

The “Big Daddy” of Plant Sales Returns!

Thanks to a record warm winter in our region, spring fever started early this year, and gardeners are chomping at the bit to get hold of new, high-quality plants for their yards. Luckily, the region’s largest and best plant sale—Cisnoe Morris refers to it as “the big daddy of them all”—will soon be upon us. The Arboretum Foundation’s annual FlorAbundance Spring Plant Sale will take place on Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Building 30, in Magnuson Park, Seattle.

As always, the sale will feature dozens of specialty nurseries selling an amazing selection of locally grown edibles, annuals, perennials, and woody plants. Shoppers at last year’s FlorAbundance were delighted that the sale was back in its regular venue at Magnuson Park—where there’s ample free parking and room for lots of vendors. We expect the same buzz and excitement this year!



Check out our website, www.arboretumfoundation.org, for a full list of participating nurseries. Every purchase you make at the sale will help support the maintenance and education programs at Washington Park Arboretum. If you have any questions about the event, call us at 206-325-4510.

Pre-Sale & Party for Members
Arboretum members and their guests are invited to attend the

FlorAbundance Pre-Sale & Party, on Friday, April 24, from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Get the first pick of plants at the sale, while enjoying delicious local wine and tasty appetizers from the celebrated Skillet food truck. Early-bird tickets are \$40. Tickets purchased after April 10 will be \$50. You can purchase them online at www.arboretumfoundation.org or by calling 206-325-4510. Ticket numbers are limited—so please buy yours soon!

PARTY “FUND-A-NEED” RAISES \$57K FOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The “Fund-A-Need” portion of this year’s Opening Night Party & Auction on February 10 raised an unprecedented amount of money in support of the Foundation’s volunteer program—over \$57,000, nearly doubling last year’s “Fund-A-Need” total. In the days prior to the party, Foundation staff and board members reached out to potential donors to see if they would agree to honor a particular Arboretum volunteer with a gift of \$1,000 or more—and the response was wonderful. Klaus and Marcia Zech got the ball rolling with a very generous \$26,000 matching gift in honor of Dr. John Wott. Pat and Marcus Meier added their own generous matching gift of \$5,000.

On the evening of the party, Ann Piggot Wyckoff, as well as Sherrey and Doug Luetjen, gave in honor of Iris Wagner. Chris and Meg Harry, and Mary Joan Hervey, gave in honor of the late Dave Hervey. Skip Vonckx gave in honor of Bob Lilly and Phil Wood. Carolyn Kitchell gave in honor of Sherrey Luetjen. Allan Ferrin gave in honor of Skip Vonckx. Jim Reid and Richard Smith gave in honor of Mayor Ed Murray and Michael Shiosaki. AHBL Landscape Architecture gave in honor of Jason Morse. Kathleen Pierce gave in honor of Rhonda Bush. Lenore Cote gave in honor of Jim Reid. Meri Nelson gave in honor of Lynn Garvey. A huge thanks to all our donors! ⇨

News and Notes

Early Bloomers Returns April 11

The Arboretum Foundation's annual Early Bloomers Plant Sale returns on Saturday, April 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This charming sale takes place in the beautiful Washington Park Arboretum and is hosted by the knowledgeable and friendly volunteers in our Plant Donations Nursery and Pat Calvert Greenhouse. Admission and parking are free, and all sales benefit the Arboretum.

The nursery will be offering a good supply of spring-flowering perennials, including trout lilies, trilliums, cyclamen, English primroses, hellebores, and hostas. You'll also find a nice assortment of trees, shrubs, and summer-blooming perennials. The greenhouse will be selling lots of young camellias, rhododendrons, azaleas, and hydrangeas propagated from Arboretum collections. You'll also find choice specimen shrubs, unusual perennials such as species primroses, and many compact conifers.



Arboretum License Plate Bill Passes House

In February, the Washington State House Transportation Committee passed a bill to approve a specialty license plate for the state tree, the Western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*). The bill is now awaiting hearing by the Senate Transportation Committee. If all goes well, the plate will be available for purchase on January 1, 2017. After reimbursing the Department of Licensing (DOL), the plate's fees will benefit both the Washington Park Arboretum and Spokane's John Finch Arboretum. The additional cost for a buyer specialty plate is \$40. After DOL expenses, 85 percent of the funds will be paid to the Arboretum Foundation to support maintenance and education in Washington

Park Arboretum, while 15 percent will be paid to the City of Spokane to support its Finch Arboretum.

