



the HPSO
quarterly
WINTER 2016

A PUBLICATION
OF THE HARDY
PLANT SOCIETY
OF OREGON

front cover photo: *Mahonia lomariifolia* (see page 6)

photo this page: Constance Spry over the hen house in Janice Molloy's New Zealand garden (see page 16)

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2016 HPSO calendar

JANUARY

SAT 9

Special Workshop: The Joys of Opening Your Garden (page 3)

SAT 10

HPSO Travel Club: Madeira

SAT 24

Winter Program with Bill Noble (page 3)

FEBRUARY

MON 1

Open Garden Book Deadline!!

THU FEB 12 – SUN FEB 14



Volunteer to help out at the HPSO Winter Interest in the Garden display at the Yard, Garden & Patio Show. Email Linda Carson (lindacarsonor@frontier.com) if you know you would like to help or have questions about volunteering.



SAT 27

“After Hours” at Cornell Farm (page 2)

SUN 28

Gen(i)us Program: “Winter Flowers & Fruit” with Dorothy Rodal

MARCH

SAT 12

Library Event: Climate Change (pg. 14)

SUN 27

Gen(i)us Program: “Daphne, Osmanthus & Vaccinium” with Roger Gossler

SUN 30 – SUN APRIL 10

Gardens of Japan Tour (this tour is full)

THURS 31

HPSO Grants Application Deadline

APRIL



Hortlandia

THE HARDY PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON'S
PLANT & GARDEN ART SALE

April 9 and 10, 2016

10am-3pm at the Portland EXPO Center

SUN 21

“After Hours” at Garden Fever: Tomatomania (page 2)

MAY

SUN 1

Spring Program with Jeffrey Bale

SUN 22

Gen(i)us Program: “Clematis Viticella Group” with Linda Beutler and Maurice Horn

JUNE

SAT 11

HPSO/Garden Conservancy Open Day Tour (tentative date)

WED 8 – SUN 19

Tour: (Quint)essential England for Gardeners: Wessex, The Downs & Channel Coast (this tour is full)

TUES 21 – SAT, JULY 2

Tour: Wales & Galloway: Britain's Wild West (this tour is full)

FRI 24–SUN 26

Salem Study Weekend

Watch for details, program confirmations, and additional events in our weekly emails and on the website at hardyplantsociety.org.

JULY

MON 4 – THURS 14

Tour: Scotland—Doon the Garden Paths of Scotland (this tour is full)

THURS 14

“After Hours” at thicket (page 2)

TUES 19

Gen(i)us Program: “Keeping the Color Coming: Late Summer Flowers for the Garden” with Dan Heims

FRI 22 – SAT 23

Series of Events with Fergus Garrett, Head Gardener at Great Dixter

WED 27 – FRI 29

Tour: Seattle and Tacoma Public Gardens

AUGUST

WED 7 – SAT 10

Tour: Discovering Vashon Island & Its Uncommon Gardens (this tour is full)

SAT 20

“After Hours” day-long bus tour to Sebright Gardens and the Cascade Nursery Trail (tentative date)

SEPTEMBER

SAT 17

PlantFest : Speaker Program with Richie Steffan & Plant Sale

OCTOBER

TUES 11 – FRI NOV 4

Tour: A Grand Adventure in New Zealand (this tour is full)

TUES 15

Gen(i)us Program: “Trees for Northwest Gardens” with Sean Hogan

SAT 22

Annual Meeting & Marvin Black Memorial Lecture with Andrea Wulf

NOVEMBER

date TBD **Movie Matinée**

DECEMBER

date TBD **Volunteer Appreciation Event**

Grant Funds Available for Schools and Non Profit Organizations

The HPSO Grants Committee is soliciting applications for our 2016 grant program. Previous grantees have included horticultural, environmental, education, beautification, preservation, and food-production projects.

Projects must further the mission of HPSO to promote education and understanding of herbaceous perennial plants. Grant awards this cycle will be capped at \$1,500. Applications are accepted only from school groups and IRS-qualified 501c3 not-for-profit organizations located in Oregon and Clark County, Washington.

Access detailed information and submission requirements at <https://hpso.memberclicks.net/grants>.

DEADLINE: March 31, 2016

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

The Winter Denial Issue

Dear Readers:

In this winter issue of the *Quarterly*, we have chosen to embrace a theme of “Winter Denial”—no brave search for beauty in the bare tree limbs and rotting kitchen garden! In this issue, you will escape the cold and fog as you follow Burl Mostul into his tropical conservatory at Villa Catalana, gaze into Sean Hogan’s garden as he revisits Zonal Denial, and journey to New Zealand for a summer visit with Janet Malloy, a far-flung member of HPSO. I found easy inspiration for our theme while enjoying the 98 degree temperatures of Kathmandu, Nepal, where I stumbled upon a rare bit of bliss in the heart of the city—see “Garden of Dreams.”

Amy Campion shares the delights of the Danger Garden, a treasure of plants we might not expect to see filling a Northwest garden.

We also welcome a new regular contributor, Lisa Fuller, with her focus on members of HPSO—this issue she profiles a treasure who has brought us botanical displays over many years and events—see Member Profile. As always, Tom Fischer shares his tremendous knowledge with us in a delightful focus on *Metapanax delavayi*—see Plant Profiles.

We hope you enjoy your escape!

Annette Wilson Christensen
Editor, HPSO Quarterly

NEW PROGRAM SERIES:

HPSO After Hours

Socialize, learn, shop, explore, meet, and greet. Each **HPSO After Hours** will be different and hosted by locally-owned horticultural and garden businesses that make our region special. All will be free or nearly-free! More details and dates coming, but mark your calendar now for these programs:

Saturday, February 27 at Cornell Farm, 10 am to noon:

Author, historian and garden expert, Donald Olson, will present “Five Remarkable Women, Four Remarkable Gardens” highlighting Pacific NW garden designers of the last century. He will also be autographing copies of his award-winning new book, *The Pacific Northwest Garden Tour*. There will also be special discounts and reasons to explore Cornell Farms, 8212 SW Barnes Rd, 97225

Thursday, April 21 at Garden Fever

3433 NE 24th Ave, Portland, 97212

Thursday, July 14 at thicket

4933 NE 23rd Ave, Portland, 97211

welcome! TO THESE NEW MEMBERS

September 1- November 30, 2015

We give a “shout out” to those of you who recently joined our ranks. We hope HPSO offers you the same gardening inspiration, guidance, and camaraderie that has sustained so many of our longtime members, and we look forward to meeting you at programs, plant sales, and open gardens.

Megan Big John	Sharon Henegar	Doug Machado	Dallas Regan
Chris Carlson	Steven Henegar	Jeanne Marston	Robin Rice
Margaret Conacher	Michael Hicks	Drew Meisel	Laurie Spry
Fiona Conacher	Sharon Holstein	Renate Minder	John Stewart
Melissa Dalton	Gabriel Kahn	Gale Morrison	Carolyn Swenson
Dorothy Debeer	Elizabeth Kresse	Richard Morrison	Mark Swenson
Brigitte Eaton	George Lang	Mike Neish	Kris Tent
Pamela Fleming	Chris Lastomirsky	Ann O’Neal	James Thompson
Barbara Frisella	Maryann Lewis	Billy O’Neal	Catherine Trzybinski
Danielle Garcia Wilson	Heather Lilley	John OFlaherty	Ian Wilson
Tobie Habeck	Maggie Machado	Laurie Rawson	

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visit our website.

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Office and library hours: Tues-Fri 12 to 5pm;
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www.hardyplantsociety.org

HPSO WINTER LECTURE

Imagining and Conserving American Gardens



an illustrated talk by Bill Noble
Sunday, January 24, 1:00 PM
Portland State University,
Hoffmann Hall, 1822 SW 11th Avenue

Members \$20; Non-members \$30
Book sale, door prizes, and refreshments
included; doors open at noon

Come in from the January cold and spend an afternoon learning about American gardens that inspire and excite!

