



NORTHWEST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

GARDENnotes
WINTER 2023



Helleborus × hybridus flowers
Image by Justin Henderson/PowellsWood

2023 SPRING SYMPOSIUM

GARDENING TO CULTIVATE OUR SENSES

Words & Image by Richie Steffen

Fragrance, texture, sight and sounds bring our gardens alive. This year's spring symposium *Gardening to Cultivate Our Senses* was inspired by the 2023 Great Plant Picks garden theme, *Scent-sational Plants*. Making a garden that invites the use of all the senses gives a full and more meaningful gardening experience. This year's spring symposium speakers show a deep appreciation for experiencing the garden.

Annie Guilfoyle will begin by exploring why plants are scented and why scent plays such an important role in our gardens. Annie will ask key designers and plants people about their favorite scents and how they use scent in their work. This talk will also feature Annie's approach to using scented plants and focus on a few particular favorites. Annie is an award-winning garden designer based in West Sussex in the United Kingdom. She combines garden design with teaching and lecturing internationally, along with teaching and developing courses at Great Dixter and West Dean. She is an RHS show garden judge at Chelsea Flower Show, and together with Noel Kingsbury, created Garden Masterclass which is an educational portal aimed at professional designers and horticulturists.

Growing up in the then small city of Eugene, Oregon and surrounded by great natural beauty, Jeffrey Bale developed a profound appreciation for the natural world. Therefore, the gardens he builds are very sympathetic and complementary to the natural environments surrounding them. At the same time, they are places to immerse oneself in a setting of inspiring and meaningful beauty. Jeffrey will share his inspi-



Stone wall created by Jeffrey Bale

ration and process for designing and building a garden with pleasure in mind. You will see the garden as a setting that conjures fantasies of paradise, a place to recline, serenaded by trickling fountains and birdsong, and inhaling wafts of fragrance. Jeffrey will take you around the world to gardens such as the Alhambra, the Taj Mahal, Villa d'Este, and his own back yard and tell you how to create your own Heaven on Earth.

The Sensory Garden at the Woodland Park Zoo was led by Sandy Fischer, a principal and advisor in the Bainbridge Island based Fischer Bouma Partnership and Seattle based Land Morphology. This unique project is a collaboration between the Friends of Sensory Garden, the community, the Zoo and Seattle Parks. Sandy, a landscape architect since the 1970's, will share the planning and design process that led to the creation of an accessible sensory garden at the Zoo. The process included many community meetings with signing interpreters, braille maps and interactive activities as well as outreach and assistance from community groups including Lighthouse. The result is an accessible, engaging sensory garden that delights a variety of visitors with different abilities who enjoy seasonal sights, sounds, movement, and smells.

Gardening to Cultivate Our Senses is an online Zoom symposium with the recorded lecture being made available on March 4th, 2023. This will be followed by a live Q&A session with the three speakers on March 18th, 2023. A recording of the Q&A session will also be made available after the event. You can sign up for this event now on the NHS website. 🌱

Gardening to Cultivate Our Senses

Saturday, March 4, 8:00 AM

Recorded Zoom Lectures Released

Saturday, March 18, 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Symposium Speaker Q&A

Live Zoom Webinar

Members: \$45.00 — Non-members: \$65.00

Speakers

Exploring Scent in the Garden | Annie Guilfoyle

The Pleasure Garden | Jeffrey Bale

The Sensory Garden

at the Woodland Park Zoo | Sandy Fischer

To register: www.northwesthort.org

Email: info@northwesthort.org

ARIT ANDERSON: HOW CAN WE GROW GREENER?

If you are a fan of the Royal Horticultural Society's famed Chelsea Flower Show, then you likely already know Arit Anderson. As a designer of Chelsea show gardens and as a TV correspondent covering the show, she has developed an insider's perspective on the trends and themes that make Chelsea such a magnificent event. A quick web search shows that she is a woman in demand with many TV appearances and written articles as well as being a successful garden designer and popular podcaster.

Arit's insatiable desire to share sustainable gardening practices combined with an eye for design has also made her a leader in the industry for environmentally sound gardening. She has a passion for environmental sensitivity, her position as both a presenter and writer for national publications has enabled her to publicize issues around the future of gardening in the context of a climate and biodiversity crisis.

Horticulture and communication are passions of hers. As a Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute, Trustee

Arit will be giving two seminars at the Northwest Flower & Garden Festival in February 2023, Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, Washington:

Nature as Nurture: Can Gardens Heal the World?

As we continue to live in a fast-paced world that is driven by technology and commerce, we are increasingly facing nature deficit as we disconnect from the natural rhythms of the world. British garden and landscape designer Arit Anderson is a Trustee of the National Garden Scheme in the UK, a charity that is dedicated to raising funds and awareness for nursing and health charities. This talk will explore why gardens should be an essential part of patient care plans in the health sector, and how community gardens can be the life and soul of towns and cities.