The license plate idea was the brainchild of Arboretum neighbors Reed Bishop and his mother Kim, who also worked on the design of the plate. Our sincere thanks to Reed and Kim, as well as to Representative Brady Walkinshaw of Washington's 43rd legislative district, who is the lead sponsor of the bill and has worked to get the support of his colleagues.

Two New Board Members

At its meeting in March, the Arboretum Foundation Board of Directors elected two new members to fill recently vacated positions—Trina Wherry and Chris Pendl. Trina is a retired financial advisor who worked at RBC Wealth Management for many years. Chris is currently the Senior Director of Marketing and Content at Nyhus Communications. "We are very excited about Trina and Chris," says Governance Committee Chair Sherrey Luetjen. "They will be tremendous assets to the Board and Foundation and bring terrific energy and enthusiasm." Welcome Trina and Chris!

Spring Guided-Walk Themes

Every Sunday from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., UW Botanic Gardens-trained guides lead free tours of the Arboretum, starting from the Graham Visitors Center. This April, the tours will focus on Azalea Way and the many gorgeous early-blooming species in the Rhododendron Collection. In May, the theme will be "Flower Power," and tours will focus on spring-flowering trees and shrubs in the Arboretum, as well as on the topics of flower morphology and pollination. June tours will focus on the late-spring highlights of the Pacific Connections Garden.

Display Garden Wins Golden Palette

During the Northwest Flower & Garden Show in February, the Arboretum's display won the Golden Palette Award for best use of color, as well as a Bronze Award from the Show judges. Entitled "Picture Yourself on Azalea Way," the interactive display paid homage to the Arboretum's historic azalea- and cherry-lined promenade and—through the use of vegetated photo props—allowed Show visitors to become part of the scenery. Thanks to everyone who helped make the display possible, especially our partners at Seattle Parks and Recreation and UW Botanic Gardens, and our spectacular volunteers! A special thanks to our designers Bob Lilly and Phil Wood, and our intern project manager Brooklyn Deatherage.



GiveBIG to the Arboretum on May 5!

The Seattle Foundation's GiveBIG will take place on Tuesday, May 5. This annual, one-day, online charitable giving event inspires locals to contribute to their favorite charities to make our region a healthier and more vital place to live. Every donation made on the day will receive a pro-rated portion of the GiveBIG stretch pool of matching funds, provided by the event's many sponsors. We hope you'll consider supporting the Arboretum Foundation on May 5. As we did last year in the week prior to the event, we'll be running a yard-sign campaign in the Arboretum to raise awareness about GiveBIG and the Foundation's mission. To make a contribution to the Arboretum, visit our website (www.arboretumfoundation.org) on May 5 and follow the instructions.

Children's Day at the Japanese Garden

The annual Children's Day event (*kodomo no hi*) at the Seattle Japanese Garden in Washington Park Arboretum will take place on Sunday, May 31, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event marks a Japanese national holiday celebrating the happiness of children. Enjoy performances by local Japanese cultural groups, kid-focused cultural activities, and—best of all—free koi food to feed the fish in Japanese Garden pond. Kids 12 and under are free all day! The event is free with regular admission for adults and seniors. For more information, visit www.seattlejapanese garden.org.

Foundation Mourns Sylvia Duryee

The Foundation would like to acknowledge the passing of longtime member and generous donor Sylvia Duryee. She died peacefully at her Seattle home on December 20, aged 89. An avid gardener and nature lover from an early age, Sylvia joined the Arboretum Foundation in 1952. In recent years, she was a member of our Arbor Circle, and toward the end of her life made a generous donation of \$20,000 to support the Arboretum.