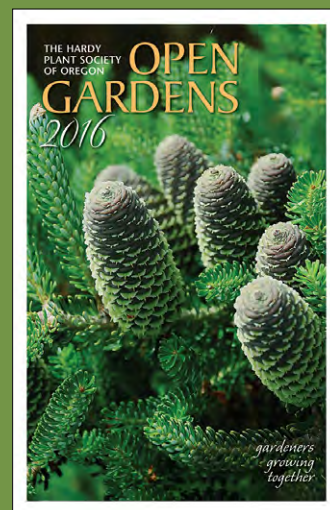
Bill Noble, former Director of Preservation for The Garden Conservancy, is uniquely positioned to tell us about the incredible gardens that have influenced him in his work as a garden designer and preservationist.

In Bill's own words, "The gardens that inspire me most are those of extraordinary plantsmen and women who have grasped the raw material of a site and through their engagement with place have created gardens both eloquent and useful." He surveys historic and contemporary gardens with "a place for the genuine," and shares with us the lessons of those gardens.

Beyond the creation of these gardens, Bill speaks about how these durable gardens are being sustained today. His talk sows the seeds of a panel discussion that follows. Bill is joined by Bobbie Dolp and Gretchen Carnaby from Lord & Schryver Conservancy in Salem. They'll describe the grass roots effort that led to the purchase and preservation of Gaiety Hollow, the garden and home of Elizabeth Lord and Edith Schryver, iconic landscape architects.

Join Bill for this insider's tour of superb gardens, and learn more about an extraordinary one that's in our own backyard!

Free parking in PSU Lots 3 and 1 (Please do not park in a reserved space.)



Open YOUR garden in 2016!

You care about your garden. Share it with others who are passionate about gardens and gardening.

Choose a Date and Sign Up Online.

Most members open up their garden on a Saturday, Sunday, or both. It's also possible to open up your garden on the 2nd and/or 4th Monday evenings in June, July, August, or September. Some members open their gardens several times during the year so we can watch the gardens evolve through the seasons. Think about coordinating with nearby gardeners to open your gardens on the same weekend. When you sign up online, your garden's name, description, driving directions, and even a photo of your garden can be stored as part of your membership profile. You only have to modify it as appropriate the next time you sign up for the Open Garden program.

Look for a link to the sign-up form in upcoming email blasts, and join the many HPSO members who have opened their gardens and reaped the rewards.

For those who need a little nudge, come to our free January 9 event with a panel of experienced "open garden" owners to help walk you through the process. RSVP online.

DEADLINE:
February 1, 2016

The Garden Conservatory at Villa Catalana by Burl Mosul



conservatory entrance

Winter is tough on most of us, physically, psychologically, and emotionally. It is also downtime that we often need to renew our strength and energy. In the middle of an Oregon winter, the magic of spring seems a long way off and if we are a little depressed, it may seem that spring will never arrive. Spring in temperate climates is truly magical and spectacular. There is no greater flush of growth anywhere in the world, even in the tropics, that can rival the flush of spring. But before spring we must have winter.

A plant conservatory can lessen the doldrums of winter and make it more bearable and even joyous. A conservatory makes year-round gardening in the Pacific Northwest a possibility. I first got interested in garden conservatories in the 1980s, and eventually built a small 12-by-24-foot solarium attached to my house in Portland. Soon after it was built, I realized it was not large enough to create the space I needed for it to feel like a garden.

Since that time there has been a lot of research about horticultural therapy that sheds some light on the importance of plants and light to mental health, especially during the long dark days of winter. Horticultural therapy has been incorporated into many hospital treatment programs as it has been proven that people recover from surgeries and illnesses quicker when they have access

to a garden or park. Even when one is not recovering from surgery or an illness, access to a plant conservatory in winter helps to lift one's spirits.

When my wife and I built our dream home in 2008, we incorporated a central courtyard that would eventually be covered and create our plant conservatory. The plan was to use it as passive solar heating in spring and fall and we hoped the heat generated would offset the cost of winter heating. Its size (30 by 50 feet) was large enough to feel like a garden, yet it wouldn't be too expensive to build or heat. Since we did all the work ourselves, we saved enough money to make it fit within our budget. As with most construction projects, it took longer and cost more than we thought.

About the time we were building it, we decided to start a winery and were able to incorporate a bar so the conservatory could double as a wine-tasting room. We had been collecting and growing plants for the conservatory for almost ten years before we actually were able to plant them, so when we planted them in the conservatory, some were quite large. Many had rooted in our Rare Plant Reserach greenhouse floor and had to be cut and pried out of the ground before transplanting. Some went into shock, but almost all recovered. We have two



Yuzu lime

sections: one is of mesic plants that grow in the moist tropics and the other smaller section is of xeric plants that grow in desert and tropical deciduous forests.

The plants we grew for the conservatory were all tropical and could not survive our cold, wet winters. Some of the mesic anchor plants were medium-sized palms like *Dypsis lutescens* from Madagascar and the bottle palm (*Hyophorbe lagenicaulis*) from the Mascarene Islands. One that we hoped would stay small enough was the traveler's palm from Madagascar (*Ravenala madagascarensis*), but sadly, it will have to be removed in several years as it has reached the ceiling. There are also more common plants such as bougainvillea, Mexican lime, navel orange, and lemon. Although these plants are not rare, they are symbolic of warmer climates and bring a feeling of the tropics or of a milder Mediterranean climate. Try looking at a lemon tree with fruit on it during the winter and notice how much better you feel. There is also *Coffea arabica* and the Australian tree fern, *Cyathea cooperi*. Various bromeliads, *Ficus pumila*, and the large, eight-inch-wide wide flowers of the Dutchman's pipe (*Aristolochia grandiflora*) round out the mesic section.

The xeric section has much rarer plants, many of which we collected as seed in the wild during our botanical trips during

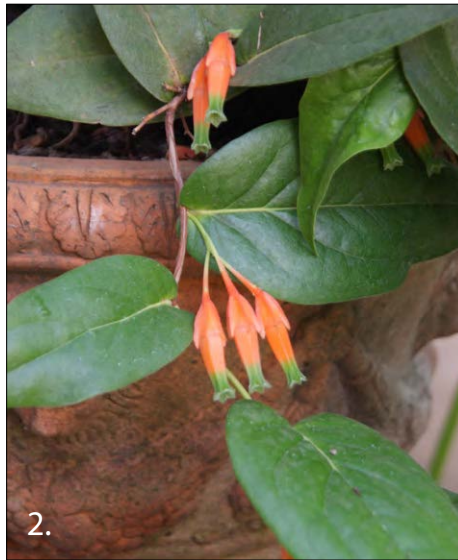
the late 1990s and early 2000s. Collector's plants such as pachypodiums from Madagascar and burseras from Mexico make up the foundation plants, with smaller plants from South Africa such as *Cyphostemma jutae*, aloes, and *Adenia perrieri* from Madagascar showing their true oddball selves. There are the ocotillos *Fouqueiria splendens*, *F. diguetii*, and *F. purpusii* from the United States and Mexico along with their parallel-evolution counterpart in Madagascar, *Alluaudia procera*.

What matters most about the conservatory is not the list of rare plants but the way it helps us cope with the hardships of winter. We designed it as we would any outdoor garden, with rocks and hardscape. As in any garden, there are show plants that grab the attention, but there are also background plants that allow the showstoppers to shine. As the trees grow overhead and vines climb the walls, the enclosed feeling that they create gives the impression of lushness and vibrancy.

When the flower of the butterfly vine (*Dalechampia dioscoreifolia*) shows its pink-purple color, or the rare *Macleania sleumeriana* from Ecuador shows its bright orange flowers, it is almost as if the sun is shining and it is a nice spring day. The most transformative experience is to see these flowers after walking through snow in a stiff east wind on a 10°F day in the middle of winter. The magic, wonder, and beauty of these miracles of life transform the frigid weather and it is these times that make the conservatory so enjoyable. It gives one hope, and the realization that spring will come again and makes winter just bearable enough to enjoy it just a bit.



3.



2.



4.



1.

Since we started Villa Catalana Cellars, people gather in our conservatory in winter, or any time of year, for a glass of pinot noir and to get a bit of spring.



