



# E.B. Dunn Historic Garden Trust

## Spring 2009

**Savor Wine... Stroll the Gardens  
A Wine Tasting Benefit**  
Sunday, May 17, 2009 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Mark your calendars for a delightful afternoon of wine tasting and strolling the Dunn Gardens at one of our peak bloom times. We will be welcoming even more wineries than in past years and will provide delicious appetizers to complement the pours. Among our participants will be the Thurston Wolfe winery of Prosser, WA ; Domanico Cellars from our nearby Ballard neighborhood and one of Oregon's fine makers of Pinot Noir - Firesteed Cellars. The complete list of wineries will be available on the website in the next few weeks. Come sample an exciting variety of exceptional wines.

Our knowledgeable docents will be available to guide you through the Gardens should you desire a tour. We will also have people on hand to help you with your wine purchases - either by the bottle or the case. A portion of all the proceeds will benefit our care and preservation of this outstanding Olmsted Garden.

At \$50.00 per ticket this popular event will sell out quickly. To make your reservation please phone 206.362.0933 or register on line at [www.dunngardens.org](http://www.dunngardens.org) You can also mail a check to Dunn Gardens, P.O. Box 77126, Seattle, WA 98177.

We look forward to seeing you at this very special event.  
*Connie Hokanson*, Wine Tasting Chair

**SAVE THE WEEKEND July 18 & 19**  
Back by popular demand  
**ArtWalk at Dunn Gardens**  
2009 Theme "AYPE Inspirations"

**June 6-7**  
Joint  
Dunn Gardens/  
SS Virginia V  
Tours in honor  
of AYP Centennial

1909 **AYP** 2009  
ALASKA - YUKON - PACIFIC  
EXPOSITION

Hellebore  
Photo by  
Charles Price



**In this  
edition**

*Letter from the President*

*2009 Events Calendar*

*Wine Tasting*

*ArtWalk*

*Message from our  
Executive Director*

*Garden Conservation Priorities*

*The Curators' Corner*

*Recognition of Donor-Members,  
Businesses, In Kind Supporters*

*And More....*



Glass Art by Jesse Kelly  
Photo by Connie Hokanson

## Letter from the President, Bruce Lamka



This will be my last letter as President, and I am happy to report that, thanks to the generosity of you, our members and friends, we closed out the year in good order and are eagerly looking forward to the future. As I look back over the past dozen years or so, I am amazed how far the Gardens have come. When I first visited, brambles were still in evidence and the creek was choked with ivy. Now, nearly every corner of the property is clean, restored or renovated, and carefully planted. And for that, we have not only our curators and staff to thank, as well as volun-

teers who give so much of their time showing visitors around or planning and putting on our major events, but our thanks to each one of you. So, don't be strangers. Please come and visit.

As I write this, snow is falling outside my window, but is almost the middle of February and I am sure that Spring must be just around the corner. I know the snowdrops are already up and beautiful, and the cyclamen, too. It can't be that long until the Rhododendrons will bloom and the long days of summer arrive. You will come, won't you, to see it all?

We also hope you will come to the NW Flower and Garden show because this year we will be trying something new. Anyone who visits our booth and renews a membership or becomes a new member of the Dunn Gardens at the \$100 level or above will receive, absolutely free, as our thank-you gift, a hellebore specially selected from the Withey-Price breeding program. These are very beautiful plants and hard to find, and will grace your garden for many, many years to come.

