



NORTHWEST
HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

GARDENnotes

SPRING 2024



Abkhazi Garden, Victoria, BC
Image by Richie Steffen



THE BRIDGERTON EFFECT

FLORA ROMANTICA
IN THE GARDEN

Text and Images by Sue Goetz

Colorful gardens at Sissinghurst Castle Garden



mixed border at Great Dixter House & Gardens



"White Garden" at Sissinghurst Castle Garden

A "Bridgerton Garden" is inspired by the lavish era in the Netflix series *Bridgerton*, and the novels by Julia Quinn. The series characters stroll through beautiful formal gardens, parterres, box hedges, and floriferous herbaceous borders. The effect of the gardens spilled over into the series' costume design as the women's attire was opulent floral elegance and romance. Even the men's waistcoats, ties, and accessories had floral touches. This whimsical floral abundance appeal is spilling over into our gardens as the centuries-old cottage garden style comes into vogue again.

The Cottage Garden Style

Who were the cottagers? They were the gardeners and keepers of the grounds on large formal estates. They weren't creating "cottage gardens" for their employers, but rather they would take snips, seeds, and cuttings home to their small plots and plant them around their cottages. The wild abundance of mixed plants became known as a cottage garden.

The colorful gardens and bedding out of the Victorian era came out of the darkness of the industrial turmoil of the Georgian era that preceded it. Gardens were stylized with mixed lush plantings and collector plants to make the gardens feel more like rooms in the home. It was a place to entertain, enjoy nature, and show your neighbors how well you were doing.

When defining the cottage garden style in landscape design, it summons images of British gardens and their designers, such as the monochrome abundance of Vita Sackville-West's "White Garden" at Sissinghurst, the garden rooms of Major Lawrence Johnson at Hidcote and the mixed color borders of Gertrude Jekyll. The contemporary work of the late Beth Chatto at White Barn House in the village of Elmstead Market and Christopher Lloyd, and the next generation of work by Fergus Garret, at Great Dixter, still inspires designers worldwide. Their works have defined the English garden style with planted abundance and creative mixed borders.

Elements of Planting Style

The details of creating an English cottage-inspired garden can seem overwhelming because lush herbaceous borders and formal hedging can be high maintenance. It's not something most people want from their gardens. So, how do we have the lush cottage effect without the work? It is the magic of easy-care perennial combinations and adding no-fuss



garden tapestry effect with an inviting walkway



a defined pathway with gravel



fall border at Hidcote

shrubs to the mix. It doesn't have to be high maintenance when you choose the right plants. The look can also be more shrub and tree-driven instead of using a lot of perennials. It is all a matter of the choice of plants and their season.

The design is not all about the plant but about the combination of plants. Look for harmonious color themes. Plant in layers: tall to the back, low to the front or as an island, tall in the center, medium and low all around. Establish a focal point (tree, birdbath, or bench) and continue a pattern. Use repetition by ribbons and drifts of color or plant variety. Most designs are not about many named types but fewer well-chosen plants repeated throughout.

Planting close together is an essential key to a successful cottage garden design. Cottage gardens are not skimpy; this makes the planning phase important. Utilize plant choices and textures that blend well together. Place slow-growing plants next to faster ones, and use perennials where they put on the best show and can be reached for maintenance.

Know your cultural conditions—group plants by water and light needs. Give enough space to allow plants to grow

naturally without having to prune, but they also fill their place well next to other plant choices. Then, pick by the season so there is something to offer year-round. As you can see, this type of design looks like a carefree unintentional abundance but does need careful planning to make everything work together and be sustainable.

Other essential elements in a cottage garden design

Defined pathways

Create an interesting journey in the garden. The use of crushed gravel or rustic brick increases the cottage's appeal. Plants that can spill over and fill the gaps between the ankles



an enclosed garden space



a tuteur or structural accent

Enclosure

Define spaces and enclose areas using decorative low fences and living hedges. They can organize spaces and plantings, create privacy, define boundaries, and make the “walls” of outdoor rooms.