Wine tasting in the conservatory is open to the public Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m.

Villa Catalana and Rare Plant Research are located at 11900 S. Criteser Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045

clockwise from left:

- 1) southern entrance of conservatory,
- 2) *Macleania sleumeriana*
- 3) *Delonix regia*, *Heliconia*, *Hyophorbe lagenicaulis*, and *Cyathea cooperi*
- 4) desert garden with *Pachypodium lameri*

Yucca rostrata stands out against a bright orange ceramic urn.



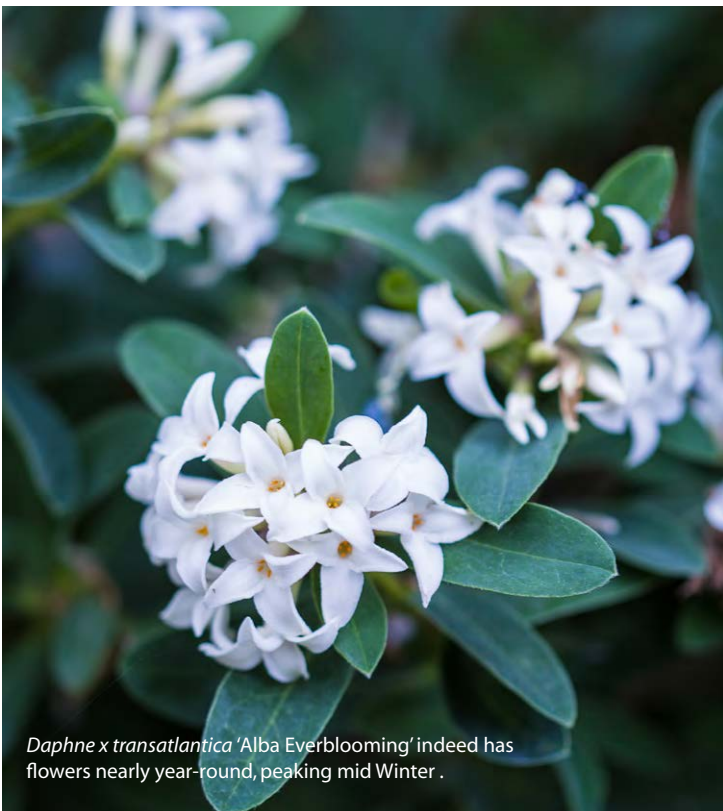
Zonal Denial Revisited~Winter Performers

by Sean Hogan

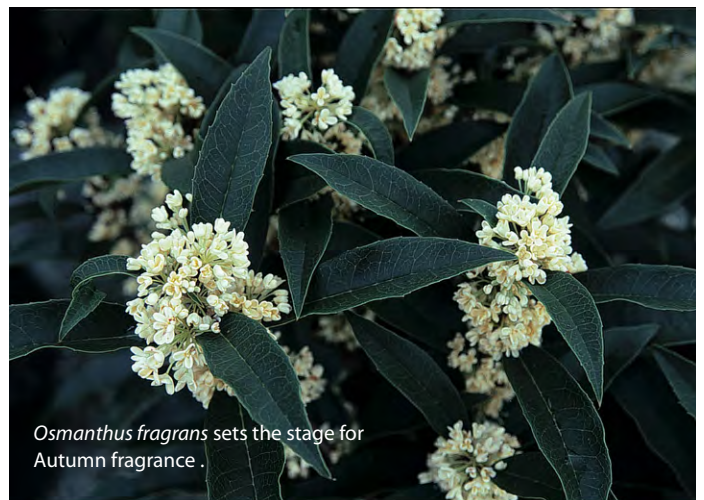
Nearly 20 years ago I wrote a small article for a very good newsletter published by the late plantswoman Stephanie Feeney. Jeez, TWENTY years ago! Anyway, I had just come back to Portland and was frustrated by the overwhelming commercial availability of so many plants grown en masse here for export to points east like New Jersey, Denver, and Bend—you know, the whole east coast! Little in the way of Western Oregon lowland natives or broadleaf evergreens save for rhodies (the pink one) and a few others were to be had. I knew many keen gardeners here and was familiar with older gardens such as Bishop's Close where year-round performance, even a concentration on winter effect, was the norm, so I knew more was possible. Well, that was back in the day, as they say, and I wanted plants now. I guess we had to start a nursery, but that's another story.

First thing: observe and obtain as many "old Portland" plants as possible from great gardeners like Jane Platt and Margret Mason, to whom I was lucky enough to spend my childhood adjacent. **Second thing:** begin planting from acquisitions from around the world that should like it here just fine.

About that time, a Northwest nurseryman wrote a little spoof about a couple of California transplants planting all their houseplants outside and being oh-so-disappointed in the results. Something had to be done! Knowing humor and horticulture don't always mix, Stephanie's publication was the perfect answer, as she never winced at a little poke at convention. When she asked for a story, the concept of "Zonal Denial" was born. The concept: not planting indoor plants and hoping for the best, but using plants for any ambience in the garden with plants that really like it here!



Daphne x transatlantica 'Alba Everblooming' indeed has flowers nearly year-round, peaking mid Winter .



Osmanthus fragrans sets the stage for Autumn fragrance .

Deny or embrace—when we need it the most. In the horticultural roaring '90s that meant planting hardy bananas (*Musa basjoo*) among others, *Hedychium*, palms and any bold texture possible. We have evolved nicely since then I think, with gregarious plants tucked in more comfortably to add excitement and scale, not necessarily a Tiki-lounge vibe. Here in the Willamette Valley, early winter and late summer seem to be the duller times. The fried look of August might be why so many gardeners of yore split town or just sat on the veranda with a Mint Julep. If a young city like Portland were to have a style other than the one all those New Englanders brought with them 150 years ago (speaking of the first zonal denial), it would be five generations of one-of-each purchases at Fred Meyer and a climate where things might suffer but never really die. You know, the red camellia that wants to be 20 feet tall under the living room window, with the forsythia, and the pink rose, and the bluebells.... All that encourages me to leave town in late winter and spring until it's over. Indeed, sometimes it is all about editing—maybe with a chainsaw—and looking at plants brought to us by the season. As if brevity were possible, I'll concentrate on winter here and plants in full denial.

In mid-autumn after the first rain and cool, the *Polypodium glycyrrhiza* unfurls from long-dormant succulent innards and so many bulbs peek their heads above the soil with what might be seen as spring from a native plant's point of view. Beginning in mid-autumn when the *Zauschneria* (*Epilobium canum*, etc.) are at peak, combine these with autumn crocus, colchicums and nerines. I'm not a pink person (really) but the combo of burnt orange, violets and pinks works wonders as skies become increasingly overcast. Together with cyclamen—first *C. hederifolium* then *C. coum* and others take color through late winter where they work well with white Hellebores, for example. These work well as massing when, toward the holidays, they're more likely to be seen from 68° comfort.

“Out every window, a portrait”—a mantra repeated often while planting years ago at Portland's Chinese Garden. Here, of course, it might be your neighbor's boat adorned with a blue tarp. For me, or an unassuming client, it is having a view from not only the picture window, but the kitchen sink or wherever we're likely to spend time. I had, for years, a pair of Adirondack chairs in the garden visible while traveling from kitchen to dining room.

Schefflera delavayi reaches 10 feet or more and proves to be the hardiest and most bold textured of the genus.



Arctostaphylos manzanita can reach small tree size of 12 feet or more. The December through February flowers please both birds and bees.



Only after some time did I realize both how few times I had placed my butt in them and how often the pleasing thought of being outside came with just a glimpse. I translate that into performers entertaining even when it is chilly, such as the larger Asian Mahonias with rosettes of foliage centered by gold can-delabras from November through February, depending on type. Other focal plants such as members of the Aralia family add bold-osity right through. *Fatsia japonica* might be old hat, But *F. j.* 'Spider's Web' with emergent speckled white newer leaves, and *F. j.* 'Spilt Milk' margined and splashed cream and white, add brightness in the gloomiest light. Several garden-worthy *Schefflera* species are destined to become standard furniture as well. *S. delaveyi*, to an eventual 15 feet or more, sports large white panicles of flowers in mid- to late fall, with leaves in excess of three feet undercoated with buff wool. *Metapanax delavayi* creates a translucent curtain of bamboo-like foliage and might make the neighbors think you are growing a now-legal agricultural crop.