Thank you all again. *Bruce*



(l-r) Gardeners Zsolt Lehoczsky and Roger Lackman next to new compost bins they designed and built. Bins made possible by donations from Dunn Lumber, Key Bank and Broadview Garden Club.  
Photo by Sue Nevler

*A special thank you to McCallum Print Group for their generosity in donating this newsletter printing. None of our precious donations were used for this. We greatly appreciate their support.*

## Board of Directors

**Bruce Lamka**  
President

**Ted Andrews**  
Vice President/Finance & Administration

**Jann Blackburn**  
Vice President/Board Operations

**Robert Findlay**  
Vice President/Garden Conservation

**Roberta Goodnow**  
Vice President/Annual Giving

**Gayle Harris & Susan Robinson**  
Vice Presidents/Special Events

**Chris Smith Towne**  
Vice President/Long-Range Planning

**Jenny Wyatt**  
Vice President/Education &  
Docent Director

**George Vestal**  
Secretary

**C. David Hughbanks\***  
Immediate Past President

Debbie Agee

Kathy Cooper

Beth Dodrill

Patrick Dunn

Michael Glenn, MD

Connie Hokanson

Mimi K. Kirsch

Steve Lorton

Dina Mandoli, PhD

Alex McKallor

Peter Morrill

Sue Nicol

Ann Ormsby

Iain Robertson

Barbara Waske

Glenn Withey

### EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Christopher Bayley\*

Michael Casteel\*

Sue Nevler

Linda Hanson\*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sue Nevler

### CURATORS

Charles Price

Glenn Withey

### GROUNDS MANAGER

Roger Lackman

### GARDENER

Zsolt Lehoczky

### ADMINISTRATOR

Dot McCain

### ACCOUNTANT

David Traylor

### ADVISORS

J. Michael Kaiser, CPA, PS

Konrad J. Liegel, Counsel

### NEWSLETTER

Susan Dunn\*

### PHOTOGRAPHER

Connie Hokanson

\*Past Board Presidents

## E.B. Dunn Historic Gardens Events 2009

*The Garden is open for tours April, May, June, July, September and October each year. Please call the Dunn Gardens office at 206-362-0933 to schedule your private or group tour, or visit our website [www.dunngardens.org](http://www.dunngardens.org)*

### **March 22<sup>nd</sup> Open Sunday: Spring Preview 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

A spring preview for donors at the Friends Level featuring Trilliums, Erythronium and other spring delights.

### **April 16<sup>th</sup> Evening Lecture by Cliff Mass at Center for Urban Horticulture**

UW Atmospheric Scientist, radio commentator, author will speak on The Weather of the Pacific Northwest and sign copies of his popular new book.  
**6:30** Doors Open for Book Purchase/signing **6:45 pm** Light refreshments

**7:00 pm Lecture. Tickets \$10**

**A joint Dunn Gardens/Miller Library Fundraiser Event**

### **May 17<sup>th</sup> Wine Tasting. Fundraising Event at the Gardens 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

Exciting mix of wineries with refreshments, strolls.

### **June 6-7 Open Saturday/Sunday for AYPE**

“Step Back in Time: Stroll an Historic Garden.....See an Historic Ship”  
Joint open days with SS Virginia V

### **July 18<sup>th</sup> ArtWalk at Dunn Gardens “AYPE Inspirations”**

**Fundraising Gala Preview Party 5pm – 8pm**

Outstanding Art, Music, Refreshments. Tickets \$100

### **July 19<sup>th</sup> ArtWalk Stroll. Sunday 3-6pm**

Art, Music, Food, Strolls \$20

### **Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> Fall Foliage Festival Sunday. 2–4 pm**

Plant sale, membership drive, refreshments, silent auction and docent led tours of the gardens.  
Our chance to thank members and welcome new friends

### **Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> Thursday Evening Lecture with our curators, Glenn Withey and Charles Price.**

**7:00 pm**, Light refreshments **7:15 pm** Lecture begins at Dunn Gardens Classroom

GARDEN  CENTER  
**SWANSON'S**

9701 15th Ave. NW  
Seattle, WA 98177  
(206) 782-2543

[www.swansonnursery.com](http://www.swansonnursery.com)

# 25% SAVINGS

**for E.B. Dunn Garden Supporters**

Swanson's is pleased to extend Special savings to  
E.B.Dunn Garden Supporters.

