galloping to the stables where we now walk leisurely amid blooming trees. There is something very peaceful just visiting the grounds any time of year. It's a park for everyone!

Thank you, Trudy and Harold, for remembering the Arboretum in such a special way. Your gift will be recognized on the donor plaque in the Gateway to Chile.

New Trees Added to Commemorative List

The list of commemorative trees at the Arboretum just got a lot longer! We recently added 15 new specimens, including some real head turners. The beautiful *Acer palmatum* 'Ukigimo' is a small, variegated Japanese

Art in the Park on One-Year Hiatus

Our annual open-air art show and wine tasting—Art in the Park—has grown in popularity since its inauguration in August 2009. We regret to announce that this summer's event has been cancelled, as we focus our efforts on responding to the fiscal crisis affecting our city and university partners at the Arboretum. But the event will return in 2012, bigger and better than before.

maple with intense pink spring foliage that fades to green and white in the summer. Another highlight is *Pinus mugo* ssp. *uncinata*, a beautiful high-altitude single-stemmed European pine that grows to 60 feet tall. For a full list of available trees, please contact the Foundation office at 206-325-4510. ☺



WALKING & TALKING:

Arbor Circle and Steward members enjoy a free guided tour of the Seattle Japanese Garden on June 2, as part of our new Walks & Talks Program. The tour was led by docents from Unit 86. Upcoming tours are scheduled for July 7, August 4, and October 6. The July event will feature a tour of the Pat Calvert Greenhouse, as well as a propagation demonstration, from longtime greenhouse volunteers Ann O'Mera and Lynn Schueler. Keep an eye on our website, www.arboretumfoundation.org, for details. There won't be a tour in September—as we will be hosting our annual Arbor Circle recognition event early that month.

New Members

The Arboretum Foundation welcomes members who joined during the period of March 11 to June 9.

Bastyr University Herb Garden	Sandra & Thomas Eichbaum	Timothy Hiera	Konrad Liegel & Karen Atkins	Diane Pien	Colleen Sullivan
Laurie Cange	Diane English	Keri Holmboe	Sandra Liming	Sandy Pratt & Lee Larson	James Sutherland
Jan Capps & William Mace	Liza Ewell	Zhongwen Huang & Huifang Liang	Mark Lyke	Mr. Kevin M. Rabe	Susan Turpen
J. Cena	Michael Fiegenschuh	Aimee Jacobson	James H. Mathers	Sally Richardson & Donald Klovdstad	Marie Villarba
David Chuljian, D.D.S.	Ms. Jessica Fleming	Christine Jordan	Marcus and Pat Meier	Marcia Riler	Martha Weiss
Randal Cowart & Bonnie Thie	Karen Fountain	Adrienne R. Karpov	Russell Metz & Gaye Walsh	Karen Segar	Pauline Weller
Daniel Daily	Carolyn Freed	Faye Kaufmann	Jeffery Michell	Catherine Selin	Liisa Wihman
Megan Davis	Steve Galic	Ted Labbe	Peggy Milburn	Tami Shaughnessy	Christine Wolf
Peter de Arteaga	Sue S. Gilbert	Barbara & Steven Lebrun	Steve Mroz	Sherry Shefts	Sherri Woods
Ann Dold	Lisa Graumlich	Audrey LeLievre	Kris and Patricia Nilsson	Katie Smith & Brian Feucht	Theresa Yoder
	Catherine Hayes	Tara Lerew	Barbara Pickens	Edward Smith	Dan and Toni Yuly
					Holly Zipp

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

Felicitous Florabundance



TOP: Guests at the Member PreSale & Party enjoyed first pick of the plants.

BOTTOM: Sarah Reichard, the new UWBG director, shopping for plants at the PreSale.

CIRCLE: Board member Iris Wagner and Judy Phillips volunteering at the marking tables.

Crowds flocked to this year's FlorAbundance Spring Plant Sale on April 30 and May 1. Sales were strong, equaling those of last year's event and earning the Foundation \$61,000 in revenue.

Attendance at the Member Pre-Sale and Party on the evening of April 29 was up compared to 2010. Guests enjoyed delicious finger foods and desserts (including volunteer and Arbor Circle member Judy Isaac's legendary coconut cupcakes), fine wine from Chateau Ste Michelle, live music from old-time variety duo Squirrel Butter, and of course, first pick of the plants at the sale. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the event, including our wonderful event chairs, volunteers, and sponsors. (See below.)