For shade, so many new *Aucuba* (gold dust plants) are on the scene and more than useful. One we named a couple of years ago is *A. japonica* 'Overlook' with narrow dark green leaves edged in cream and yellow. Another, *A.* 'Gold Mound', though not the sexiest name, is a favorite to only a couple of feet 'round. The foliage is often more light gold than green, and the fruit on this female plant is a tangerine tone.

Cast-iron plants (*Aspidistra* spp.) are also making a comeback. Once relegated to dark Victorian parlors in this country, dozens are now around. Two of my favorites are 'Spektacular' to about three feet and adorned with large nearly white polka-dots and *A. tonkinensis* in forms spotted and not. These can be over four feet tall and are fast-growing for a genus usually slow motion. Water deeply in Summer when it's hot to hasten growth and remember to keep the snails and slugs at bay.

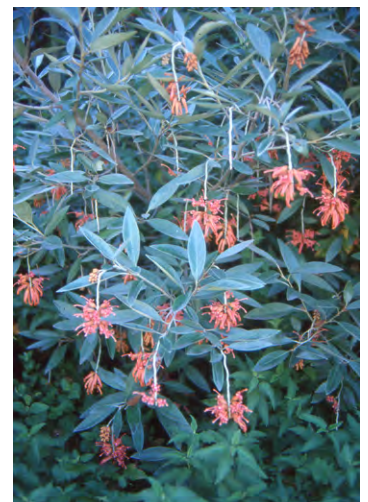
Also preferring shade is the genus *Rohdea*, another evergreen perennial in the lily family and with a cult-like following in Japan. Some are so slow they're destined for pot culture only, but *R. japonica* 'Mure Suzume Improved,' imitating an evergreen white variegated hosta (or maybe the cream variegated one), grows to a spreading 18 inches. *R. japonica* [upright variegated]

continues next page

Fatsia polycarpa 'Needham's Lace' reaches as easy 10 to 12 feet, but can be kept smaller.



Grevillea victoriae 'Murray Valley Queen' flowers October through April, and a little in between—and it's a hummer magnet!



continued from previous page

given us by Nevin Smith, looks for all the world like a sanseveria with two-foot upheld dark green leaves edged white. Keep the root weevils away!

I have made a goal of having fragrance in the garden every day of the year; and no, that doesn't include plants like Eurya or anything with a species of foetidus. That's an odor, not a fragrance. In our garden the season starts while the evenings are still warm with *Osmanthus fragrans* selections that fill the air with the aroma of warm apricots. These are followed by *O. heterophyllus* 'Purpureus' then 'Rotundifolius' with sweeter scent into November. At that time, and it was early this year, the loquats (*Eriobotrya japonica*) waft for a great distance—and at least last year through January. With this, you get large leaves, sweet fruit and fragrance on a small tree to 25 feet or so.

There is a sarcococca for every winter month. *S. saligna* (salicifolia) is usually earliest, beginning in November in our garden with chartreuse flowers on willow-like leaves on plants as large as four feet. Next is *S. orientalis* with large white sprays on slightly smaller plants, *S. confusa* with typically red stems—handy for winter arrangements and *S. ruscifolia*. The plant *S. r.* 'Dragon's Gate,' named and given us by Roy Lancaster, reaches three or four feet but with dense foliage and a long flowering season with way many flowers. Even camellias shouldn't be forgotten—maybe except the pink ones. *C. sasanqua* 'Nerumegata' is one of my tops for not doing without. Supposedly its long history in Portland began as a formal gift from a Japanese diplomat. The four-inch single flowers begin as rose (not pink) buds, then open as white to pearl (again not pink) with darker edges. The fragrance is earthy and sweet; the flowering lasts from October through the new year. Ours is trained to a small street tree at about 14 feet.



Mahonia lomariifolia and hybrids present golden candelabras of flowers from November into the New Year, right when you need them the most.

For the most in-your-face palmy look, well how about a palm? About a dozen have performed as needed in our garden over the years, but *Trachycarpus wagnerianus* stands out and up. First grown and selected at a temple in Japan, the leaves look as if they have been cut with pinking shears, threaded with white in the margins and powder-coated bluish on the undersides. The fronds don't tatter in high wind and the whole plant has a more architectural look than tropical. Cultural hint: with regular summer water, 25-30 feet can be expected, and don't plant in red cinder. That's tacky. *Yucca rostrata* is another top 10, eventually forming a trunk to 10 or more feet. The large blue rosettes move gracefully in any breeze and stand out as foliar fire works in winter light.

For the dry garden, a long-term obsession are the manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos* spp.). With evergreen foliage from deep green to glaucous blue, orange to mahogany bark, and winter flowers of white to blush or pink, why not practice winter denial with one of our own natives? Want one? But wait, there's more! The flowers are scented of honey and draw hummers and pollinating insects. I have been accused of being a little obsessed with the genus, having selected several hundred over the last few years for garden trial. Any of the *Arctostaphylos* manzanita selections are good for small tree form with the main caveat in the smaller ground-covery types is to avoid the eastern selections of *A. uva ursi* or kinnikinnick such as 'Massachusetts' which is apparently Latin for "fries in the summer" here.

All the above are evergreen unless the meteor hits your garden. Most importantly, if you're throwing a dinner party for a few dozen close friends on the coldest night of the decade, the view out the window doesn't have to be of you covering your garden with tarps while your friends eat!

photos by Sean Hogan



Yucca rostrata with *Ficus afghanistanica* 'Silver Lyre' behind



The silver blue leaves and winter flowers of *Arctostaphylos nortensis* provide cheer on a dark Winter day.



Aspidistra elatior 'Variegata' brightens the shadiest Winter garden



Metapanax delavayi providing delicate evergreen foliage with black bamboo (*Phyllostachys nigra*) behind



Plant Profile: *Metapanax delavayi*

False Ginseng

by Tom Fischer

Never am I more thankful that I live in the Pacific Northwest than in the depths of winter. Sure, I complain about the rain and other weather events as much as the next gardener, but when I look around at the emerald bounty of broadleaved evergreens we're able to grow, my annoyance shrivels to nothing. You don't see that kind of lush winter greenery in Boston, let me tell you.

Some of the most useful and texturally appealing evergreen shrubs and small trees belong to the Araliaceae. (Yes, that's the family that includes ivy, but we won't think about that right now.) What I have in mind are those genera that end in *-panax*: *Dendropanax*, *Pseudopanax*, *Tetrapanax*, and so on. Some offer enormous, Jurassic-size leaves (*Tetrapanax*), some look as though they come from the pages of Dr. Seuss (*Pseudopanax*). But the species I want to focus on is *Metapanax delavayi* (sometimes listed as *Nothopanax delavayi*). The common name false ginseng pops up on the Internet, but I've never heard a living human being call it that.

Metapanax delavayi is a largish, multi-stemmed shrub native to Guizhou and Yunnan provinces in southern China. In books it grows quickly to 8 or 10 feet tall and wide. My specimen, being illiterate,



somewhat more rounded habit, densely clothed in foliage from top to bottom, and lacier, more refined flower clusters. Quite handsome.

My plant performs the highly valuable service of blocking a goodly expanse of our neighbor's hideous chain-link fence, but I treasure it mainly for its fine texture

and air of quiet dignity. It might not shout from the rooftops like some vulgar camellia (did I just say that?), but it's a welcome and cheering sight even in the bleakest days of February.

In closing, let me put in a plug for Sean Hogan's book, *Trees for All Seasons: Broadleaved Evergreens for Temperate Climates*. Delightful to read and packed with useful information about these essential plants, it should be on the shelf of every Northwest gardener.