Bring this voucher in to receive a 25% discount  
**off ONE regularly priced item.**

One per customer, please.  
For one time purchase.  
Expires April 30, 2009

May not be combined with  
other discounts or used to  
purchase gift certificates.

GARDEN  CENTER  
**SWANSON'S**

## *Dunn Gardens Docent Program 2009*

Dunn Gardens is fortunate to have a terrific group of docents and volunteers. This energetic, well-informed group attends workshops, tours area gardens and shares knowledge. Docents lead visitors through the Gardens, interpreting its historic legacy, while volunteers lend an invaluable hand in myriad other ways. Please let us know if you are interested in our Docent Program!

### **Dunn Gardens Docents and Volunteers 2009**

Vivian Brehm  
Linda L. Breiwick  
Gwynne Fowler Briggs  
Dorothy Clark  
Laurie Colman  
Kathy Cooper  
Stacie Crooks  
Beth Dodrill  
Robert Findlay  
Patty Flowers  
Stephanie Gurnett  
Margot Hill  
Connie Hokanson  
Rosalie Holcomb  
Pamela Hughes  
Terri Kimball  
James Knodell  
Laura Kvasnosky  
Cynthia McGrath  
Chrissy Marshall  
Caroline Mass  
Melania Morris  
Anita Nason  
Ann Ormsby

Malena Pontious  
Carol Ann Rea  
Christine Reis  
Susan Routh  
Janet Seery  
Bonnie Storm  
Hope Stroble  
Terry Walsh  
Beth Weir  
Kathryn Yerke  
Executive Director  
Sue Nevler  
Docent Program Director  
Jenny Wyatt  
Docent Program Coordinator  
Barbara Waske  
Tour Coordinators  
Dot McCain  
Tanya DeMarsh-Dodson

### Photography

Our official photographer and Board Member is Connie Hokanson.

Other frequent contributors are Patty Flowers, Sue Nevler, and Charles Price. We do our best to acknowledge each photo with proper credit.



Hellebore by Charles Price



Witch hazel by Connie Hokanson



David Chatt Installation in Pond—2007 ArtWalk Photo by Connie Hokanson



Pottery & other art treasures—2007 ArtWalk photo by Connie Hokanson



Watercolor Show in Dunn Gardens Classroom Photo by Connie Hokanson

## *Executive Director, Sue Nevler*



This spring, I reflect back on a bittersweet year in the Dunn Gardens. We faced significant financial hurdles with aging infrastructure repairs. We faced the painful decision to cut back staff hours, acknowledging a slowing economic reality. In short, we retrenched.

But we had significant successes with awards from our historical community peers for our conservation work, increased publicity and attendance at our events and financial support from our members and donors. Glenn and Charles, Roger and Zsolt continue to cultivate a truly gorgeous garden by working hard and smart.

We drew back in many ways, but extended out into the community as well.

This new year I feel compelled to ask. "Why is this garden relevant in these difficult times?" Why care? Why join? Why contribute? Why come?

Our board members contemplated these questions as they rededicated themselves to the gardens' mission. Some replies:

"Come because the garden is unique, **your** garden, it makes you want to **be** here"

"Come stroll at will (Open Sundays)" "come for events, and for peaceful times" "Come for Beauty. History. Community".

.....This year we are committed to preservation, education, and enhancing the beauty of the Dunn Gardens. Look for our participation in AYPE events, a chance to reexamine the era of Seattle's history when the gardens were first planned by the Olmsted.

And most exciting, watch for our second ArtWalk in July, another provocative exhibition of some of Washington State's outstanding artists.

And most importantly, this year we specifically want to listen to why you come to the gardens. How can we continue to be relevant to you? Please let us know. And know that your contributions large or small are needed and appreciated.

.....In my most challenging year, I reflect back and can say in the Dunn Gardens I found exquisite beauty, kindness, friendship, perspective in the course of the natural world, quiet delight in a snow smothered garden, value in the silent embrace of open space. I found an extraordinary community and hope in the renewal that spring brings.