Wednesday, February 15th at 10:00 am / Rainier Room



for the National Garden Scheme, RHS Ambassador for the Environment and Community, and co-founder of the Sustainable Landscape Foundation she has developed a platform that gives a voice to accessible sustainable practices.

NHS is pleased to sponsor her as the 2023 international show judge for the Northwest Flower and Garden Festival. We are fortunate to have a sneak peek at Arit's talents with a webinar on "How Can We Grow Greener?" on January 21st. This special webinar is free to all NHS members. If you would like to meet Arit in a more personal setting, then you must attend our exclusive in-person social event on February 16th: "Inspired by Horticulture: A Conversation with Arit." This will be a limited space event so be sure to watch for the emails to sign up. 🌱

Finding Common Ground: Good Communication is Like Mycorrhizal Fungi

Arit Anderson is a British garden and landscaper designer, but she also presents on TV, writes for magazines, has a podcast and is co-founder of the Sustainable Landscape Foundation. A well-known figure in the UK garden media, Arit wants to share why she has a passion for communication and how she is using it to inspire gardeners and landscape professionals to think and be greener. Just like mycorrhizal fungi helps plants communicate, she will share her experience on why talking and collaborating is crucial for the future health of gardens and the planet.

Thursday, February 16th at 11:30 am / Rainier Room

Arit Anderson's appearance sponsored by the Northwest Horticultural Society. <https://northwesthort.org/>

2023 WEBINAR CALENDAR

The webinar events will be posted on the website for registration at least a month in advance of the lecture.

Wednesday, January 11

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Dishing Dirt with Bess and Richie
Bess Bronstein & Richie Steffen

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Saturday, January 21

10:00 AM–11:30 AM

How Can We Grow Greener?
Arit Anderson

Zoom Webinar

Members: FREE — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, January 25

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Victorian Fern Craze
Brian Thompson

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, February 1

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Don't Hack Your Hydrangeas
Bess Bronstein

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Tuesday, February 7

10:00 AM–11:30 AM

How to Garden When You Rent
Matthew Pottage

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Saturday, February 11

10:00 AM–11:30 AM

Resistance is Fertile!
The Chelsea Fringe Festival
Tim Richardson

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, February 22

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Designing and Maintaining the
Jardin Potager
Jennifer Bartley

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, March 15

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Rhododendron Pruning Without Fear
Bess Bronstein

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, March 22

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Thinking Outside the Arbor
Linda Beutler

Zoom Webinar

Members: FREE — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, March 29

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Restoring the Beauty of the Wild
Darrel Morrison

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, April 12

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

The Complete Talk on Ground Covers
Gary Lewis

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, April 19

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Dishing Dirt with Bess and Richie
Bess Bronstein & Richie Steffen

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Saturday, April 29

10:00 AM–11:30 AM

Northwest Gardens of Lord & Schryver
Val Libby

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, May 10

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Wickedly Cool Woodies
Paul Cappiello

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, May 24

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Hydrangeas: Frumpy or Fabulous?
Richie Steffen

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Saturday, May 27

10:00 AM–11:30 AM

Homegrown National Park
Doug Tallamy

Zoom Webinar

Members: FREE — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, June 7

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Evolution of the Garden of Exuberant
Refuge

Daniel Sparler

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, June 14

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Proving their Worth: Plant Evaluation
Trials at the Chicago Botanic Garden
Richard Hawke

Zoom Webinar

Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Restoring the Beauty of the Wild
with Darrel Morrison
Webinar, March 29, 2023



Virtual Summer Designer Forums

Designers Tips for the Home Gardener

Saturday, June 24, 10:00 AM–12:00 PM
Applying Design Principles
Lisa Bauer, Tina Nyce, Courtney Olander
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$22.50— Non-members: \$32.50

Saturday, July 15, 10:00 AM–12:00 PM
Fine Tuning Your Garden Design
Kat & Tim King, Laura Kleppe, Robin Parsons
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$22.50— Non-members: \$32.50

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- A full year of membership from the date that you join
- Five FREE lectures in the Webinar Lecture Series
- A subscription to Garden Notes, the quarterly NHS newsletter
- Discount rates on all symposiums, workshops, and classes
- Discount rates on local and regional garden tours
- Exciting volunteer opportunities
- Camaraderie, collegiality and countless new ideas for your garden