Structure and Accent pieces

Structural elements give the garden permanence and

dimension. The composition establishes the cottage style by keeping it simple and rustic. Overhead structures such as a pergola create an outdoor room. Arbors and gates along pathways invite you to enter another space and transition into the garden. No cottage garden would be complete without rambling roses or clematis. Using trelliswork, obelisks, and tuteurs will allow climbing plants to tumble amid mixed planting beds.

In the overall look, cottage gardens have more of a tapestry effect rather than the look of a controlled design. Traditional cottage elements invite visitors into the garden rather than scream for attention with mammoth rockery or bold contemporary features. It takes a purposeful eye for the rhythm of nature, colors, and textures. Add the right combination of hardscape, accessories, and structures to create the whole picture.

To inspire your plant journey, go to www.greatplantpicks.org—Flora Romantica is a great list by season to help encourage you to create an easy plant list for a cottage garden design. 🌿

Sue Goetz, CPH and ecoPRO, is a landscape designer in Tacoma, Washington, and a member of the NHS board of directors. SueGoetz.com



a structural accent in a vegetable garden

of shrubs keep with the abundant planting scheme. Paths should be structured as connecting points to different areas of the landscape. It helps to consider the natural way people walk and areas most traveled throughout the garden.



Iris versicolor 'Purple Flame'



Moisture-loving

Iris versicolor 'Purple Flame' flowers & foliage



Iris versicolor 'Purple Flame' new foliage emerging

Iris | Text and Images by Richie Steffen

I have always held a fondness for irises, especially the beardless types. As a young child, we had several clumps of iris along the fence of my childhood home that my mom referred to as blue flags. Every year I looked forward to seeing their intense deep blue purple flowers open on tall stems well above the ribbon-like leaves. I even liked the seedheads that formed after the blooms were finished. In late summer and fall, the dried brown stems snapped off at the base and made great small spears that I could throw at my brothers. It was not until many years later that I learned that these blue flags were Siberian iris (*Iris siberica*) and likely the beautiful and resilient cultivar 'Caesar's Brother'.

My current garden in Kingston holds an ever-expanding collection of beardless irises with about 30 cultivars of Siberian iris including several clumps of 'Caesar's Brother' along with several other species and cultivars. The Kingston garden has several areas with saturated soils that remain moist well into summer, one of the conditions Siberian iris thrive in. This is also a great habitat for other moisture-loving iris that have caught my attention recently.

One of the first water irises I grew in the early 1990's was the unusual hybrid Iris 'Holden Clough'. This iris was found in a patch of *Iris chrysographes* with the other suspected parent potentially being *Iris pseudacorus*. This unusual seedling showed more vigor, a spreading habit, and instead of the purple flowers of *Iris chrysographes*, the blooms are an unusual mix of yellow with red purple veining giving the appearance of rich brown with purple highlights. A similar local selection is *Iris* 'Roy Davidson'. It grows much like 'Holden Clough', but the flowers are a bright yellow with light purple brown veins.



Iris fulva

After my success in growing 'Holden Clough', the fabulous cultivar *Iris* × *robusta* 'Gerald Darby' found its way into my garden. This robust-growing, clumping iris is a real performer. In early spring, the colorful foliage emerges smoky midnight purple. As the foliage matures, the purple color fades to a bright rich green. In late spring, dark purple flower stems emerge from the lush foliage and produce bright blue purple flowers that open above the leaves. 'Gerald Darby' is very adaptable, tolerating a wide range of soil types including heavy clay. Although it loves wet soils, it will grow well in average garden soils with regular summer watering. In typical garden soils, it will grow to about three feet tall; in moist to wet soil, it can reach four to four and half feet tall.

One of the more unique irises in the collection is the heat-loving *Iris fulva*, the copper iris. Native to areas in the United States with hotter summers, this iris has a slow and anemic start in our cool Pacific Northwest springs, but vigor improves as summer warms. The flowering is always sparse, but the blooms are a very unusual coppery red. *Iris fulva* was one of the species used in creating Louisiana irises. This hybrid group loves moist soils and intense heat. I have found these disappointing for our climate due to our lack of consistent summer heat. The best for our region will produce some flowers every year, but it is not uncommon for the plant to grow well but not bloom at all. This is a beautiful group of iris but probably best enjoyed during a visit to the Southeastern United States.