Our Executive Director Paige Miller paid her a visit late last fall. "She was Sylvia to the end," says Paige. "Feisty, giving direction, and telling me how to make the Arboretum better. I took notes!! I also asked her to share her favorite memories of the Arboretum, and she mentioned two. The first was walking across the newly constructed—but yet unopened—SR 520 Bridge in the early 1960s with her father, Charles Clise. Sylvia's father wanted to be able to say that he was the first to cross the bridge! Her second favorite memory was ice skating with her kids on Duck Bay one winter when it completely froze over." ⇨



FAREWELL TO RHONDA! Rhonda Bush will be retiring from her position as the Garden Stewards Coordinator. She helped create the Garden Stewards program from the ground up, starting in 2011, and has been its face (and heart) since the beginning. Rhonda is looking forward to spending more time with her family: Her husband Larry will be retiring soon, and she also can't get enough of her grandson, Griffin. Rhonda will be with us through May, or until her successor is hired, at which point she will transition into the role of a Garden Steward—which is no surprise given that she coined the term "wired to weed." Thanks Rhonda!

What's Happening

Early Bloomers Plant Sale
Saturday, April 11, 10 AM—2 PM

FlorAbundance Spring Plant Sale
Warren G. Magnuson Park, Bldg. 30
Saturday, April 25, 9 AM—5 PM
Sunday, April 26, 10 AM—2 PM
Member Pre-Sale
Friday, April 24, 5—7:30 PM

Arboretum Foundation Annual Meeting
Wednesday, June 17, 5—8 PM

Arboretum Walks & Talks
First Thursdays, 4—6:30 PM
April 2, May 7, June 4
Arbor Circle, Legacy Circle,
Steward-level members, plus guests

Children's Day
Seattle Japanese Garden
Sunday, May 31, 11 AM—3 PM

— ONGOING EVENTS —

ARBORETUM PLANT SALES

Pat Calvert Greenhouse: Year round.
Plant Donations Nursery: April—October
Purchase plants at the Arboretum Shop
Open daily 10 AM—4 PM

VOLUNTEERS PRESENT

Greenhouse: Tuesdays/Thursdays
10 AM—NOON
Nursery: Wednesdays/2nd Saturdays
10 AM—2 PM

Guided Arboretum Walks (Free)
Every Sunday, 1:00—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 otherwise 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.

Sign-Up Adventures

This spring and summer, the Arboretum Foundation is again coordinating several opportunities for Arboretum supporters to meet and greet in unique settings. These adventures were offered to guests at our Opening Night Party and some spaces remain available. For more information or to sign up, call 206-325-4510 or email Nat Bennett at nbennett@arboretumfoundation.org.



GUIDED HIKE: A NATURALIST'S FIELD DAY ON THE SAGEBRUSH STEPPE SATURDAY, MAY 16

Join seasoned guides Paul Smith and David Hutchinson on a leisurely field trip to the L.T. Murray Wildlife Area, which protects a large expanse of the state's sagebrush steppe habitat. Discover the botanical riches and diverse bird life of this dramatic landscape. Hike distance: 2 miles. Cost: \$75 per person. Lunch included.

PARTY: RE WELCH GALLERY ART & WINE RECEPTION THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 4

Enjoy sophisticated international art in the stylish setting of the RE Welch Gallery, in downtown Seattle. The gallery specializes in contemporary European paintings and sculptures. Join your fellow Arboretum supporters on June 4 for a party featuring fine wines, hors d'oeuvres, and sparkling conversation. Cost: \$100 per person.

SUMMER GETAWAY: See the beautiful sights and flora of the Teanaway Ridge, while supporting the Arboretum! (Photo courtesy Maria Pavlova)

DINNER: DINE WITH CISCOE! TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 9

Enjoy a delicious catered dinner with local gardening guru and celebrity Ciscoe Morris, and have all your plant questions answered. The venue will be the Denny Blaine home of former Foundation board member Iris Wagner and her husband Ted, on the shore of Lake Washington. Cost: \$175 per person.

GUIDED HIKE: FIELD BOTANY ON THE TEANAWAY RIDGE, SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Join Eve Rickenbaker and Randall Hitchin for a botanical adventure along the Teanaway Ridge—

a wildflower lover's paradise nestled in the Wenatchee Mountains. Much more than the average flower walk, this behind-the-scenes tour will introduce you to the work of the field botanist. Hike distance: 6.5 miles. Cost: \$75.

DINNER: COLMAN ESTATE CHEF DINNER, FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 24

Join executive chef Peter Levine for a delightful buffet dinner in the garden of the historic Colman Estate. Built in 1922, the English Tudor style estate features panoramic views of Puget Sound and grounds reflecting many decades of family gardening passion. Cost: \$125 per person.