Wednesday, June 21 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
The Origins of Color in Plants
Ross Bayton
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, July 5 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
Meadows, Ancient and New
Eric Lee-Mäder
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, July 12 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
Dishing Dirt with Bess and Richie
Bess Bronstein & Richie Steffen
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, July 19 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
Lavender- From Plant to Essence
Sue Goetz
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, September 13 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
The Gardener’s Guide to Botanical Latin
Ross Bayton
Zoom Webinar
Members: FREE — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, September 20 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
The Climate Ready Garden
Del Brummet
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, September 27 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
Winterizing an Eclectic Collector’s Garden
Daniel Sparler
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, October 11 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
Dishing Dirt with Bess and Richie
Bess Bronstein & Richie Steffen
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, October 18 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
Planting a Prune-less Garden
Christina Pfeiffer
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, October 25 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
Curating Compelling Collections: North American Gardens at UBC Botanical Garden
Ben Stormes
Zoom Webinar
Members: \$10.00 — Non-members: \$15.00

Wednesday, November 15 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
Conserving Washington’s Rare Native Plants
Wendy Gibble
Zoom Webinar
Members: FREE — Non-members: \$15.00

In-person classes and tours will be announced in early spring.



Abelia 'Edward Goucher'

Great Plant Picks SCENT- SATIONAL PLANTS FOR THE GARDEN

*Words & Images by Richie Steffen
(unless otherwise noted)*

Visual beauty alone is a rather flat, two-dimensional way to look at the garden. Gardening is a full immersion experience involving all our senses. Who has not rubbed the leaves of *Stachys byzantina* (lamb's ear) just to make sure they are as soft and fuzzy as they were the day before. I know I have certainly plucked more than my share of the deep purple and blue fruit of *Vaccinium ovatum* (evergreen huckleberry) to assess if they have reached perfect ripeness. But I think the experience that invokes the strongest response is fragrance.

Fragrance draws on memories. I yearn to capture the sweet fragrance of a conifer forest in the cozy confines of my home garden. The fragrant fall blooms of *Osmanthus heterophyllus* (sweet olive) transport me to my first plant identification class in the fall of 1984, and the excitement I felt at being presented with the overwhelming diversity of plants (and the panic of spelling everything correctly on the pop quiz!). Fragrance should not be ignored as we create our gardens, and this is why the Great Plant Picks educational program is focusing on fragrant plants for its 2023 garden theme.

When we think of fragrance, we typically think of sweet and perfumy flowers; however, fragrance offers so much more in our gardens. Foliage and bark bring year-round fragrance. Many foliage plants can deliver a whiff of sage or mint. Some small-leaved rhododendrons are known for their spicy camphor notes when brushed against. So many conifers can fill the air with a woody and piney aroma. Even those perfumy flowers vary tremendously from light and fresh citrus scents to luscious heavy fragrances that are such a delight to happen upon when on an early evening walk in the summertime.

An excellent way to think of fragrances and the way they relate to each other is to look at the fragrance wheel created by perfumery taxonomist, Michael Edwards. Much like the color wheel, the fragrance wheel categorizes smells and helps us see how each relates to the others. This perfume industry standard can easily be modified to help us think about fragrance in the garden. The four divisions of fragrance are floral, amber (spicy), woody and fresh. Adding plants to your garden while considering these distinct scent categories allows for planting combinations that can give complex fragrance experiences in the garden. Imagine the autumn leaves of *Cercidiphyllum japonicum* (katsura with its earthy undertoned strawberry and vanilla scented fallen leaves juxtaposed



Agastache 'Black Adder' – Rick Peterson



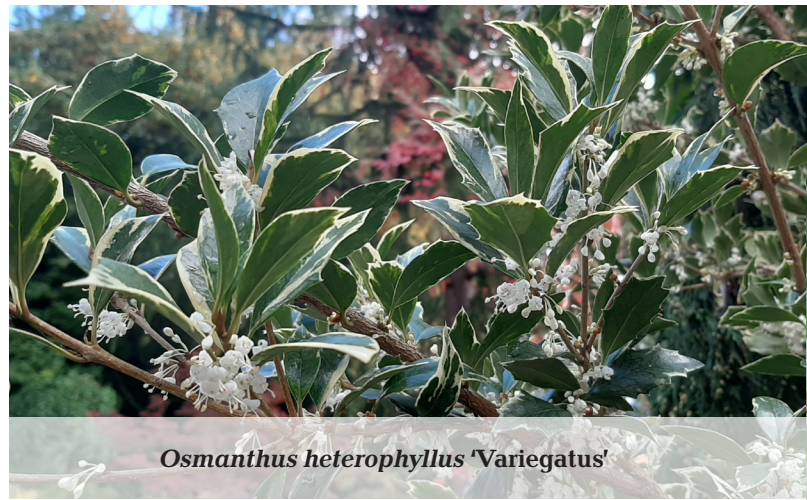
Cistus × *hybridus* – Rick Peterson



Daphne × transatlantica 'Blafra'
ETERNAL FRAGRANCE™



Hamamelis × intermedia 'Pallida'



Osmanthus heterophyllus 'Variegatus'

with the orange blossom-reminiscent fragrance of *Osmanthus heterophyllus* (sweet olive shrub). A heavenly combination to delight the nose for a few weeks in October.