Iris (Pseudata Group) 'Holden Clough'

Another iris often associated with wet soils are the Japanese iris. There are two species that are commonly referred to as Japanese iris, *Iris ensata* and *Iris laevigata*. I only grow a few of these in the Kingston garden, although perhaps there will more of these planted in future. *Iris ensata* grows well in my conditions. I prefer the cultivars that have a more delicate species-like flower over the larger-flowered selections which I find to be a little too much for my taste; but who knows, in a few years I could decide I cannot live without them! *Iris laevigata* grows best in very wet soils and standing water. This is often wetter than what my conditions can provide, especially in late summer. I only grow one cultivar and that is the spectacular variegated form, *Iris laevigata* 'Variegata'. This stunning iris grows in a shallow pot that holds water. The brilliant creamy white and green leaves emerge in spring from the muddy, waterlogged dish and grows to about 18 inches tall, holding their flashy color all summer. The blooms are radiant with vibrant royal blue flowers opening on strong stems that top out just above the leaves. It is breathtaking in full bloom and well worth the effort of keeping the drainless container filled with water all summer.

Over my years of gardening, I have tried a few cultivars of *Iris versicolor*, an Eastern US native species. Although this plant is nice enough, I have found few of the cultivars holding my attention. Mostly the color of the flowers have not been to my liking. This changed with the introduction of a new selection, from Mt. Cuba Center in Delaware. Their selection, *Iris versicolor* 'Purple Flame', is a lovely show pony iris which is very similar to 'Gerald Darby' but improved with better and longer lasting purple on the newly emerging foliage along with a less vigorous habit making it more useful for smaller gardens. It does prefer moist to wet soils but seems to tolerate better drained soils if it is watered



Iris ensata



Iris (Pseudata Group) 'Phantom Island'



Iris (Pseudata Group) 'Okagami'



Iris (Pseudata Group) 'Shirabyoshi'

regularly through dry periods. For the best foliage color, full sun is a must.

I have recently discovered the Pseudata irises. These interesting hybrids combine the vigor and yellow tones of *Iris pseudacorus*, yellow water iris, with the grace and beauty of the Japanese iris, *Iris ensata*. *Iris pseudacorus* is well known in our region for its weedy, invasive qualities, so it is quite fortunate that the Pseudata hybrids have not shown this tendency, and the cultivars available now are entirely sterile. Over the years, efforts have been made to breed these two species, but it was not until the 1960's and early 1970's that Japanese hybridizers had any success. These irises did not gain popularity until the early 2000's when Hiroshi Shimizu used an *Iris pseudacorus* hybrid he raised from seed called 'Gubijin' in his breeding program. The resulting offspring from crosses using 'Gubijin' and *Iris ensata* were sterile and often had striking new foliage emerging cream to chartreuse.

Sometimes Pseudata irises are called eyelash iris because of the thin eyelash-like markings on the fall petals of the bloom.



The first Pseudata types I acquired were both Shimizu selections, 'Okagami' and 'Shirabyoshi' at a local plant sale. Both cultivars have the beautiful creamy chartreuse new growth on tight clumps. 'Okagami' has creamy yellow and white flowers with the three white fall petals marked with a yellow signal veined in purple and a wine purple eyelash marking bordering the signal. 'Shirabyoshi' has a similar coloration to the flowers, but the signal has a wider reddish purple eyelash band.

After growing these two irises, I had to have more. In 2021 I acquired an additional ten cultivars, mostly as bareroot rhizomes. Unfortunately, I lost half of these plants due to the young, fragile plants drying out. The bareroot rhizomes do not like to dry out, and it is important to keep them regularly watered after planting in the soil; or, if potted, place the pots in a shallow dish that holds a water. Unfortunately, my rhizomes were potted up, set off to the side and not watered enough. Once they dried out a few times, the plump rhizomes collapsed. Three of the five that survived started to flower last spring, some with stunning results. The five to survive are 'It's a Bigun', 'Phantom Island', 'Roryu', 'Spicy Mustard' and 'Tsukiyono', with the last two cultivars not yet flowering.