Thank You: We are very grateful to Paul Smith, David Hutchinson, Richard Smith, Jim Reid, Ciscoe Morris, Iris and Ted Wagner, Meg and Chris Harry, Eve Rickenbaker, Maryanne Tagney and David Jones, and Peter Levine for making these unique experiences possible. ☺

New Members

The Foundation welcomes members who joined during the period of December 3, 2014, to March 25, 2015.

Marilee and Gordon Ahalt	Joan Canfield	Erin Fortier	Marcelle LaGrou	Ruth O'Connell	Jessica Thompson
Jana B. Anderson	Sherrlyn Carpenter	Rama Gopinath	Yvonne Z. Lam	Christine Olson and William Betts	Anne Trent
Ana Badell and Will Harris	Alison and Adam Chassin	Jeff Graham and John Longres	Leslie Larsen	Nancy Ousley and Carla Anderson	Don Vetter
Brenda Baltrusch	Alice E. Chew	Laura Grow and Shawn MacDougall	Tanya Losswell	Janet L. Patrick	Louise and Raymond Watne
Virginia Blaine	Karen Chikuami	Keytharine Jie Guan	Merri Majovski	Alice Romero	Walter Weber
Joy Blake	David J. Della	Laura and Scott Halliday	Kelly Mann and John Kenley	Laura Rowlett	Diane Wheeler
Lindsay Bleier and Kenneth Kim	Lorraine Dennis and Stephen Thomas	Alice Hanson	Ann McCutchan	Jolie Roze	Brandi and Chuck Williamson
Kamella Boule	Jill S. Devenport	Connie Hilton	Dannie and Craig McLaughlin	Lori Soma	Erik Wirth
Nancy and Rod Brewster	Susannah and Aashish Dhamdhare	Corinne Hollister	Robin Mers	Betty and Dennis Stover	Gary Wortzel and Judith Kaufman
April Brown and Michelle Westford	Andres Diaz	Terry Holme and Jeanne Iannucci	Jason Morse	Ben Streissguth	Gaerda Zeiler
Nancy Campbell	Susan and Stephen Dorsch	Amanda Keating Peters	Jennifer Murphy	Satish Thatte and Vandana Datye	John Crerar Library (Serials)
	Janie Ekberg	Suzanne Kolb	Dick and Meri Nelson	Kelly Thomas	
			Mary Neuschwanger		

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

Another Stellar Opening Night!



Top left: **HONORARY CO-CHAIRS:** Seattle Mayor Ed Murray with First Gentleman Michael Shiosaki.

Bottom left: **ARBORETUM COLLEAGUES:** Dean of the UW College of the Environment Lisa Graumlich and Arboretum Foundation Board President Jim Reid.

Top right: **CIRCLE OF FRIENDS:** Guests enjoying the wine reception and live auction.

Bottom right: **MYSTERY WRITER:** Author Marty Wingate (right) with husband Leighton and friend.



Our 27th annual Opening Night Party at the Northwest Flower & Garden Show on February 10 was another resounding success. Attendance was strong; guests enjoyed a wonderful evening of wine, food, and spectacular Show gardens; and the Foundation raised important funds for Washington Park Arboretum. Thanks to generous purchases made during our live and silent auctions—and an amazing response to our volunteer program “Fund-A-Need” (see page 1)—we raised even more money than last year’s sell-out event!

In keeping with the “Romance Blossoms” theme of the Garden Show, the party celebrated romantic love with elegant décor and fun games—including a “spin-the-bottle” wine grab. Our Honorary Co-Chairs Mayor Ed Murray and First

Special thanks to this year’s Opening Night sponsors

NW Flower & Garden Show
 Saltchuk Resources, Inc.
 K&L Gates
 PACCAR
 Holland America Line
 The Berger Partnership
 Etera
 Delta Airlines
 McAvoy Real Estate
 Hoshide Wanzer Williams
 Chateau Ste Michelle
 Lesa Strouffe & Co.
 Nyhus Communications

Gentleman Michael Shiosaki showed their whimsical sides by participating in a Lipsology lip-print reading. Thank you Ed and Michael for your support!