When one thinks of garden fragrance, floral scents are likely the first that come to mind. The unmistakable scent of a rose or the lingering perfume of lilies are classic floral fragrances. Softer floral notes can be found with *Trachelospermum jasminoides* (star jasmine) or *Abelia*. The intense spicy floral odor of *Daphne × transatlantica* 'Blafra' ETERNAL FRAGRANCE™ or the unusual earthy floral combination found in several of the fall blooming *Camellia sasanqua* cultivars are part of this category, although they are more of an extreme. The intensity associated with many floral fragrances makes these plants better in the open garden. Placing them near the entry of the house or in a courtyard may be too much of a good thing when these plants are in peak bloom.

The spice markets of Istanbul are what I think of when I consider amber or spicy fragrances. Whenever I smell camphor, cinnamon, vanilla or musk, I think of those chaotic bustling markets. Spicy fragrances cause some of the strongest reactions to those who smell them; for some, the fragrance is delightful, for others, they are too much. Often, just a little of these distinctive and intense scents are better than more. A prime example is the powerfully scented *Sarcococca* (sweet-box). This evergreen shrub is often planted near an entrance and can be quite overpowering in a contained space. This is better planted where the vanilla toned fragrance can occasionally waft by. It is good to keep in mind that a temporary delight is much better than a perpetual assault.

Some of the lighter scented spicy plants integrate easier into the garden. The sweet spicy and lightly floral aroma of *Hamamelis* (witch hazel), works well in most garden spaces since the fragrance is only released during mild weather in winter. Many plants have foliage with a spicy aroma. These are best along pathways or at least near enough to reach. Brush against *Agastache* (hyssops) and an anise scent will fill the air.

Other fragrant foliage plants common in gardens are *Morella californica* (wax myrtle), and *Rhododendron* 'PJM'; both will release a camphor spiced perfume if a few leaves are crushed.

Woody and fresh scents are some of my favorites. As a gardener who loves gardening in shade, the woody smells emitted by our dominant native conifers pair perfectly with the earthy smells of the duff laden soil. Each conifer has its own unique woody tone, especially if you can reach the foliage. *Abies grandis* (grand fir), a common lowland fir, has characteristic tangerine and juniper smelling needles, while the ubiquitous *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Douglas fir) will always remind me of a cheap Chubby and Tubby's Christmas tree, where unshored Doug firs were sold \$10 for any size! On warm summer days, light turpentine with a hint of vanilla lingers in the air in our conifer woodlands, a rare and savored treat.



Sarcococca hookeriana var. *digyna* 'Purple Stem'

The instantly recognizable smell of California chaparral is another woody fragrance permeated with notes of sage. I enjoy mixing the woody sage smell with sweet and citrus. Imagine *Cistus* and *Salvia* with the orange blossom fragrance of *Philadelphus lewisii*, our native mock-orange; an intense combination to be enjoyed at the height of spring. The slightly sweet anise-scented foliage of *Agastache* (hyssops) blend well with these rich herbal notes of chaparral. This chaparral fragrance can be intensified with the addition of the woody notes of *Rosmarinus* (rosemary) and *Achillea* (yarrow).