This may be the last year that the sale takes place in Building 30 at Magnuson Park. Due to the building's deteriorating condition, city inspectors have restricted the use of the old hanger to just four events per year. A lottery was held in early spring to decide which four events would be held in the building in 2012, and unfortunately, the Arboretum Foundation lost out.

We are currently looking for an appropriate venue for the 2012 sale. We'll keep you posted of our progress. ↪

Thank You!

The Arboretum Foundation would like to thank the following businesses, organizations, and individuals for their support of FlorAbundance and the Member Pre-Sale & Party.

FlorAbundance Plant Sale Chairs:

Bob Lilly
Neal Lessinger

FlorAbundance Party Chair:

Carol Allison

The BoxMaker, Inc.
Cedar Grove Compost
Chateau Ste. Michelle
Henry's Plant Farm
McDonald's
Seattle Parks & Recreation
Sugar Rush Baking Company
Arboretum Foundation volunteers

Summer Events at the Seattle Japanese Garden

- **Saturday, July 9: TANABATA**—A traditional Japanese star festival, featuring cultural demonstrations and performances
- **Friday, July 22, 6:30 to 8:30 PM: 2011 GARDEN PARTY**—An annual fundraiser benefitting the Japanese Advisory Council programs and the horticultural needs of the garden; includes a horticultural tour, live music, sake tasting, and prize drawing; tickets \$50 per person; purchase the online at [http:// brownpapertickets.com/event/177323](http://brownpapertickets.com/event/177323).
- **Saturday, August 15: MOON VIEWING**—An evening event celebrating the beauty of the full moon.

For details, call 206-684-4725 or keep an eye on the Japanese Garden website, www.cityofseattle.net/parks/parkspaces/japanesegarden.htm.

VOLUNTEER VINE

Early Bloomers Report—Our Early Bloomers Plant Sale on Saturday, April 9, was a resounding success, thanks to the some nice, dry weather and the hard work of our dedicated volunteers. Hosted by the volunteers in the Plant Donations Nursery and Pat Calvert, the sale netted the Foundation more than \$10,000 in revenue—\$5,000 more than last year's sale! Thanks to all the volunteers who helped out at the event.



HAPPY SHOPPERS: Customers at the 2011 Early Bloomers Plant Sale.

can't raise money through our on-site nursery and greenhouse plant sales! Working in the shop is a great way to volunteer your time, even if you're limited in the hours you can commit. Training is provided. If interested, please contact the Foundation office at 206-325-4510 or info@arboretumfoundation.org.

Shop Volunteers Needed! The Arboretum Shop, located in the Graham Visitors Center, is open seven days a week, 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is run solely by volunteers, with assistance from Foundation staff. Our core of shop volunteers has dwindled in recent months—and we have an urgent need for new recruits! Without volunteers to run the shop, we not only lose valuable revenue from shop sales, we also

Finally—Fresh Food Available at the Shop—After many requests over the years from Arboretum visitors (not to mention staff and volunteers) that we provide food at the Graham Visitors Center, we're happy to

announce that the Arboretum Shop is now selling sandwiches and salads. The delicious, freshly prepared food is being provided by Seattle-based caterer Kim's Homemade, and the menu includes meat and vegetarian options. You'll find the food in the drinks fridge in the lobby of the visitors center. Bon appétit! ⇨



Arboretum Shop
WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM

SUMMER SALE ON SELECT ITEMS

The shop will be having a pre-inventory sale in June. You'll find great discounts (up to 30 percent off!) on select gifts. Sale items include:

- Blue Q Shopping Bags, made from recycled plastic bottles
- Botanical themed jewelry
- French handmade soaps

OPEN 11 AM TO 4 PM, TUESDAYS TO SUNDAYS
Ten percent discount for Foundation members

What's In My Garden

Christina Pfeiffer—*Bulletin* Editorial Board



What is in your garden this season? Two of my favorite summer flowering shrubs, Virginia sweetspire, *Itea virginica* 'Henry's Garnet', and summersweet, *Clethra alnifolia* 'Ruby Spice', don delicate, sweetly scented blooms in August, when many things in the garden are showing the wear and tear of the season. They thrive in light shade, which is where I also like to be in the garden at this time of year!

What is your favorite season to garden? I really enjoy the changing leaf colors and tasks of fall. While some plants are winding down, others put on a new flush of growth before retiring for the winter. It is also a nice time to plant.

Can you recommend a good gardening or nature book? *Insects and Gardens* by Eric Grissell. This entomologist and gardener offers great wisdom and wit on why the mingling of insects in our gardens is so vital to ecological health of both our gardens and the greater environment.