Foundation board member Sherrey Luetjen returned as event Co-Chair and was ably assisted by fellow Co-Chair Julie McAvoy and a creative party committee that included Jim Reid, Carolyn Kitchell, Zanny Milo, Chris Harry, and Chris Pendl. Our thanks to everyone who helped make the party possible—including our Co-Chairs, event committee, event sponsors, and the many individuals and businesses who generously contributed to our auctions. Nothing could have happened without the help of our amazing volunteers (see page 6) and, of course, the presence of our fabulous guests! ☺

VOLUNTEER VINE

Thanks to Our Garden Show Volunteers! This year's Opening Night Party on February 10 was a huge success—thanks in large part to our volunteers! Nearly 90 volunteers worked hard on setting up the auction, welcoming and checking in the guests, promoting the fundraiser games, and make sure the many other components of the party ran smoothly. Leading up to the event, we had five work parties with many more volunteers who helped us get all the materials, supplies, and decor ready for the big event.

We are also very grateful to our many volunteers and to our University and City partners who worked with us on the Arboretum display garden for the show. With your help, we built a replica of Azalea Way in four days! The *Seattle Times* produced a wonderful behind-the-scenes video of our build entitled "Aiming for a Gold Medal Garden." You'll find a link to it from the homepage of our website, www.arboretumfoundation.org.

Volunteer at FlorAbundance Volunteer at FlorAbundance (April 24 to 26) and help the Arboretum Foundation put on



GARDEN DISPLAY BUILD: Terri Dufault and Brooklyn Deatherage helping to create "Picture Yourself on Azalea Way."

a great way to be involved at the Washington Park Arboretum. Our gift shop volunteers love interact-

ing with visitors from near and far. We recently had two volunteers "retire" and we now have three Sundays a month open—meaning the gift shop is currently closed those days. Would you like to help out? Weekends are the busiest time of the week and the most fun time to be a volunteer in the gift shop. Training is provided. We ask gift shop volunteers to commit to seven hours per month (one full day or two half-days). If you are interested, please contact Megan Meyer at 206-325-4510 or mmeyer@arboretumfoundation.org.

Sunday Gift Shop Volunteers Needed

Volunteering in the Gift Shop is a great way to be involved at the Washington Park Arboretum. Our gift shop volunteers love interacting with visitors from near and far. We recently had two volunteers "retire" and we now have three Sundays a month open—meaning the gift shop is currently closed those days. Would you like to help out? Weekends are the busiest time of the week and the most fun time to be a volunteer in the gift shop. Training is provided. We ask gift shop volunteers to commit to seven hours per month (one full day or two half-days). If you are interested, please contact Megan Meyer at 206-325-4510 or mmeyer@arboretumfoundation.org. ↪



Arboretum Shop
WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM

New Spring Titles!

- *Hellstrip Gardening*, by Evelyn Hadden (\$24.95)
- *Designing and Planting a Woodland Garden*, by Keith Wiley (\$34.95)
- *Small-Space Vegetable Gardening*, by Andrea Bellamy (\$19.95)

Ten percent discount for members
10 AM—4 PM DAILY

What's In My Garden 🌿

SUSIE THORNESS, Display Garden and Events Volunteer



What is in your garden this season? So much is in bloom now! Once, in late spring, a young person walking by asked me if I plant new flowers every day. The peonies are a wonderful show. I am watching the Cascadia sugar snap peas coming along in our vegetable garden. In my planting strip, I have a deciduous shrub blooming with white flowers. It has pinnately compound leaves, and I think it was labeled *Zanthoxylum piperitum* when I bought it, but it's become one of those fun mystery plants.

What is your favorite season to garden? I am a master weeder (I made up that term!), and early spring is a great time to be outside. It can be wet and chilly, but the weeds are not big and they come out of the soil so easily. The more I do in spring, the less I have to do in summer. I love the spring plant sales, too—so many possibilities.

Can you recommend a good gardening or nature book? I just read *Northwest Trees*, by Stephen F. Arno, with beautiful illustration art by Ramona P. Hemmerly. It sat on my bookshelf for 15 years before I picked it up. I like Arthur Lee Jacobson's books, especially *Trees of Seattle*. I'll never forget *An Island Garden*, by Celia Thaxter, which was on my grandfather's bookshelf. I recommend both *Edible Heirlooms* and *Cool Season Gardener*, by Bill Thorness, my husband.

When did you start volunteering at the Arboretum?? I volunteered for a short time in the 1990s and for the last five years on the Arboretum display garden.