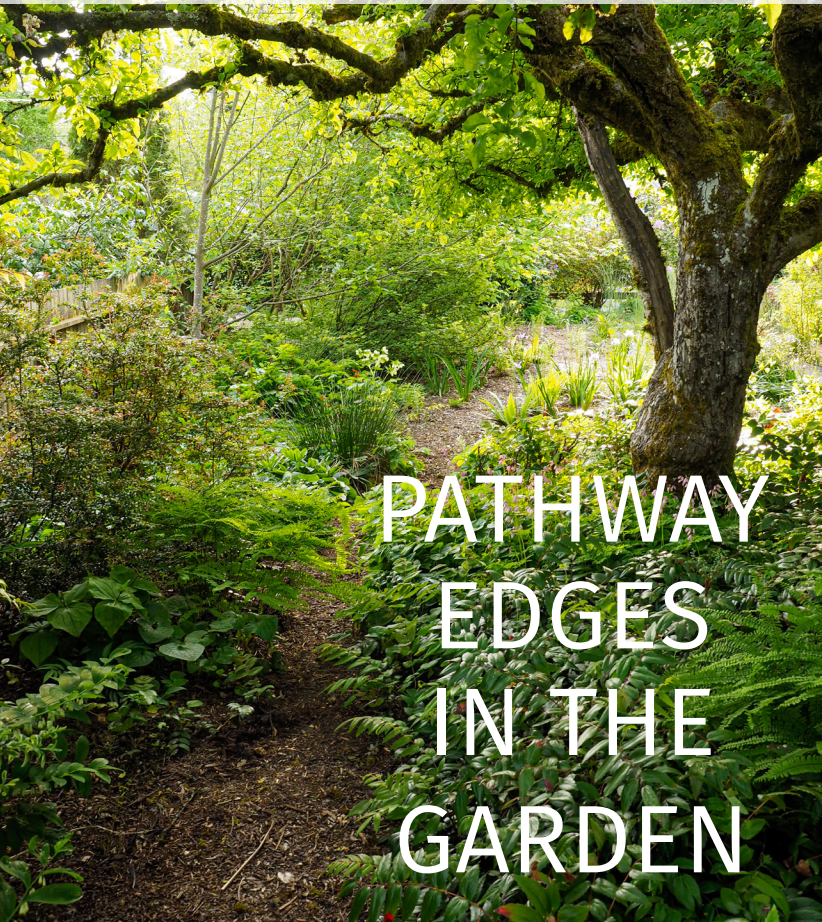
Fragrance is just another dimension in our gardens to be enjoyed. Next time you are out shopping for plants, jot down a few plants you would enjoy the smell of in your garden and try to add a few new Scent-sational plants. Learn more about fragrant plants that perform well in the maritime Pacific Northwest at the Great Plant Picks website, www.greatplant-picks.org. You can also learn more about gardening with fragrant plants at the NHS Spring Webinar Symposium: Gardening to Cultivate Our Senses featuring speakers Annie Guilfoyle, Jeffrey Bale, and Sandy Fischer. The Zoom recorded lectures will be released March 4th and a speaker Q&A will be live on Zoom on March 18th. I'm looking forward to hearing these great speakers! 🌸

Richie Steffen is Executive Director of the Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden and past president of NHS.



Rhododendron 'PJM'

A pathway cuts through a Ravenna garden. All-native pathway plants include low Oregon grape, wild ginger, false Solomon's seal, maidenhair fern, Douglas iris, and deer fern.



PATHWAY EDGES IN THE GARDEN

Words & Images by Jonathan Hallet

I stare at pathway edges, do you? Edges are the interface between the wild, natural, or gardened areas and civilized hardscapes such as pathways.

They are the difference between a garden that feels full of life, and well, one that doesn't. The shocking (or not shocking) truth is that you can often get a lot more bang for your buck by attending to your edges rather than focusing on filling or refining the garden interior. Today, the goal is to give you practical ideas for your edges, and very little philosophy.

The edges play a surprisingly huge role in a garden's overall success. When you see a garden that is full up to the edge, it feels exciting and dynamic against a clear pathway whereas bare ground along an edge feels bleak. A garden that is full up to the edge makes the pathway feel more spontaneous, like the pathway was cut through pre-existing nature or garden rather than the opposite, a pathway neatly ornamented with a line of one or more types of plants. You can plant edges intentionally in a way that gives the impression that the garden is full, lively, and pleasantly brimming.

This pathway is a work in progress: we are planting to get more definition along its edges. That will help make the surrounding grass garden feel fuller by contrasting fullness against a clear pathway edge.



What to Look for in a Pathway Plant

Generally, I'm looking for low, non-pokey plants that are evergreen or semi-evergreen. I want them low so that the pathway feels unencumbered and open. At times, it can be nice to walk through tall plants, but a pathway will get more use if it doesn't require brushing against prickly or wet plants. Other qualities I look for are resilience to some trampling, speedy growers, and for plants that can be cut back or otherwise easily managed (and that will bounce back). I'm looking for plants that are understated and tie into the rest of the garden. Rather than trying to highlight the edges, I am mainly looking to fill them in.

Diversity is nice too. The edges are what we see most intimately, and it's an appropriate place to add some moments of whimsy and delight, especially plants that might be lost elsewhere, or whose ephemeral bloom might be missed if planted deeper in the garden.

Sunny Edges

Erigeron glaucus (seaside daisy) does an impeccable job at being generally decent looking, soft, and rewarding us with a summer of repeat blooming lavender daisy-like flowers. It responds well to cutting back and deadheading. *Eriophyllum lanatum* (wooly sunflower) makes a lovely tight, low mass of silver foliage, covered in early summer with yellow composite flowers. Both of these do a good job weaving in between

The driveway to Ron Lutsko's former ranch is neatly filled in along the edges with low groundcovers, lending a satisfying fullness to the planted areas.