These Pseudata iris cultivars flowered from late May through June and into early July. 'Phantom Island' flowered with lovely cream blooms and a yellow signal; a thin reddish-purple eyelash marking surrounded the yellow signal making it stand out even more. Along with 'Phantom Island', 'Roryu' produced its first flowers. The butter yellow falls were lightly veined in red. The eyelash markings formed a thick rich deep red band around the signal with markings that bled deeply into the signal. From a distance it appears to have peach highlights. The name 'Roryu' translates to "an old dragon." Both of these cultivars reach about three to three and half feet tall in flower. And both have distinctive creamy chartreuse emerging leaves.

Although I am still waiting for 'Spicy Mustard' and 'Tsukiyono' to flower, I have high hopes for blooms this year. 'Spicy Mustard' should be much like 'Roryu', but the signal is golden yellow with a maroon eyelash pattern that radiates out into the fall petals. 'Tsukiyono' is much different from my other cultivars. The flowers should open creamy white. These milky blooms will also have a luminescent lavender wash over the petals. The fall petals are edged in deeper lavender with a narrow purple eyelash edge surrounding a yellow signal. It sounds exquisite, and I can hardly wait for the first flower to unfurl.

My big surprise of last year was 'It's a Bigun', and it is aptly named. It was my last to flower, and the enormously tall stalks were amazing! Although the flower stalks were sup-



Iris (Pseudata Group) 'It's a Bigun'



Iris (Pseudata Group) 'It's a Bigun' next to the author who is standing!

posed to reach a little over four feet tall, which is a foot taller than most other cultivars, my vigorous plants sprouted stems just under six feet in height! A remarkable feat that I hope will play out as an encore performance this June. Each tall stem produced an abundance of bright yellow flowers with brownish orange signals. The eyelash pattern lightly edged the signal in maroon purple. Extraordinarily prolific flowering stems produced multiple flowers over several weeks – an astounding plant!

Last year and this spring, I added four more cultivars to the Pseudata iris collection. 'Alabama Blue Fin' and 'Yarai' replace two that were killed in the rhizome debacle a few years ago. 'Alabama Blue Fin', with a very pale yellow wash and a hint of purple, reminds me of what 'Tsukiyono' should look like, but the bright yellow signal is veined in violet bleeding into a thick violet eyelash edging – quite a striking contrast. 'Yarai' has light yellow falls heavily veined in reddish purple giving an orange appearance from a distance. The signals are a bright yellow veined in reddish purple with a thin eyelash edge of the same purple color. Dramatic and very unusual.

The other two cultivars are 'Holden's Child' and 'Unexpected Surprise'. 'Holden's Child' is a rare hybrid with 'Holden Clough'. The flowers diverge from the expected yellow brown appearance and are instead red purple in color with

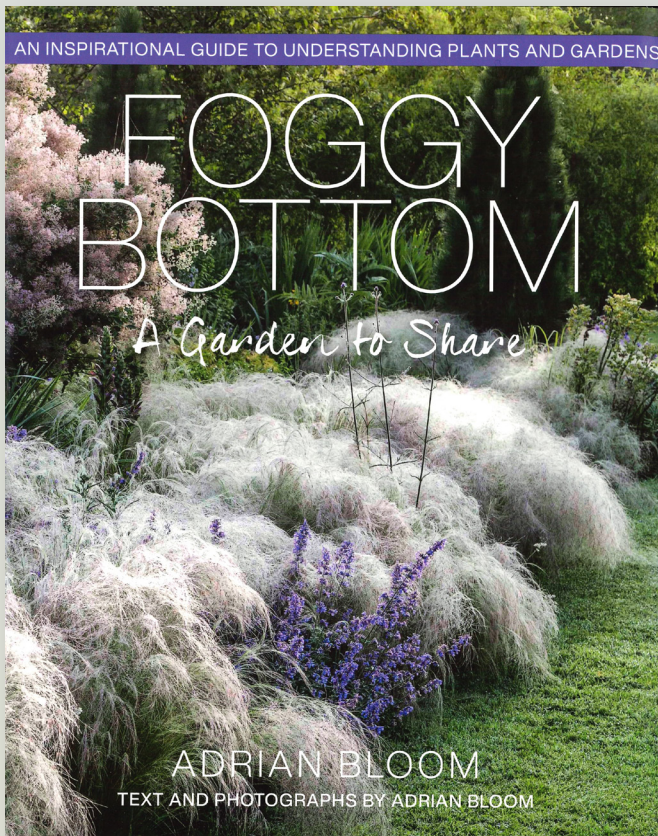
a large yellow and white signal heavily veined in purple. It is about the same height as 'Holden Clough' at two and half feet tall, and I expect it to have a more spreading habit. 'Unexpected Surprise' is a local selection from Mt. Pleasant Nursery in Washougal, Washington. I expect this cultivar to act like 'Gerald Darby', making a tight clump of upright rich green foliage. The flowers of 'Unexpected Surprise' have pale violet upright standard petals combined with rich violet purple falls. The signals are orangey yellow softly edged in white and prominently veined in dark violet purple.