■ ■ ■

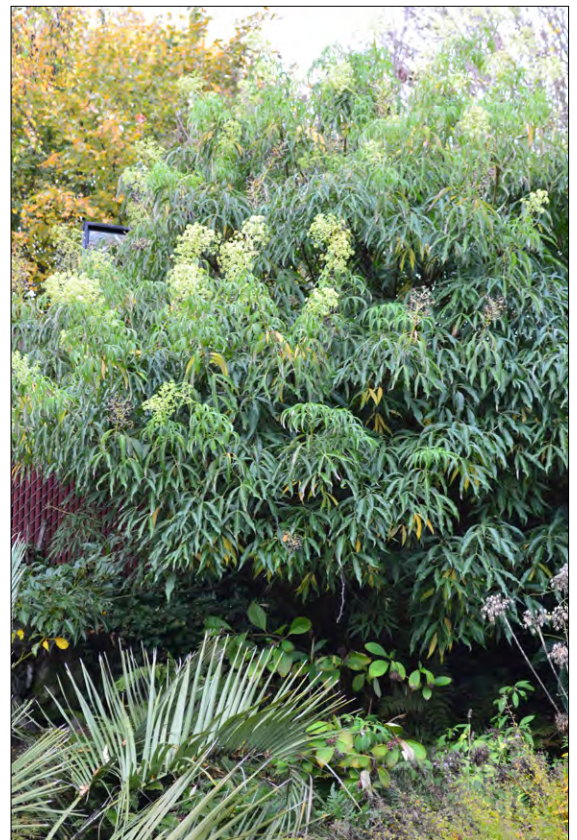
photos by Tom Fischer



is at least 12 or 15 feet tall and has been in the ground for about eight years. With this species, the foliage is the thing: the compound, finely divided leaves are deep green and bear a passing resemblance to the leaves of a newly legalized recreational herb. Personally, I find them more reminiscent of *Helleborus foetidus*. In late summer it bears dense umbels of tiny greenish-white flowers that attract hordes of pollinators. You wouldn't call the flowers showy, but I find them delicately attractive. Flowers are followed by small black berries relished by birds. (To my knowledge, it has never shown invasive tendencies—no such mention turns up on the Internet and I have never seen a single seedling in my garden.) I have never known it to be troubled by pest or pestilence.

It is said to want good drainage, which I believe, and rich, moist soil, which I don't, mainly because my thriving plant was simply stuck in unenriched soil and gets little summer irrigation. I imagine it would tolerate a bit of shade, but don't plant it in the Stygian gloom beneath a large conifer.

I got my plant from Cistus Nursery, whose catalog states that their clone, which has proven to be exceptionally hardy, came from the University of Washington Arboretum. I can testify that my plant has never shown the least trace of winter damage, even during the worst of recent cold spells. The only named clone that I'm aware of is 'Jade Dragon,' which was collected in Yunnan by Dan Hinkley and is distributed by Monrovia. It appears to have a



California Dreamin' in the danger garden

by Amy Campion
amycampion.com

Like many others, I first became acquainted with Northeast Portland gardener Loree Bohl through her blog, *Danger Garden* (<http://thedangergarden.com>). Since 2009, Loree has been using her online platform to sing the praises of plants and to profess her special fondness for those armed with spikes, barbs, and glochids. Last summer I had the great



The woman behind the Danger Garden, Loree Bohl. Photo courtesy of Loree Bohl

fortune to see her inspiring garden in person when she opened it for the Green on Green Albertina Kerr Garden Tour. I can think of nothing better to do on a drizzly January day than to recall that visit and to share with you a little of what I know about the woman behind the "Danger Garden."

If you drive by Loree's front garden, you'll immediately sense her passion for plants from California and the American Southwest. Junipers, yuccas, agaves, hesperaloes, manzanitas, opuntias, and gravel have replaced the lawn that existed there when she and her husband Andrew Bohl bought the property in 2005. This fascination with southwestern desert plants was sparked by a business trip she made to Arizona many years ago. Loree was managing a Williams-Sonoma store in Seattle, and the company sent her to Scottsdale for a meeting. "I was in amazement at the plants I saw while riding the shuttle from the airport to my hotel," she told me. Later, as her garden began to take shape, trips to the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix; the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California; the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek, California; and the University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley became important influences on her plant palette.

Loree's backyard is lushier than the front, featuring a handsome 10-year-old bigleaf magnolia (*Magnolia macrophylla*) named Clifford, a coppiced *Paulownia tomentosa*, a stock tank water garden, and a lawn bordered by beds bursting with a panoply of colors and textures. Plants from all over the globe mingle to create novel and memorable pictures. Purple-leaved *Tradescantia pallida* and wiry *Muhlenbeckia astonii* swirl at the feet of silvery *Lupinus albifrons*. Leathery loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*) leaves form the backdrop to the pinkish pods of *Colutea arborescens* and the powder-blue foliage of *Melianthus major* 'Antonow's Blue'. *Alstroemeria isabellana*, with its dangling pink blossoms and explosive seed pods, rises above a tapestry of succulents and eryngiums.

Loree uses the words "cramscaping" and "contained chaos" to describe her garden style. She's far too modest. Although she



A Southwest-inspired garden flourishes where only lawn once grew. Photo by LB



Container plants bring a pop of color to the patio. Photo by AC

packs an astounding array of plants into her 5,000-square-foot city lot (on her blog she lists 427 taxa, including 67 varieties of agaves!), the effect is not one of chaos but of harmony. Paths, patio, and borders are laid out in clean, crisp, straight lines and right angles, giving the garden a polished, contemporary feel. She carefully vets new additions for their compatibility with other border plants and meticulously grooms them once they're in place. On

the patio, Loree brings order to her huge collection of container plants (246 at last count) by using restraint in the color scheme of the containers—one grouping features only orange, black, and gray pots, while another dials back the orange and adds highlights of chartreuse.

She also simplifies things by concentrating on foliage over flowers. "I don't garden for the flowers," she told me. "The foliage always wins." That's not to say that some plants she grows for pretty leaves don't have wonderful blooms as well. Clifford the Magnolia is one, sporting giant fragrant white blossoms in summer. Loree also enjoys the blooms of her mahonias, grevilleas, bromeliads, and



Carrion flower (*Stapelia grandiflora*) before the flies arrived. Photo by LB.



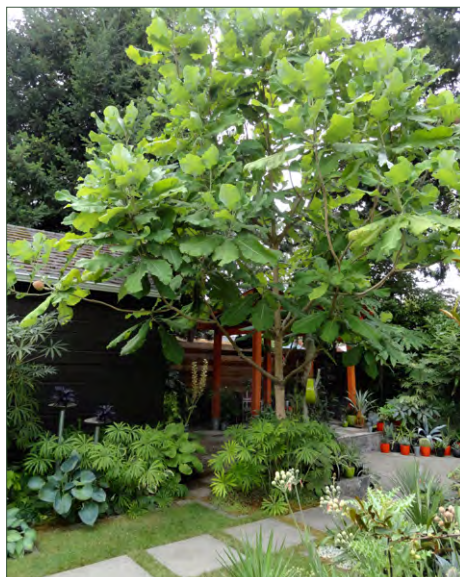
Loree's backyard is lush and colorful, but has a clean, modern feel. Photo by LB.

below left: Clifford the Bigleaf Magnolia is a focal point in the Danger Garden. Photo by LB.

below: Andrew Bohl with the incredible 'Rocket' echium of 2012. Photo by LB.



Billbergia 'Hallelujah' has gorgeous foliage and flowers. Photo by LB.



passion flowers. In 2012, a mild winter allowed her *Echiumxwildpretii* 'Rocket', grown for its striking basal foliage, to overwinter and bloom the next summer. Up, up, up the tower of pink flowers soared, topping out at an incredible 12 feet. "The hum of the bees was deafening," she said. Last summer she was surprised when her *Stapelia grandiflora* bloomed; she had bought the South African succulent solely for its funky form, but a couple of starfish-shaped red flowers appeared, too. Commonly known as "carrion flower," it's named for the dead-animal aroma the blossoms exude. Her little chug (Chihuahua-pug mix), Lila, searched frantically for the source of the stench.