This hiking trail is cut through nature. Your garden pathway also can feel spontaneous by planting up to the pathway edge.



In this Seward Park garden, the ground plane of gravel blurs the edges between garden and path, making it all one and bypassing an apparent need to densely plant the garden.



Eriophyllum lanatum (wooly sunflower) offering welcome next to a new block stair



plants. Additional favorite edging plants are *Arctostaphylos* × *media* (woody stems — plant at least 2' away from an edge), native *Sedum* species, and *Iris unguicularis* (winter-flowering iris).

Shady Edges

Great edging plants for shade include *Asarum caudatum* (wild ginger), *Oxalis oregana* (redwood sorrel), *Adiantum* × *tracyi*, *Vancouveria hexandra* (inside-out flower), *Omphalodes cappadocica* (Cappadocian navelwort), *Iris douglasiana* (Douglas Iris), and species and cultivars of *Geranium*, *Helleborus*, *Epimedium*, and *Fragaria* (strawberry).

Caution with Woody Plants

Use caution when planting woody plants near pathways. *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (kinnickinnick) is a lovely groundcover, but when part of it is hacked to woody stubs to keep it off a pathway, the charm is lost. Plant woody groundcovers with enough clearance from paths that they can be managed in a way that looks natural.

Rhizomes vs. Floppers

Rhizomatous groundcovers like *Geranium* will grow to the

path edge (and stop if it's a hard path or edge) and then extend a few inches over the pathway. This often gives a tidy look that is easy to maintain. Chunks of rhizomatous material can be taken out as needed. Examples of rhizomatous plants include *Epimedium*, *Oxalis*, *Fragaria*, and *Asarum*.

Floppers, such as most geraniums, grow outward from a central root system and rely on you to occasionally cut them back dramatically. An advantage of floppers is that they can quickly make a path look well grown-in if planted nearby.

A Hairdo Analogy to Round Things Out

Pathway edges are kind of like the *bangs* of the garden; whether you prefer side bangs, short bangs, or no bangs, attend to your pathway bangs. Do you like a tidy edge, or for the pathway to look slightly wilder. See where it is working well and look to extend those moments. Which plants are hugging the edges in a way that you like? 🌿

Jonathan Hallet is a Seattle-based landscape architect, and his practice, Beautifier, aims to make ecologically-beneficial gardens with feelings. www.beautifier.us

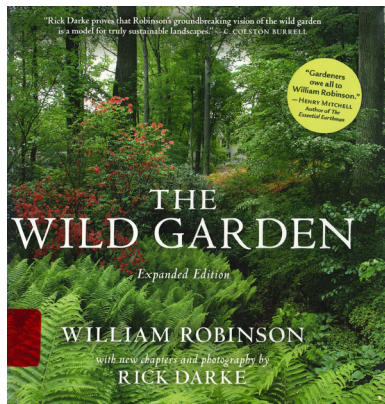
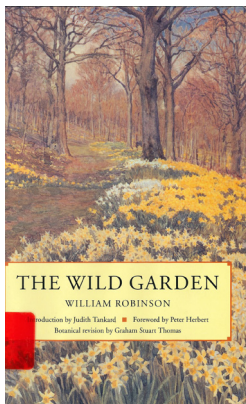


LITERARY NOTES

from the Miller Library

Brian Thompson

Winter is a great time to read the classics of horticultural literature. Gardeners from decades or even centuries ago still have many lessons to share with us. One I recommend is *The Wild Garden* by William Robinson (1838-1935).



Born in Ireland, Robinson moved to England in his early 20s and stayed, eventually owning Gravetye Manor in Sussex where he practiced his craft of gardening for nearly 50 years. He was a prolific writer, publishing several books, and founding an influential journal simply titled *The Garden*. He established many friendships with noted plants people in both Europe and North America.

The Wild Garden was first published in 1870. The Miller Library has a copy and unlike many other old books, it is not impressive. It is small, without illustrations, but the writing is inspired, taking direct aim opposing the practice of using large expanses of annuals in formal plantings, a practice that began earlier in that century.

Instead, Robinson extols the virtues of a garden filled with perennial plants, both woody and herbaceous. Planting in grass, or in other informal areas, was encouraged. While this is widely accepted today, this book caused considerable controversy when first published.

"My object in *The Wild Garden* is now to show how we may have more of the varied beauty of hardy flowers than the most ardent admirer of the old style of garden ever dreams of, by naturalizing many beautiful plants of many regions of the earth."

Beginning with the second edition, *The Wild Garden* was illustrated by the noted garden painter and designer Alfred Parsons (1847-1920), who was also a friend of Robinson and may have influenced the garden designs at Gravetye. New editions continued well into the 20th century.