The care for all these water-loving irises is quite easy. They all need full sun for the best flowering with a minimum of six hours at the least. Most can tolerate average, well-drained garden soil as long as they are watered regularly through the summer but will thrive in permanently moist to wet soils and heavy clay. They will also take to container culture and can thrive in pots or tubs with no drainage. The Pseudata iris can be difficult to locate for purchase, but I find them some of the most rewarding types to grow. Search them out and give them a try in your garden. Their vigorous growth and remarkable blooms can make even the most novice of gardeners look like an expert! 🌱

Richie Steffen is Executive Director of the Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden.

LITERARY NOTES

from the Miller Library | *Brian Thompson*



In the summer of 2000, I visited England, intent on seeing gardens. One of the highlights was The Bressingham Gardens in Norfolk, famous for its island beds of herbaceous perennials, allowing viewing from all sides.

Almost as an afterthought, I visited the adjacent garden of Foggy Bottom, noted mostly for conifers. Here the island beds were more like continents. In my journal at the time, I wrote: "a variety of textures and, notably, colors . . . sometimes with subtle color combinations, other times more garish."

Today, I would look at this garden with different eyes. Fortunately, I can do that with the 2023 publication of *Foggy Bottom: A Garden to Share* by Adrian Bloom. My impression now is a garden well-balanced between woody and herbaceous, conifer and broad-leaf, evergreen and deciduous. The brash colors have mellowed, as to be expected from a more mature garden and gardener.

Bloom has a clear intent expressed through both images and narrative. "You, as a special guest, in going through this book, are being given a private tour by me, Head Gardener and owner of Foggy Bottom."

At over four hundred large-format pages, this is a full-day tour, but very worthwhile. I first flipped through looking at Bloom's excellent photographs but was easily drawn in by the conversational commentary. Each bed is observed and described from various angles, over many years, and in all seasons. Mistakes are freely admitted, as are unexpected successes.

After taking this long view, Bloom examines the plants more closely. In part, this is by expected types such as ferns, grasses, and bulbs. Other groupings are by distinctive features such as bark, foliage in many hues, or plants that facilitate a design feature, such as creating rivers of foliage or flowers through other plantings.

Most intriguing to me was the history of the garden, including photographs from the time of my visit. I was there on the eve of major change, as many trees were removed soon after my visit, and several beds were completely redesigned. I have no immediate plans to travel to England, but when I do, a return to Foggy Bottom will be a must. 🌿

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



THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 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.

Hiroko Aikawa
Janis Arthur
Joan M Baldwin
Carolyn Pauw-Barden
Shamora E Bearwood
Karen A Benson
Bonnie Berk
Suzette Birrell
Virginia Brewer
Elaine Brogdon
Delaney C Brummet
Brenda Allynn Buras-Elsen
Kit Cameron
Sarah Cheng
Marianna Clark
Sue Clark
Anne Clarke
Ilsa and Roger Coleman
Patricia E Crockett
Stacie Crooks
Kathryn and Jerry Crosby
Tanya DeMarsh-Dodson

Emily Dexter
Gabriele Dickmann
Tina Dixon
Master Gardener
Foundation of Thurston
County
Anita Louise Dunn
Lorene Edwards Forkner
Sandra J Eilbes
Dominique Emerson
Janet Endsley
Ken and Cauleen
Eshleman
Gwyn Fowler
Anne Fox
Keith R Geller
Marilyn Glenn
Susan Goetz
Greg Graves
Judith Hance
Aslaug Haraldsdottir
Verna Hazen