Loree recounts these dramas on her *Danger Garden* blog; she also details her hauls at nurseries and plant sales, gives virtual tours of gardens she's visited, and profiles her favorite plants. Winter is a good time to peruse her vast library

of blog posts (over 1,800 of them by the time you read this) and glean insights on growing a fantastic assortment of popular, unusual, xeric, moisture-loving, marginally hardy, tough-as-nails, heavily armed, pettably soft, foul-smelling, deliciously fragrant, or just plain fabulous plants in the Pacific Northwest. You can read about that time a bear wandered into the backyard, too (<http://thedangergarden.com/2014/06/wildlife-wednesday.html>).

In addition to blogging four times a week for *Danger Garden*, Loree posts once a week for *Plant Lust* (<http://plantlust.com>), an online resource she helped to create along with Megan Hansen and Patricia Cunningham nearly six years ago. *Plant Lust* is a compilation of 76 nurseries' catalog offerings, listing some 30,000 plants. The beauty of it is that it not only

supplies information about plants, but tells you where you can buy them, too (which could be dangerous to your wallet).

Whether you're a fan of spiky plants or friendly ones, you'll find something of interest on both of Loree's websites. I've always preferred huggable plants over hostile ones, but as I plan my own low-water front yard landscape, I too have begun to understand the allure of these dangerous characters. Thank you, Loree, for opening our eyes to a whole new range of possibilities and for sharing your garden and your knowledge with us!



Photos by Amy Campion (AC) and Loree Bohl (LB)

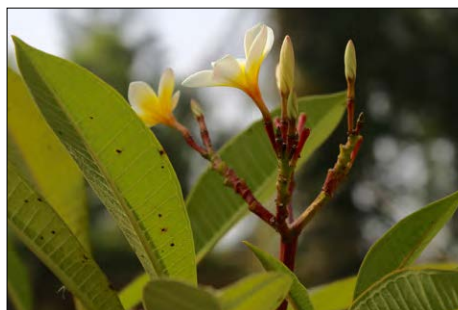
KATHMANDU, NEPAL

by Annette Wilson Christensen

Garden of Dreams



Buildings were damaged in April earthquake.



My nephew, who climbed Mount Everest a few years ago, felt compelled to aid the Sherpa who guided him safely to the summit when Mingma's home was destroyed by the April earthquake in Nepal. My husband, Claus, and I jumped at the chance to join the project.

While we waited for the rest of the group to arrive, Claus and I wandered the narrow, ancient streets of Kathmandu, where we were easily lost in a maze of tiny shops, squares, and temples all fighting for our attention amongst a noisy mix of other shoppers, motorcycles, tuk-tuks, rickshaws, stray dogs, and honking cars wending through the maze—hot, humid and hazy with pollution. We dripped sweat. After successfully snagging a perfect “Mountain Hardware” duffel bag, we were intrigued by a long, high wall labeled with a small brass sign—“Garden of Dreams.” Although Claus warned it was a place we might not feel that we belong, we ducked through the archway and headed down a narrow entry—even such a short walk brought us away from the street’s chaos.

Turning a corner, we were surprised to see what appeared to be a slice of England with an expanse of lawn, huge tropical trees, and graceful buildings. The Garden of Dreams it seems is a garden carved from the heart of Kathmandu by Field Marshal Kaiser Shamsheer who was inspired by the Edwardian style gardens he visited in England. A prominent architect, Kishore Narshingh, designed the gardens around six pavilions which represent each of the six seasons of Nepal. In the early 1920s, during its prime, the garden was an elegant collection of pavilions, fountains, decorative garden furnitures, and European inspired features such as verandas, pergolas, balustrades, urns, and birdhouses.

The gardens fell into disrepair after the death of the Field Marshal in 1964 and only half of it remains today. With the aid of Austria, the gardens were restored to their current state—a surprising, peaceful idyll in the heart of the city. Sadly, the earthquake in April severely damaged some of the structures and many will require extensive repair. Still the gardens provide a sanctuary to anyone who discovers them.

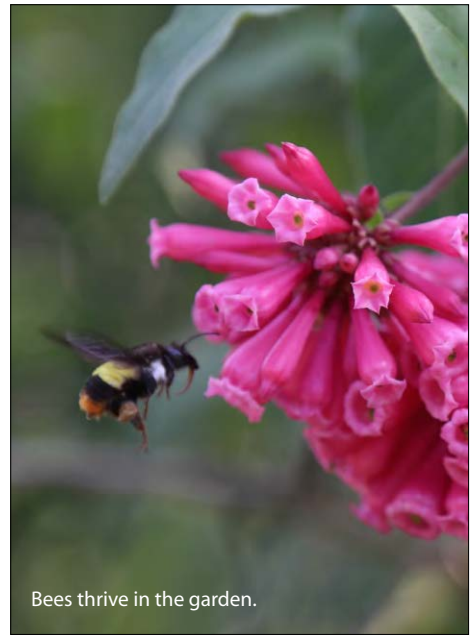




Kaiser Shamsher Jang Bahadur Rana



The entry shrine is lovingly maintained.



Bees thrive in the garden.



typical Kathmandu street scene

Essay by Roger Anderson—2015 HPSO Scholarship Winner

The HPSO Scholarship and Grant Program was pleased to select Roger Anderson to receive a scholarship in 2015. His passion for a plan to study Landscape Design convinced the committee that he would make the most of the award.



Last year, I made a momentous change in my life. For eight years I had worked at a web design firm, where I was the longest-employed web developer. Things were secure; I was well-liked and

did good work. But for the last year or two, the fast-paced nature of the job started to take its toll and my attitude got worse. I dealt with it for a couple years, trying to force myself to be happy, convincing myself not to run away from a good deal. Then I read an article that prompted me to ask myself, "What am I running toward?" I was in my forties and worked in a thriving industry I could probably ride out until retirement. But the thought of feeling unfulfilled for the next 20 years, and then regretting it, was soul-crushing. For my own wellbeing, I needed to spend the next stage in my life running toward something I felt passionate about. After some research, landscape design really connected with me. I gave my notice but felt like I was stepping off a cliff into the unknown. I wasn't going to have any income for the next two years while going to school. I had some savings but that would only get me so far. I've been determined to stay focused on school full-time, get the most out of it, and find employment as quickly as possible.

Currently I'm enrolled in the two-year program at PCC for an AAS degree in Landscape Technology-Design. As I continue my studies, I have become more confident that this is exactly what I want to be doing. I have been able to apply the skills I've gained from past experiences toward this new career. First, my technical background has helped me to learn the CAD program, VectorWorks, quite effortlessly. Second, I've always had a general eye for design, and now I can use it. Finally, the DIY projects I've completed have given me a solid understanding of landscape installations.

In particular, I have found myself strongly drawn to permaculture and sustainable landscaping.

Permaculture and sustainable methods have a reputation for looking messy to those who aren't familiar with them. There's a need for more visual appeal while still staying true to the principles.

In addition, I'm drawn to the challenge of specifying plants that will not only grow best in a particular environment, but create a pleasing mood or evoke a reaction. This can be done, for example, by contrasting plants with other plants or structures to emphasize color and shape, or maintaining visual interest year round using succession. I love the creative freedom of design where I, as the designer, am responsible for pleasing the client.

When not studying for classes, I'm applying my new-found knowledge to projects around the house. In the last few months I have identified most of the plants around our yard, installed a gravel path, performed a permaculture site analysis, created a hugelkultur bed (a permaculture practice that makes use of wood debris to retain moisture and reduce the need for watering), and de-paved the driveway for extra garden space, among other things. I am doing all of this for my own benefit, but I know it will also give me practical experience in a landscape design career. The combination of finding something I love to do personally and being able to make a career out of it is immensely rewarding.

At present, I'm actively seeking any additional experience I can gain while on this journey. I volunteer for Friends of Trees and plan on being active in PCC's Learning Garden and Landscape Club next term. Looking ahead to this summer, I am searching for seasonal employment in the gardening and landscaping fields since I won't have any classes. I see this as a crucial opportunity that can provide me with the experiences needed to increase my chances of employment after graduating. Also, I recently finished putting together a portfolio site that links to a separate site about using permaculture practices at home (<http://rgranderson.info/>).

