



E.B. Dunn Historic Garden Trust

Spring 2010

SIGN UP NOW for Premier Events Summer/Fall 2010

Mark your Calendars! Visit our website www.dunngardens.org to register and get up to minute details....

Wine Tasting: a lively and sophisticated mix of WA wineries.
Sunday, May 16th 4-6pm.

Stroll the gardens, sip, savor and enjoy tastes from
Chinook Wines, Domanico Cellars, Lake Chelan Winery,
Long Shadows Vintners, Lost River Winery.

Partake of sweets & savories from Pyramid Catering, Tall Grass Bakery, Eat
Chocolates and more. Enjoy Ellen Wanless on Classical guitar.
Don't miss this event!



Historic Estate Garden Tour in The Highlands
Private Owners Open Their Gardens for Limited Viewing on
Sunday, June 27, 2010—1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

- * **Stroll** through *three historic formal gardens* in The Highlands
The *first estate* was originally part of a 29 acre Olmsted garden created in the early 1930's for the Frederick family.
The *second estate* was originally owned by early pioneer Albert S. Kerry, Esq.
The *third estate* was built in the late 1930s by Noble Hoggson, designer of the gardens at the Seattle Asian Art Museum, as his personal residence and garden.
- * **Enjoy** featured musicians Andre Feriante, Mike Good, Ellen Wanless & The Jannie Spain & Friends Jazz Band.
- * **Return** to the Dunn Gardens for an elegant hosted reception.
- * **Take home** a lovely gift as thanks for your support.
Advance registration suggested as spaces are limited)

"Lilies and Leaves" at the Seattle Golf Club.
Thursday, September 30th, 6:00 pm

Experience this magical evening featuring Steve Lorton, former editor of *Sunset Magazine* reciting; Susan Robinson, Dunn board member and jazz singer, entertaining; and a debut showing of Douglas Houck's photographs. Wine, tasting menu and more are featured.

Reserve early for an evening to remember.

We're saving trees!
Find our newsletters
and much more
on our website
as we head to 2011.
A sincere thanks to all our
members, donors and supporters
for continuing to ensure the
gardens' preservation.
Your donations make it happen.



Proceeds benefit the E. B. Dunn Historic Garden Trust, the only Olmsted designed residential landscape in the Northwest open to the public.

For more details and to RSVP: www.dunngardens.org Email info@dunngardens.org Call 206.362.0933

Curators' Corner by Charles Price & Glenn Withey

As usual, spring has at first crept and now leapt at us. Even after twenty-five plus years of gardening, it never ceases to amaze us how quickly plants can explode out of the earth, or unfold a new set of leaves.

For the most part plants survived the December cold snap without too much damage. Of course in the curator's garden, where we like to experiment, a few more things suffered... Oh well, room for new plants!

This year as in the past, changes will come incrementally to the garden. As always, we need to be vigilant of self-sowers, as more and more plants are becoming pests. No matter what some people might proclaim about climate change, nature is pretty good at letting us know something is afoot, when an ever-increasing number of plants that never used to seed in become pests.

We continue to work in the tennis green garden, as we still haven't eradicated the Japanese anemone, or the *Arum italicum*. Both of these are thugs, choking out desirable neighbors. Once they've been dispatched, work will continue on shuffling, adding and deleting. This part of the garden makes for difficult gardening, due to the intense shade and root competition.

And, we'll work on the Western Woodland Walk. Again, certain plants have proven to be too successful (*Lathyrus vernus* and the yellow-flowered epimedium spring to mind), and need to be controlled. More delicate neighbors have, or are in the process of being overwhelmed by these bullies.

Elsewhere in the garden, mostly a story of minor editing, taking out a boring plant (*Spiraea* 'Anthony Waterer' comes to mind) here and there-and replacing them with something that offers more (*Fothergilla gardenii*) among others.

Pruning and regeneration continue, as one has to keep on top of things. Some plants grow too well, others you'd wish would grow faster. A small amount of large tree work happened this winter, but with a garden of this size, one would be hard pressed to stay on top of it.

Weeds are mostly under control (famous last words!), for the moment, due to diligent mulch applications. Of course, wait a month and we'll probably be muttering under our collective breath, wondering where did all of these weeds come from...

With January and February being so mild, a lot of plants are flowering early this year. Last year there were crocus in flower, in the lawn off the garden classroom, well into April. This year they mostly finished by early March. Make plans to visit, before all of our springtime glory disappears.