Justin B Henderson
Corinne Hollister
Jason Jorgensen
Sue Kenney
Ken King
Karin Kravitz
Penelope Kriese
Denise Lane
Raymond Larson
Alex LaVilla
Ann LeVasseur
Jan Lewinsohn
Mark and Joanie Lyke
John MacKean
Jennifer Macuiba
Hans Mandt
Susie Marglin
Gillian Mathews
Linda and Roger McDonald
Meagan McManus
Renee Montgelas
Lee Cuninggim Neff

Susan R Nelson
Sue Nevler
Dana Niblack
Rebecca Norton
Chuck Ogburn
Lucinda O'Halloran
Sue Olsen
Karlina Packard
Camille Paulsen
Rachel Mary Persing
Molly Pessl
Susan Picquelle
Michael G Pope
Terry Pottmeyer
Debi Quirk
Sashi Raghupathy
Michelle Rau
Monica Reed
Stephanie Rodden
Jim Rondone
Jo Anne Rosen
Nita-Jo Rountree

Marilou Rush
Laura Pilgrim Rust
Meg Ryan
Kathleen Sabo
Jean Savory
Sonja Selboe
Daniel Sparler and
Jeff Schouten
Jean and Gary Steffen
Richie Steffen and
Rick Peterson
Pam Sturgeon and
Kenn Sandell
Brian Thompson
Loretta Turner
John van den Meerendonk
Eileen Van Schaik
Joy A Wannamaker
Lia Ward
Margaret E Watson
Jean Weaver
Cynthia Welte
Nicola Green Whaley
Roz Williams
Sherri Wilson
Withey Price Landscape
& Design, LLC
Carolyn Yund

NEW MEMBERS

Katelin Annes
Emily Aring
Joan M Bentley
Wendy Blair
Jenny L Bossick
Kamella Boule
Deb Bronken
Mark Bunsen
Terrie Jean Burdette
Carleen Cafferty
Joanie M Clarke
Julia Clithero
Kim Cole
Robert Connor
Margaret P Cowhig
Denise Crie
Cecile Culp
Beth Cummings
Jeff A Daniels
Regina de Guzman
Marilyn Denney
Tracie Dessart
Thomas Dorsch
Anna Dougherty
Sally L Drew
Mari Fernandez
David Ginsberg
Virginia W Gorski
Becky Gross
Vinni Gupta

Talia Halperin
Deborah Hammond
Becky Handshew
Kr Herman
Amy C Heyden
Robyn Lindsay Hoefel
Hannah Hoffmeyer
Jamie Hooper
Jonathan Hooper
Joanne Murphy Horn
Kathy A Hughes
Celia Johnson
Linda A. Jordan-Eichner
Shelly Justis-Johnson
Trevor Kitchin
Catherine Kokoris
Karen Kozol
Paul R Kusche
Sherrill Lane-Moody
Dave Langton
Heather Larson
Teresa Levine
Jan P Lewis
Jon YS Li
Reesha Lopez
Ints Luters
Lindsay M Macpherson
Audrey Maloney
Erin McCoy
Gina Meloy

Emily Menezes
Leslie R Muntz
Heather Murchison
Aishwarya Nair-Driscoll
Sarah Nayani
Patricia S Newkirk
Shannon Nichol
Catherine J Nunneley
Dan OBrien
Sloane Palmer
Ann Pinsky
Shannon Poll
Lisa K Ravenholt
Susan D Risdahl-Pittman
Justin W Robbins
Nancy Rottle
Katie M Sadler
Stacy Saperstein
Kendra J Schmiedeskamp
Marianne Scholl
Anja Scholze
Diane Scott
Toni Smith
Jessica M Souyoultzis
Susan Sparks
Patricia Stevenson
Kristin Stubbs
Kay Swickard
Kristine L Tanno

Edythe Elinore Thornton
Sam Tochen
Jeanne Touger
Aaron Tuttle
Dianna Ullery
Zoe Van Baaren
Peter Van Nuland

Christa M Vandersluis
Christine R Voll
Marrianna E Weishaupt
Emily Wild
Britt M Willey
Doreen Wynja
Maureen Zimmerman

GARDENnotes

Editor

Rick Peterson
rickp@millergarden.org

Designer

Mary Gogulski
mary@gogulskidesign.com

Contributors

Dennis Beatty
Laura Blumhagen
Sue Goetz

Sashi Raghupathy
Richie Steffen
Brian Thompson

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear NHS Members,



I hope you're enjoying the beauty of the **spring season** in myriad ways — perhaps by tending to your garden, taking strolls through your neighborhood, visiting parks and gardens, or embarking on travels to witness the beauty of this season elsewhere.