The Miller Library has two books that reproduce the sumptuous 1895 fifth edition, with added features, including an appendix updating plant nomenclature. Both are available to check out.

The Wild Garden (published in 1994) includes an insightful introduction by landscape architect and historian Judith Tankard. Peter Herbert, who wrote the foreword, revived the gardens at Gravetye and describes the many plants that survived the years of neglect following Robinson's death.

The Wild Garden: Expanded Edition (2009) includes additional chapters by Rick Darke, a speaker at the 2016 NHS Spring Symposium. I well remember his encouragement to conserve old landscapes. His writing, and photographs of the revived Gravetye, are an excellent addition to this classic book. 🌿

Brian Thompson is the manager and curator of horticultural literature for the Elisabeth C. Miller Library.

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GARDENnotes

Editor


Rick Peterson
rickp@millergarden.org

Designer

Mary Gogulski
mary@gogulskidesign.com

Contributors

- Laura Blumhagen
- Jonathan Hallet
- Karin Kravitz
- Justin Henderson
- Richie Steffen
- Brian Thompson



Thank you to our Patrons!

The Lecture Program would not be possible without the tremendous support of our Patrons. Their generosity helps NHS provide an outstanding educational program for Northwest gardeners. With the great success of webinar lectures over the past two years, which has reached an even wider audience than in the past, NHS will continue to provide fine speakers online as our organization opens for in-person classes and lectures.

2022 PATRONS

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Carolyn Pauw Barden	Anne Fox	Hans & Tina Mandt	Daniel Sparler & Jeff Schouten
Karen A Benson	Kathy Fries	Susie Marglin	Elaine Mae Starz-Brown
Bonnie Berk	Marilyn Glenn	Gillian Mathews	Richie Steffen & Rick Peterson
Jim and Suzette Birrell	Bonnie Schrader Godfred	Linda McDonald	Brian Thompson
Kim Bishop	Sue Goetz	Marcia L Miller	Walter Thompson
Rhonda Bjornstad	Greg Graves & Gary Waller	Renee Montgelas	Toni Tully
Elaine Brogdon	Laurie Grier	Rebecca Z Murlless	John van den Meerendonk
Delaney C Brummet	Mollie Groendyke	Susan R Nelson	Eileen Van Schaik
Brenda Buras-Elsen	Judith Hance	Sue Nevler	Margaret E Watson
Whitfield Carhart	Terry Hayes	Chuck Ogburn	Jean Weaver
Marianna Clark	Ellen Hecht	Lucinda O'Halloran, Spirit Garden Design	Robin Webber
Anne Clarke	Deborah Heg	Sue Olsen	Linda Wells & Keith Kriebel
Ilsa Coleman	Justin B Henderson	Virginia Park	Jackie White
Pam Coney	Hugues Hoppe	Camille Paulsen	Roz Williams
Patricia Crockett	Judy Isaac	Betsy Piano	Sherri Wilson
Stacie Crooks, Crooks Garden Design	Jason Jorgensen	Susan Picquelle	Glenn Withey & Charles Price
Barb DeCaro	Sharon & Robert Jangaard	Terry Pottmeyer	Woodinville Garden Club
Tanya DeMarsh-Dodson	Suzanne Kalish	Debra Prinzing	Carolyn Yund
Emily Dexter	Karin Kravitz	Sashi Raghupathy	
Tina Dixon	Raymond J Larson	Katherine Read	
Anita Louise Dunn	Terri Lausten	Stephanie Rodden	
Diane G Elliott	Alex LaVilla	Jo Anne Rosen	
	Ann LeVasseur		



Raised-bed gardens built by GRuB for low-income families.

2022 NHS Grants

The board approved \$10,000 for the 2022 Grant Fund. Three grant applications were submitted to the Grants Committee, chaired by Corinne Hollister. Upon review, the Committee decided only one application met the objectives and mission of NHS, and that was Garden Raised Bounty (GRuB). GRuB has received funding from NHS previously; however, the non-profit organization continues to be outstanding in its commitment to its Community Food Solutions program. The program builds free vegetable gardens for low-income families as well as providing free workshops and other gardening resources to garden recipients. In addition, military veterans help build the raised vegetable beds along with tending the Victory Farm which grows food for distribution through the Thurston County Food Bank and other community channels.