Thank you. Come see what you can find. I hope to see you in the gardens. *Sue Nevler*

## This & That

### E-Mail Addresses

To speed up our communications and save printing/postage costs, we at the Dunn Gardens are anxious to use e-mail when feasible and want to build our database with your e-mail addresses. Please contact the office via e-mail

([info@dunngardens.org](mailto:info@dunngardens.org)) with your current e-mail address or by phone (206.362.0933). We will not share your addresses.

### Watercolor Classes by Mary Ann Coles

Join Broadview artist Mary Ann Coles' watercolor classes at the Dunn Gardens each Wednesday from 9:30-1:00 pm. The cost is \$40.00 per session or \$140.00 for 4 sessions. Mary Ann started painting 11 years ago and shows her work at the Bellevue and Edmonds Art Festivals each year. Her classes run continually throughout the year, teaching composition, wet-on-wet applications and techniques for beginners to advanced students. Contact Mary Ann Coles for dates and details at 206-367-7311 or [macstudio@hotmail.com](mailto:macstudio@hotmail.com) See photo on page 4 of her class' first watercolor show at the Dunn Gardens.

### Wish List

We can really use a new chimney on the Curator's cottage. Please contact us if you can help.

### Errors-Omissions

We endeavor to make our publications as accurate as possible, however, we do make mistakes. Please let our office know if you see any errors or omissions.

### 2009 Memberships/Donations

Always needed and gratefully accepted anytime! See our website for details [www.dunngardens.org](http://www.dunngardens.org) or call our office at (206) 362-0933.

### Gift certificates for tours and memberships available

## Conservation News at the Dunn Gardens

At a recent meeting of the Dunn Gardens Conservation Committee, we reviewed recent development activities in terms of the previously developed Four Funds that were adopted by the board as an aid to its search for support for the gardens.

Within the **Heritage Tree Fund** has been the development of the Heritage Tree Program for which we are seeking implementation support. Although we have identified and mapped our heritage trees, we are eager to implement the monitoring of their health and longevity. In the last year, the program was featured at the Seattle Garden Show booth, an ailing heritage tree was removed at the cost to a property owner, and donations have been received for its replacement.

Under the **Gardens Restoration Fund**, we have received major donations by Paul Razore of a “Gator” garden tractor and a substantial chipper. We have also received help from the Seattle Works program for work in the ravine and have benefited from in-kind nursery credits at Wells-Medina and Swansons Nurseries in exchange for workshops by our curators. Through substantial contributions of materials by Key Bank, Broadview Garden Club and the Dunn Lumber company, the gardeners constructed a four bin composting operation in the gardens. These developments are both labor saving and enhance our ability to practice sustainable garden practices.

Under the **Resource Center Fund** we have been able to replace the roof on the center house as well as connect to the city sewer lines. We are seeking funds to repair the fireplace chimneys and paint the center house. We have also developed a phased project to rehabilitate and expand the eastern portion of the Resource Center as funds become available incrementally in the coming years.

Under the **Outreach Fund** we continue to support the Kruckeberg Gardens as they are being converted into a public arboretum park as well as our own public education and docent programs. A number of articles describing conservation work at the gardens have appeared in regional publications such as *Metropolitan Seattle*, the *Alaska/Horizon Airlines* flight magazine and *Pacific Horticulture*. Our work was also recognized with awards from Association of King County Historical Organizations and the Shoreline Historical Museum.

We were pleased to discover that despite diminished resources in recent months, we have benefited from the very generous donations of time-saving equipment and the creative thinking of many garden supporters.

**Bob Findlay** FAIA, Board VP for Garden Conservation



(1-r) Garden Staff Zsolt Lehoczky and Roger Lackman with volunteer Dana Jordan who delivered chipper donated by Paul Razore.