Leaving my job as a web developer and going back to school was the toughest decision I've ever had to make. There's more at stake at this point in life. I have a mortgage, bills, tuition, a wife. I'm betting the farm that I'll make it through school, find work, and be able to start providing again. But the fear of failing is offset by an amazing sense of excitement and by opportunities that I've never encountered before. I already know I've made the right decision and I'm proud of myself for making it. Now I'm running toward something as fast as I can because I want it so much.



HPSO LIBRARY UPDATE

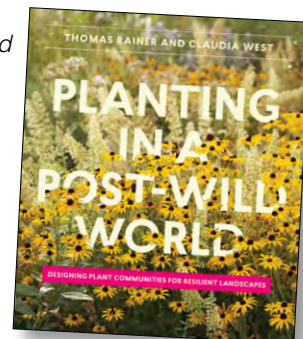
by Carol Gaynor, HPSO Library Committee Chair

Save the date of March 12 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. for a library event featuring speakers and books discussing climate change and new weather patterns that affect NW gardens. Check the HPSO website for updates.

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes by Thomas Rainer and Claudia West

"This groundbreaking guide presents a powerful alternative to traditional horticulture—designed plantings that function like naturally occurring plant communities. Thomas Rainer and Claudia West, two leading voices in ecological landscape design, reveal how plants fit together in nature and how to use this knowledge to create landscapes that are resilient, beautiful, and diverse. As practical as it is inspiring, *Planting in a Post-Wild World* is an optimistic manifesto pointing the way to the future of planting design."—Amazon.com



The Art of Gardening: Design Inspiration and Innovative Planting Techniques from Chanticleer by R. William Thomas and the Gardeners of Chanticleer

"Chanticleer has been called the most romantic, imaginative, and exciting public garden in America. It is a place of pleasure and learning, relaxing yet filled with ideas to take home. And now those lessons are available for everyone in this stunning book!

"You'll learn techniques specific to different conditions and plant palettes;

how to use hardscape materials in a fresh way; and how to achieve the perfect union between plant and site.



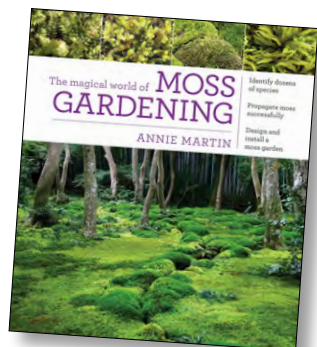
Rob Cardillo's exquisite photographs of exciting combinations will be sure to stimulate your own creativity.

"Whether you're already under Chanticleer's spell or have yet to visit, *The Art of Gardening* will enable you to bring the special magic that pervades this most artful of gardens into your own home landscape."—Timber Press

The Magical World of Moss Gardening

by Annie Martin

"Mosses are a gardener's dream. These emerald beauties thrive where nothing else grows, and they provide year-round interest in all climates. Deer-resistant and immune to typical garden insects and diseases, mosses offer erosion control and help prevent water run-off. Try placing these magical plants between rocks, along pathways, or even as a lawn for a velvety green backdrop. The variations in color, texture, shape, and even size will amaze you. In this inspiring guide, Annie Martin—Mossin' Annie to her fans—covers the essentials for creating an extraordinary moss garden. With profiles of the best mosses to grow and expert tips on planting and care, you can create fascinating combinations and establish a verdant oasis to enjoy for years to come."—Goodreads.com



VOLUNTEER PROFILE *by Lisa Fuller*



Kathleen Fortune

We all look forward to the botanical displays at our events and plants sales. We delight in the plethora of stunning sprigs of foliage and stems of blossoms brought in from our gardens to proudly display. The opportunity to examine these treasures in all their glorious detail inspires us to take notes, chat with others, compare our own efforts, and above all, learn.

Kathleen Fortune, a founding member of the Hardy Plant Society of Oregon, is the charming lady who has received these botanical offerings for display at our programs and sales for many years. She has had to choose which of the many vases brought to the venue to put the cutting in, figure out what it is if not identified, and disassemble the whole extravaganza when the event is over. What a delight to introduce her to some of our newer members and acknowledge her many years of dedicated volunteering!

Kathleen attended the very first HPSO meeting. She and about 30 others, many of whom are still active members, had been members of the Seattle Hardy Plant group to establish a connection with fellow gardeners in the Pacific Northwest. They enthusiastically formed the new local organization here in Portland, which very quickly grew to organize plant sales (home-grown inventory then), open gardens, and the first Study Weekend we hosted in early July, 1984.

During the early 1990s, Kathleen served two terms on the Board of Directors. In the late '90s, she formed the Botanical Display committee with Marilyn Dubé and has continued in that role until very recently. She stepped down just this past summer

to pass the baton to new recruits Beth Hansen-Winter and Meredith Hilderbrand. Kathleen's mentoring has made the transition seamless.

In addition to the Botanical Display committee, Kathleen has always loved the excitement and camaraderie generated at the plant sales, and she has volunteered at them from the beginning. Our first plant sales were held at the Hillsboro fairgrounds, with far fewer vendors, but even now, at the Expo Center, where Hortlandia has become arguably the largest plant sale in the area, Kathleen can be found pulling tags at the cash registers and dreaming of going back to buy some of the goodies she sees going through the lines! No gardener can resist the urge to add a new variety or cultivar of a favorite plant genus, and Kathleen is no exception.

Just about every year the Fortune's "Century House" garden is listed in the HPSO Open Gardens Directory. She calls it her "country relaxed garden." The family has owned the property and lived in the 1892 farmhouse since 1967. Kathleen remembers how much her mother enjoyed gardening and her own first garden (an iris garden) as a child. When they first bought it, there were only a few mostly long-neglected perennials on the land. Early on, there were lots of vegetables grown to help nourish their seven children; later it became the peaceful haven that she enjoys so much. Where strawberries once grew, her eighth grade sons started farming Christmas trees. The remaining trees have become the canopy for Kathleen's shade garden, where her favorite plants thrive. Hydrangea, hosta, epimedium, and heuchera are abundant and well loved. Ferns of many varieties, including our natives, blanket the understory. Now her daughter-in-law eagerly joins her several days a week to work with her. They both think of it as great therapy for otherwise busy lives.

"Gardening is an adventure everyday. I love to weed, and mulch, and prune... the physical work of it is fun!"

How gratifying to reconfirm that the satisfactions of gardening, and being amongst so many others who appreciate the gifts of a garden, flow from generation to generation!

Thank you, Kathleen, for being such a treasure to the Hardy Plant Society of Oregon!



WHY I GARDEN...

Gardening in Middle Earth

by Janice Molloy

[Editor's note: Janice is the HPSO member who gardens furthest from our headquarters in Portland. She graciously agreed to help us continue our winter denial theme by telling us about her garden in New Zealand (near Wellington) where January is summertime!]

My first garden was a pocket handkerchief in a city backyard where I created box-fringed beds, a tiny lily pond, and a brick courtyard. But I dreamt of a large rambling country garden where I could plant all of my favorite shrubs—witch hazel, wintersweet, *Philadelphus*, flowering cherries, and roses. When I saw the property advertised on-line I was very excited; nine acres of pasture land bordering a freestone stream, a walnut orchard, and space to lay out the garden of my dreams. We made an appointment to visit the property and immediately saw why it hadn't sold. There were no fences, the long entranceway was potholed, chickens roosted on the front porch, and the house was surrounded by rank grass and stinking iris. There were tangles of old wire, dumped supermarket trolleys, and tree stumps. Others saw "work," but we saw "potential." The site was sheltered and fertile, and there were several full grown oak trees and swamp cypresses to provide the bones.

I remember my first futile attempt to plant a garden bed—three hours passed and I'd cleared about two square meters. So we hired a bobcat and a digger; and over the next week the machines scraped away vast areas of stinking iris, removed fallen trees, dug out stumps, buried the debris, and scraped a hollow for a pond. The bobcat driver wanted to know where we wanted garden beds, so we had to quickly plan the layout using the mature trees to guide us. We then spent many weekends laying newspaper and sawdust over the bare soil. We hand raked and sowed the extensive lawns, and lined the pond. We planted native *Corokia* hedges and made raised beds for the vegetable garden. And Simon built me a plastic house. Eventually the garden began to take shape.