When did you start volunteering at the Arboretum? I switched hats from employee to volunteer in 2002, as I ended my 14-year position as the horticulturist on the University of Washington staff, and joined the Arboretum Foundation. As I was wrapping up my last afternoon of work, Lee Neff, then editor of the *Bulletin*, called to invite me to join the editorial board to continue my participation with the publication—an offer I couldn't refuse.

What is your favorite thing about volunteering at the Arboretum? It has given me a way to stay connected with some of my favorite people and plants, and to support and celebrate the unique plant collections we have here. ⇨

UWBG Events

Managing Aquatic Weeds: Challenges and Opportunities

Wednesday, July 13, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Graham Visitors Center

In 2009, UW Botanic Gardens was awarded a five-year Department of Ecology grant for the control of garden loosestrife (*Lysimachia vulgaris*)—a class B noxious weed mandated for control by the King County Weed Board—in the Arboretum wetlands and Union Bay Natural Area. Now UWBG is presenting a one-day symposium at the Arboretum on the science and management of aquatic weeds. The program will consist of both indoor and outdoor sessions, and includes guided tours. Participants can choose between a kayak tour through the lagoons or a walking tour through the waterfront trail marshlands. Garden loosestrife will be the main focus of the tours; however, other aquatic weeds and their control will also be discussed. Fee: \$55 with kayak tour; \$35 with walking tour. For more information or to register, contact Jean Robins at 206-685-8033 or jrobins@uw.edu.

Botanical Art Exhibit: Bible Plants for Modern Gardens

Through July 28, Elisabeth C. Miller Library
Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 NE 41st Street

Local artist Shirley Sidell will be exhibiting—and selling—photographs of plants mentioned in the Bible, at the Miller Library in June and July. Shirley is the founder of the website, www.biblicalgardens.com, which features basic instructions and plant lists for starting your own biblical garden. For more information, visit www.millerlibrary.org or call 206-543-0415.

POMEGRANATE, BY SHIRLEY SIDELL: See this and other beautiful photos in the “Bible Plants for Modern Gardens” exhibit at the Miller Library, in June and July.



Summer Kayak Tours at the Arboretum

In August, UWBG is partnering with Agua Verde Paddle Club to host another series of kayak tours in the Arboretum wetlands. The popular 90-minute guided tours will take place in and around Foster Island, and will offer guests a chance to meet some of the plant and animal residents of the wetlands, while also enjoying a little exercise. And it's for a great cause: All proceeds support the UWBG's School Fieldtrip Scholarship Fund.

Tour schedule:

- Wednesday, August 11 and Thursday, August 18—3 p.m. and 6 p.m.
- Friday, August 19, Early Birders Tour—7 a.m.
- Wednesday, August 24 and Thursday, August 25—3 p.m. and 6 p.m.
- Friday, August 26, Early Birders Tour—7 a.m.

No experience necessary. Fee: \$25 per person. Pre-registration required. For more information or to register, contact Jean Robins at 206-685-8033 or jrobins@uw.edu, or visit www.uwbotanicgardens.org. ↪

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

FOUNDATION OFFICERS

President: Della Balick
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Vice President: Fred Isaac
Vice President: Kathleen Pierce
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WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM

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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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for current and future generations
by strengthening and building a diverse
and engaged community of donors,
volunteers and advocates.*

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PHOTO © BJARNE DINESEN



Arboretum Scene

Rhododendron auriculatum

This is one of the most spectacular and unconventional rhododendrons that you'll see in the Arboretum. Native to central and western China (Hubei to Sichuan), this species bears large (8-inch-long or more), handsome, evergreen leaves carried on branches with distinctively fissured, gray bark. But the plant's most remarkable feature is that it blooms in mid- to late-summer, well after the rest of the annual parade of rhododendrons has passed. In July and August, the huge trusses of large, white, funnel-shaped flowers fill the air with a mesmerizing fragrance reminiscent of roses and

wintergreen. Each flower cluster may hold up to 20 individual blossoms. In time, this plant can develop into a small tree, reaching 15 to 30 feet in height, often with a width exceeding its height. Like most rhododendrons, it does best in partial shade and a moist, acidic, humus-rich soil with good drainage. ↪

—Randall Hitchin, UWBG Living Collections Manager & Registrar, Washington Park Arboretum

In the Arboretum: While plants of this species can be found in grids 11-1E, 11-2E, 12-2E, and 13-6E, the specimen south of the lower Rhododendron Glen Pond (11-2E) merits a visit any time of year, but especially on a warm afternoon in late summer.