It was very pleasing to end a 'rough' year in the black, and we most certainly appreciate all of the support. We recently went thru old slides/images that we took, during the first few years of our tenure, and it is remarkable at all of the changes/growth/evolution. It certainly couldn't have happened without having donors who share our enthusiasm.

NEW & IMPROVED WEBSITE!

Thanks to webmaster Mike Casteel, see our curators' new downloadable DG signature plant care sheets on the site.



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Connie Hokanson & Douglas Houck

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See www.dunngardens.org for Docent information...

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New 2009

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New 2010

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CONSERVING THE DUNN GARDENS

Dr. Robert A. Findlay, FAIA, trust board vp for conservation

Our conservation work is in four areas: the Heritage Tree Program, Garden Conservation, the Resource Center, and Outreach - and all areas have advanced in the past year and plans are afoot for 2010 and beyond.

Heritage Tree Program We continue to informally monitor the health of our many heritage trees, both the collection of native conifers and the Eastern hardwoods that were planted by Arthur Dunn in the early years of the garden, but we are eager to systematize the monitoring of cultural conditions affecting each of the heritage trees. At a recent symposium on the Olmsted legacy on the capitol grounds in Olympia, such a tree management program was presented for the rehabilitation and future planting on that campus. It is a perfect model for what we would like to do at our Olmsted legacy site. The software is readily available, but the effort to monitor and record conditions requires time. With some financial help, it would make a wonderful academic project for a student at one of our nearby colleges.

Garden Conservation As any gardener knows, a garden is never finished and plants are affected by the vagaries of the seasons and our tendency to test the limits of the climate zones. Each year the curators produce an updated plant list that amazes us with the number of additions and changes in the gardens. It is a constant effort on their and our gardeners' part to make the gardens attractive and to enhance the Olmsted design principles.

Resource Center The Dunn Gardens Resource Center (aka the curators' cottage, classroom and garage) actually contains our archives, garden equipment storage, event storage, and the trust and garden management functions. We have contracted to have the exterior of the three structures painted this summer. Planning continues to consolidate management activity in the east structure, make the archives more publicly accessible, and to decentralize equipment storage.

Outreach One of our commitments in our mission statement is outreach to other historic garden organizations in the region and to foster their conservation efforts. Similar to the three conservation easements that the trust holds with the other parcel owners in and near the Dunn Gardens, we also hold a conservation easement on the Kruckeberg garden in Shoreline. We have a mandate to do a compliance review of each of these easements, and now that the City of Shoreline has purchased the Kruckeberg property we are to review the recently completed Kruckeberg Botanical Garden master plan for compliance with the conservation values and permitted uses outlined in that easement.

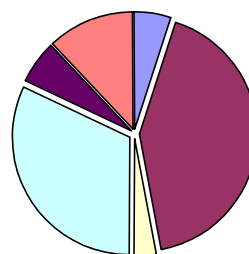
We constantly search out funding sources for our many and diverse conservation projects, and also welcome your contributions to advance these efforts.

Message from our Executive Director-Sue Nevler



Garden photos and our 2009 pie chart say it all for me. Your contributions, your membership, and your attendance at our events mean everything in keeping the gardens healthy. Our pie reflects the recent general trend of people donating and attending events. We'd like to see our membership grow as well as the gardens grow. Please do continue to donate, attend our special events and join us as members of this unique garden community. I hope to see you in the gardens.

2009 Sources of Dunn Gardens Income



■ Fees/Earned Income	5%
■ Individual Contributions	42%
■ Corporate and/or Foundation Grants	3%
■ Special Events	32%
■ Memberships	6%
■ Other	12%





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www.dunngardens.org
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Want advance notice of all Dunn Gardens events?

Visit our website or
Send an email with CON-
STANT CONTACT in the sub-
ject heading to us at
info@dunngardens.org and we'll
gladly add you to our email list.



Val Easton, Tanya DeMarsh Dodson,
Anna Pavord and Sarah Reichard.
Pavord, author of "Tulip" and most recently
"Bulb," was most impressed with the "sheets of
Erythronium" in the gardens.



DUNN GARDEN WISH LIST

Help us share our photographs
in educational lectures.
We would make good use of a
Digital Projector with features
like the
EPSON PowerLite S7 Projector.
Want to help?
Contact Sue Nevler at
suenevler@dunngardens.org



"Thanks to our new volunteer photographer, Douglas Houck. A retired engineer, Doug has spent hours photographing the gardens and we are indebted to his skill and commitment, and riveted by his photos. Be sure to look at www.dunngardens.org to see more of Doug's beautiful work.