What is your favorite thing about volunteering at the Arboretum? The Arboretum is such a wonderful place; I love the volunteer work and great people to meet and work with.

UWBG Events & Classes

Seasonal Plant ID & Culture: The Heath Family

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 8 AM TO NOON, WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM

Horticulture consultant and educator Christina Pfeiffer leads a series of interactive programs in the Arboretum each year focusing on sustainable horticulture and landscaping techniques. Her next session will explore spring-flowering plants in the heath family (Ericaceae). Members of this family include garden favorites such as rhododendrons, azaleas, and spring heath.



“GOLD FINCH” by Sally Wager, one of the many talented artists whose work will be on view at the Miller Library during the 8th Annual Pacific Northwest Botanical Artists Exhibit, from Friday, April 3 to Saturday, May 2. Artwork, prints, and cards will be for sale, with a portion of sales benefiting the library. See www.millerlibrary.org.

The seminar will feature a walk in the Arboretum and a discussion of such topics as right plant/right place, design functions and aesthetics, and how plants change in the landscape over time. Cost: \$65; \$75 after April 23.

Explore the Sino-Himalayan Hillside

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 6:30 TO 8 PM

WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM

Join UW Botanic Gardens Curator of Living Collections Ray Larson on a tour of the fascinating Sino-Himalayan Hillside section of the Arboretum. Just south of the Hybrid Rhododendron Garden along Azalea Way, it showcases

some of the more unusual plants native to the higher elevations of China and the Himalayan foothills—a region of tremendous plant diversity. Most of the Arboretum’s specimens are from wild-collected seed, and many have been planted in the last 30 years. Cost: \$5; \$10 after April 28.

Urban Forest Symposium: “Valuing the Urban Forest”

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 8:45 AM TO 4:00 PM

CENTER FOR URBAN HORTICULTURE (3501 NE 41ST STREET, SEATTLE)

From clean water and air to healthier minds and bodies, trees provide us with ecosystem services of significant value—and yet, they never seem to get the credit they deserve. The 7th annual Urban Forest Symposium will focus on the best methods for quantifying the worth of our urban forests and communicating that value to decision-makers and the public. Presenters will share the latest research on storm water benefits and tools used to quantify them; introduce a new online portal to assist in identifying areas in cities that would gain the most in health savings through expanding the tree canopy; and discuss how to leverage the many benefits of the urban forest in order to engage new supporters. Cost: \$85. ⇨

THIS IS JUST A SMALL SELECTION OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFERED BY UWBG. TO FIND OUT MORE OR TO REGISTER, VISIT WWW.UWBOTANICGARDENS.ORG OR CALL 206-685-8033.

Arboretum Foundation

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Office Hours: M-F, 8:30 AM–4:30 PM
Arboretum Shop: 10 AM–4 PM, daily
Graham Visitors Center: 10 AM–5 PM, daily
Information Hotline: 206-543-8800

FOUNDATION OFFICERS

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Diane Adachi: Vice President
Sherrey Luetjen: Vice President
Roger Williams: Vice President
Linda Strout: Secretary
Paul (Skip) Vonckx: Treasurer

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Megan Meyer: Volunteer Resources Manager
Kristin Price: Events Manager
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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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Washington Park Arboretum
2300 Arboretum Drive East
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www.arboretumfoundation.org

Spring 2015



*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,
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Arboretum Scene

Staphylea pinnata

European bladdernut

Native to forests and scrublands of France, Italy, Poland, Romania, and Turkey, European bladdernut is an erect, deciduous, suckering shrub that grows up to 15 feet tall. The foliage is pinnate—each leaf is made up of five to seven small, pointed leaflets arranged along each side of a common stalk. In May and June, long, narrow panicles of fragrant, bell-shaped, pink-tinged white flowers droop down among the leaves. These develop into greenish-white, papery fruit capsules that resemble small bladders (hence the common name). The seeds inside the capsules are edible and reportedly taste like pistachios. European bladdernut is a wonderful plant for a shrub border or woodland edge. It grows best in partial shade and rich, evenly moist soil. It can tolerate a variety of soil types but is not suited to fast-draining, droughty areas. A fine specimen can be found along Azalea Way, just south of the Hybrid Rhododendron Garden.

—Randall Hitchin, Arboretum Foundation