2022 NHS Scholarships

Every year NHS provides scholarship opportunities to students enrolled at the Center for Urban Horticulture (CUH) at the University of Washington and programs at the UW that have a direct connection with CUH. Named after the organization's founder, the Elisabeth C. Miller Scholarship in Horticulture, the scholarship fund continues Mrs. Miller's support and interest in horticultural education. The scholarships support the research and education of students by helping to defray costs associated with specific projects. These projects offer distinct research on environmental conditions and cultural needs of plants in urban areas. For

2022 the NHS board approved \$7,000 for the scholarship fund. The Scholarship Committee, chaired by Ray Larson, reviewed both applicants who proposed strong projects with each touching on issues around climate change, addressing problems caused by altered urban environments, and increasing knowledge about plants for restorative and cultural uses. The Committee recommended granting \$3,500 for each project submitted by Isabela Noriega and Kove Janeski.

Isabela Noriega's project is part of her larger study of the alteration and potential restoration of aspects of the historical landscape around the megalopolis of Mexico City. The Miller Scholarship will fund the first study of wetland species endemic to the Valley of Mexico that are tolerant of urban conditions and can help ameliorate flooding and assist in water treatment. The methodology employed can serve as a model for other urban systems worldwide.

Kove Janeski's project involves the UW Farm at the Center for Urban Horticulture. Kove proposed a study that will research the best way to cultivate culturally important wapato and camas plants in area landscapes. Different methods will be studied to determine preferred environmental requirements of the plant, the amount of water storage capacity needed and soil conditions necessary. This study will allow greater opportunities for increased cultivation of these culturally important and nutritional plant species. 🌱



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is a true honor and privilege to serve you this year as president of NHS. Many of my horticulture heroes have served on this board, and I am humbled to be carrying the torch. This upcoming year's schedule is full of outstanding webinars and in-person events where I hope to see you. I would also like to personally invite you to visit PowellsWood, my base garden, where I can usually be found frolicking through the garden paths. As we prepare to launch this year's exciting string of activities, I wanted to encourage you with some vision points.

1. NHS is a place to celebrate our love for plants and gardens. Gertrude Jekyll once wrote, "The giving of pleasure is the highest purpose of a garden." Everything we do that relates to gardening should be all about pleasure. We have a passion for plants and gardens, and we find pleasure interacting with them. For instance, earlier today I was enamored by the brilliant red variegation on a blade of Cordyline. I was awestruck by yellow lichen growing on the bark of a magnolia. I felt nearly intoxicated when the sunlight lit up the autumn orange canopy of a Stewartia. I am okay admitting this to you because we are a safe community of plant geeks. We spend countless hours preparing for next year's floral display, which is so ephemeral it is almost silly. We propagate, cultivate, prune, dig, thin, divide, and chop. We deadhead, trim, stake, overwinter, rake, edge, mow, manage pests and diseases. We fertilize, plant, pot up, pull weeds, spread mulch, make paths, beds, screens, hedges, and steps. We open up for sunlight, create more shade, amend the soil, remove dead plants, and compost. We read garden books & magazines, attend webinars, attend flower shows, wander plant nurseries, shop plant catalogs, browse plant websites, visit other gardens, connect with other gardeners, travel to see gardens. We do all of this because it is all so satisfying! We do this to take in the richness of the smells and the colors, the sounds, the textures, the life, and the beauty. Gardening is an invitation for all of us to experience lifelong pleasure.

2. NHS is a place to learn and grow as gardeners. Education is central to NHS. Through our Society, you have the opportunity to connect with world class educators on every subject related to plants and gardens. There are webinars, in-person classes, and garden tours directed at making you a better gardener. Richie Steffen recently taught a webinar on spring bulbs. During the lecture, I was flabbergasted as to the extent of his knowledge on the subject. I immediately placed a bulb order, knowing that I would offer him a little credit if it succeeds, and all the blame if anything fails. During the webinar he did mention his disdain for split cup daffodils, and I am still tempted to dedicate an entire collection of them in his honor. In addition to what is available through our annual programming, we offer grants and scholarships to assist others in their horticulture journey and help shape the future of gardening in the Pacific Northwest.

3. NHS is a place to engage in a horticulture community. The true threads of this organization are friendships. I have talked with countless members who say the reason they joined or continue to engage is because of the people that they met here. It is a network that is generous, inviting, and kind. It is a place that includes everyone. I believe horticulture does not belong to any demographic, and it does not belong to an age, or a gender, or a race, or a nationality, income level, or ability. Horticulture is available and accessible to all. If you have an interest in learning about plants and gardens, NHS welcomes you. We cannot keep our little garden world to ourselves. We must break down any barriers that may prevent someone from feeling like they belong in this community.

Looking forward to this year of gardening with you!

All the best,

Justin Henderson
President



NORTHWEST HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY
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"The most noteworthy thing about gardeners is that they are always optimistic, always enterprising, and never satisfied. They always look forward to doing something better than they have ever done before."

—Vita Sackville-West

Mitchella repens
Image by Richie Steffen