Photo by Sue Nevler



Seattle Works program volunteers-clean up ravine

Photo by Connie Hokanson

(Next Seattle Works project—weeding—  
on April 20th)

## *Curators' Corner... by Charles Price and Glenn Withey*



Writing an article, two months before it's published, is a somewhat tricky endeavor-as we can't be fully up to date on what is happening in the gardening. But, here goes...

The cold and snow this winter, while not welcome, did not do too much damage to the garden. Years of preventative tree work helped, along with a bit of luck. Of course, a few of the plants that were added over the years took a hit, but that keeps things interesting.

The snowdrops and crocus are definitely growing more slowly than normal, but if we ever get a spell of warm weather-these plants will quickly respond. Both of us can hardly wait to see something in flower, let alone for spring to truly arrive. Each day, as the sun sets later, we know it won't be that long before the equinox happens, and winter will be forgotten (well, mostly).

This year, Roger and Zsolt will be working less in the garden-due to budget constraints. We will be working with them, on maintaining the garden as best we can. It will not be the case where certain garden tasks won't get done, just that they will get done as time allows. Hopefully, with judicious planning, the public won't be aware that less hours are being spent in the garden. Having said this, whenever the economy improves won't be a minute too soon, as it will be good to have the gardeners back to their old schedule.

Charles and I are planning on teaching several classes, both at Sky Nursery, and Swanson's, in 2009. In doing so we will earn credits, which will go towards plants, as the garden this year has a budget of zero dollars, for new plant acquisitions. When the speaking schedule has been figured out, dates will be posted on the Dunn Garden website.

And speaking of the website, Charles and I will have a Dunn Garden blog, up and running at some point this spring. Having just recently given up on CD's-in favor of down loading music, the two of us are not on the cutting edge of technology, so bear with us. I have the feeling that once we get into the 'swing of things', it won't be so daunting. Our hope with the blog is to let people know what is happening in the garden, on a weekly basis.

Mike Casteel, a former board president, has been very helpful over the years with the garden's computers-and he has also been of assistance with our blog endeavor. If you have free time, and the inclination, the garden may have a use for your volunteer skills (graphic design?).

As I type this, Zsolt is spreading the last of cow manure, on the more 'greedy' perennials-as they benefit from this rich feeding. For the last three years, a donor has given money to the garden for this, or as she wrote on one check, "Poo for you".

Other parts of the garden will be mulched, but with a less nutritive, but weed suppressing mulch. This sort of work, while initially labor intensive, saves a great deal of labor, come summer, as the garden has a vast reservoir of weed seeds-just waiting to germinate...

And, at some point we'll get the tennis court garden renovated. Surrounded by large trees, all with greedy and questing roots, the plants in the beds here need extra attention if they are to thrive. Some have spread too well (Japanese anemone), while flowering only sporadically, due to the deep shade. Various hostas and ferns make up the bulk of the herbaceous plantings in this area. Some have done well, while others have languished, as their stronger neighbors jostled their way in. Our intent is to dig up and shuffle plants around, once again creating a more harmonious composition. This work will occur in other parts of the garden, as time allows. As a general rule, it is prudent to edit/replant herbaceous perennial plantings every three to five years.

If you haven't been on a tour, or can't fit one into your schedule, plan on coming to a garden open this spring (info on the website). Gardens are best utilized when admired by many.

The garden has several special events planned for 2009, and we hope to see you here. As we approach our centennial, we're planning on the next hundred years, as preserving spaces like this only grows more important.





P.O. Box 77126  
Seattle, WA 98177

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SEATTLE, WA  
PERMIT #1445

**COME, SEE, EXPLORE, EXPERIENCE**  
Some of the lesser known plants of **THE DUNN GARDENS**  
Photos by Charles Price



Epimedium (Cherry Heart)



Cyclamen coum & Polystichum neolabatum



Galanthus nivalis (Snowdrops)