In the first couple of years I seeded empty beds with wildflowers to give us instant color, but I have always wanted perennial beds. I love the unfolding that takes place, from bare dirt in winter, to overflowing exuberance



Janice in her garden

in summer. I now have two parallel beds planted with bearded iris, lupins, and alliums. Each year I make hazel tripods for sweet peas to climb up, to give the garden height. Softer, see-through structure is provided by *Verbena bonariensis* and *Thalictrum delavayi*, and amongst these I clip *Pittosporum tenuifolium* 'Golf Ball' to create fullstops.

The garden under the oak tree looks its best in early spring and I love to linger there in the dappled light. The bright green oak leaves intensify the colour of the bluebells and daffodils. Here I also grow Chatham Island forget-me-not, a remarkable native perennial plant with huge rounded, shining leaves and powder blue flowers. Once the oak is in full leaf this garden becomes dim, so I've planted the native white-flowering Rengarenga lily *Arthropodium cirratum* and variegated irises to brighten the scene.

A soft cottagey garden surrounds our outdoor rustic table and pergola. I wanted to create a loose billowy feel, so I let things seed and grow where they want. I use more annuals in this garden and the flowers tend to be simpler. This year I've grown corn cockle and flax flowers in the hope they will self-seed in future. I had three shrub roses in here but they looked too stiff for this garden so I shifted them out. I've planted sweet smelling spires of mignonette, the finespun grass *Stipa tenuissima*, and blue cornflowers appear each year. In late summer the

cauliflower heads of sedums are crawling with bumble bees. No wonder the bees love them, I can smell the honey scent metres away.

A pin oak beside our pond is underplanted with hostas, red-stemmed dogwood, and the 'tractor seat' *Ligularia* (*Ligularia reniformis*). Candelabra primulas have self seeded around the pond edge and in spring their clear yellow is complemented by purple Siberian iris. A massive Tasmanian blackwood standing near the pond has spread its surface roots all through the soil, and robs the goodness I add in. But it is a stunning tree.

Roses love our clay soil. I planted the apricot pink rambling rose 'Paul Transon' beside a nashi pear and it has clambered up an old orchard ladder into the top of the tree. The climbing rose 'Nancy Haywood' twines through a fig tree, and people ask what the lipstick pink flowers are. I've used *Rosa rugosa* 'Agnes' as a hedge screen beside the hen run – the cream flowers smell divine, while *R. rugosa* 'Roseraie de la Hay' breaks up a blank wall of our house and the perfume drifts in through the open window.

There have been plenty of failures along the way: I planted dozens of daffodils around the walnut trees but my flock of sheep promptly ate them all; the cherry trees never flower—sparrows and finches eat the buds off. Luckily they don't touch the *Malus* buds so we do get spring blossom. And this last summer the pond sprang a leak and looked like a mud wallow.

I have learnt the harsh summer light in New Zealand washes out soft colors, so this year I'm planting red dahlias in my long beds. I'm replanting a round bed near the pond with heleniums, verbascums and rudbeckias for late summer color. A friend has given me some *Stipa gigantea* plants and I can't wait to see their seed heads this year. The pond is a work in progress. We deepened one end so it has permanent standing water and are currently planting the shallow end with bullrush.

My country garden takes a lot of work to keep under control and is never as tidy as my little town garden was, and I have to carry a cup of tea when I walk around so I'm not tempted to stop and pull out weeds. But the payoff is that there is always something about to flower. I'm writing this in October and the spring parade has started. The daphne, daffodils and tulips have come and gone, and the talcum powder perfume of *Viburnum carlesii* has faded. But the first aquilegias are out. It is a wonderful time of year—most of the parade is still to come.



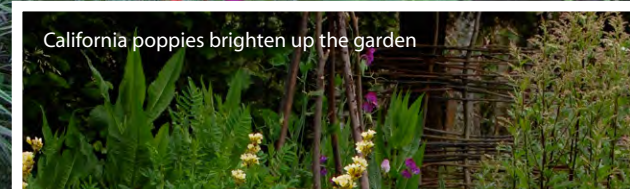
The upstairs bedroom looks out over the garden



Left: Candelabra primulas have self-seeded around the pond edge. Below: *Gunnera tinctoria* with *Carex secta* in the foreground

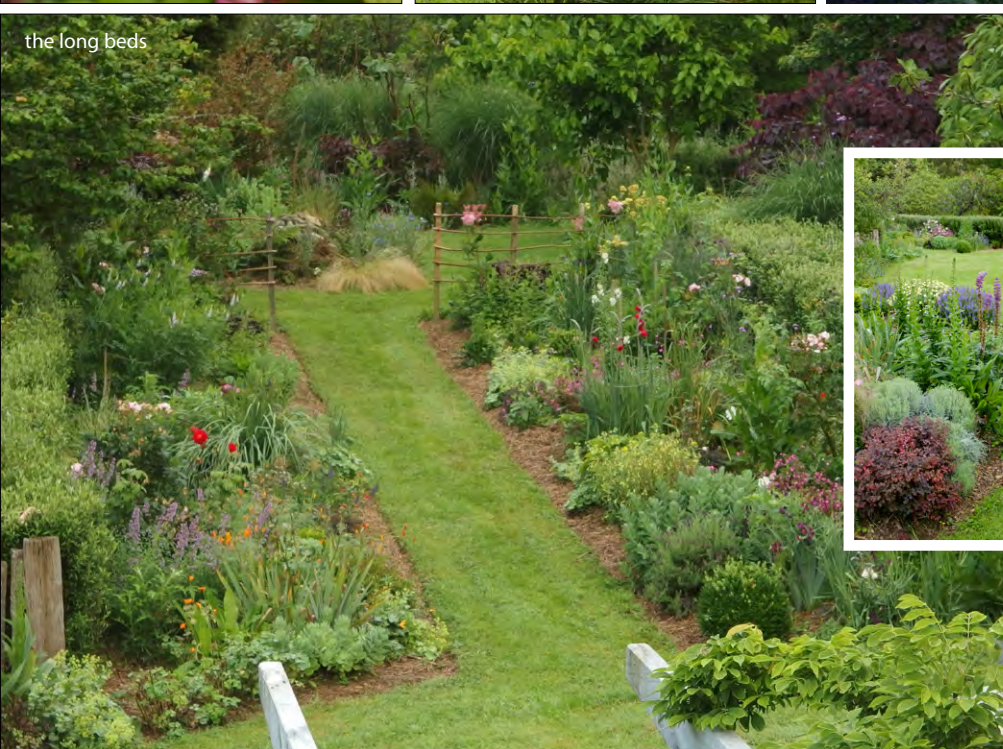


Deutzia 'Magicien'



California poppies brighten up the garden

the long beds





The Hardy Plant Society of Oregon
828 NW 19th Avenue
Portland, OR 97209

www.hardyplantsociety.org

The Hardy Plant Society of Oregon is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose purpose is educational and whose mission is to nurture the gardening community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE JOYS OF OPENING YOUR GARDEN:

Saturday, January 9

WINTER MEETING:

Sunday, January 24
(See more information on page 3)

YARD, GARDEN & PATIO SHOW

February 12-14

GEN(I)US PROGRAM:

"Winter Flowers & Fruit"
with Dorothy Rodal
Sunday, February 28

GEN(I)US PROGRAM:

"Daphne, Osmanthus & Vaccinium"
with Roger Gossler
Sunday, March 27

HORTLANDIA

Saturday & Sunday,
April 9-10

PLUS OPEN GARDENS

April to October.
HPSO members can visit other member's gardens from spring through fall.

for more program information see page 1 and visit www.hardyplantsociety.org



Garden of Dreams in Kathmandu (see page 12)



Rosa 'Corylus' and, left, lupins and miniature red hot pokers in a New Zealand garden (see page 16)