Just a few months into the year, the NHS has delivered a robust series of educational events, including in-person lectures, symposium, classes, and webinars. Although we started the year committed to in-person lectures, concerns lingered about their relevance in a world increasingly dominated by online interactions. We were pleasantly surprised by the enthusiastic reception of these events. It's very clear that, despite the advancements in virtual technology, the unique experience of **listening to speakers in person and sharing that moment with other attendees** in the room is simply irreplaceable.

Jo Thompson delighted us with behind-the-scenes experiences from her 15 years of designing award-winning gardens at the Chelsea Flower Show. Henrik Sjöman educated us on the advanced language and tools for tree selection for urban environments and climate resilience. We had an amazing lineup of symposium lectures—an in-depth view of the Expedia Campus landscape design by Surface Design architects, a better way of designing pollinator gardens by Claudia West, and a deep dive into manzanitas and companion species from our friends Fred Weisensee and Michelle Loughran of Dancing Oaks Nursery—along with a plant sale that delighted attendees. Finally, Jennifer Jewel delivered an inspiring lecture on the significance of seeds, discussing the current landscape and issuing a call to action. The joy and connection from these experiences linger; I keep running into several members and attendees who continue to express how wonderful and impactful those events were. Organizing and executing these events is a time-consuming operation. I want to express my sincere gratitude to all the board members, our administrator, and volunteers who tirelessly work to make this happen. Additionally, we extend our thanks to our co-sponsors of some of these events—University of Washington Botanic Gardens, Woodinville Garden Club, and Bartlett Trees—whose donations have helped offset the costs and make ticket prices more affordable.

In the coming weeks and months, we will continue with an exciting lineup of events. Our summer virtual Design Forum will focus on **Designing Climate Adapted Gardens**. As a follow-up to our Spring Symposium, we will offer a tour of the Expedia Campus on the Seattle waterfront. Attendees will have the rare opportunity to explore the landscape features of the campus and learn more about the **biophilic and sustainable design approach** taken by the Surface Design team. We anticipate that this event will sell out quickly, so be prepared to act promptly when ticket sales begin. Additionally, our upcoming webinars will cover a diverse array of topics, including the use of **PNW native plants** in garden settings and their impact on biodiversity, succulent design and care, armchair travel, and **practical solutions** to common garden dilemmas. Our yearly **Meet the Board Tour** is just around the corner, this year themed **Discover the Eastside: Seven Private and Community Gardens** from Bellevue to Bothell.

The NHS strongly supports public **parks, gardens, and green spaces**. Although we aren't linked to any particular garden, our unique position allows us to promote and support many of these valuable spaces. This season, we've chosen to host a series of classes at various garden venues, including Heronswood, Kubota Gardens, University of Washington Botanic Gardens, and Lakewold Gardens. This decision aims to make our classes more accessible to locals and encourages people from other parts of the city to discover these beautiful gardens.

Recently, NHS was one of the proud sponsors of the **Gathering for the Greenhouse** fundraising luncheon hosted by Heronswood. This event aimed to secure the final major funds needed to build a modern greenhouse, essential for supporting this horticultural treasure in our community. Passionate garden groups and individuals from the PNW community rallied together to ensure the event's success. NHS Board Member **Gillian Matthews** was instrumental in helping organize this event. A highlight of the afternoon was the 'Lightning on the Water' canoe traveler's song, sung and drummed by Tribal members, with the speeding drumbeat symbolizing landing or arrival at the end. If you are passionate about offering your support, keep an eye out for an upcoming NHS-hosted event at Heronswood later in the year.

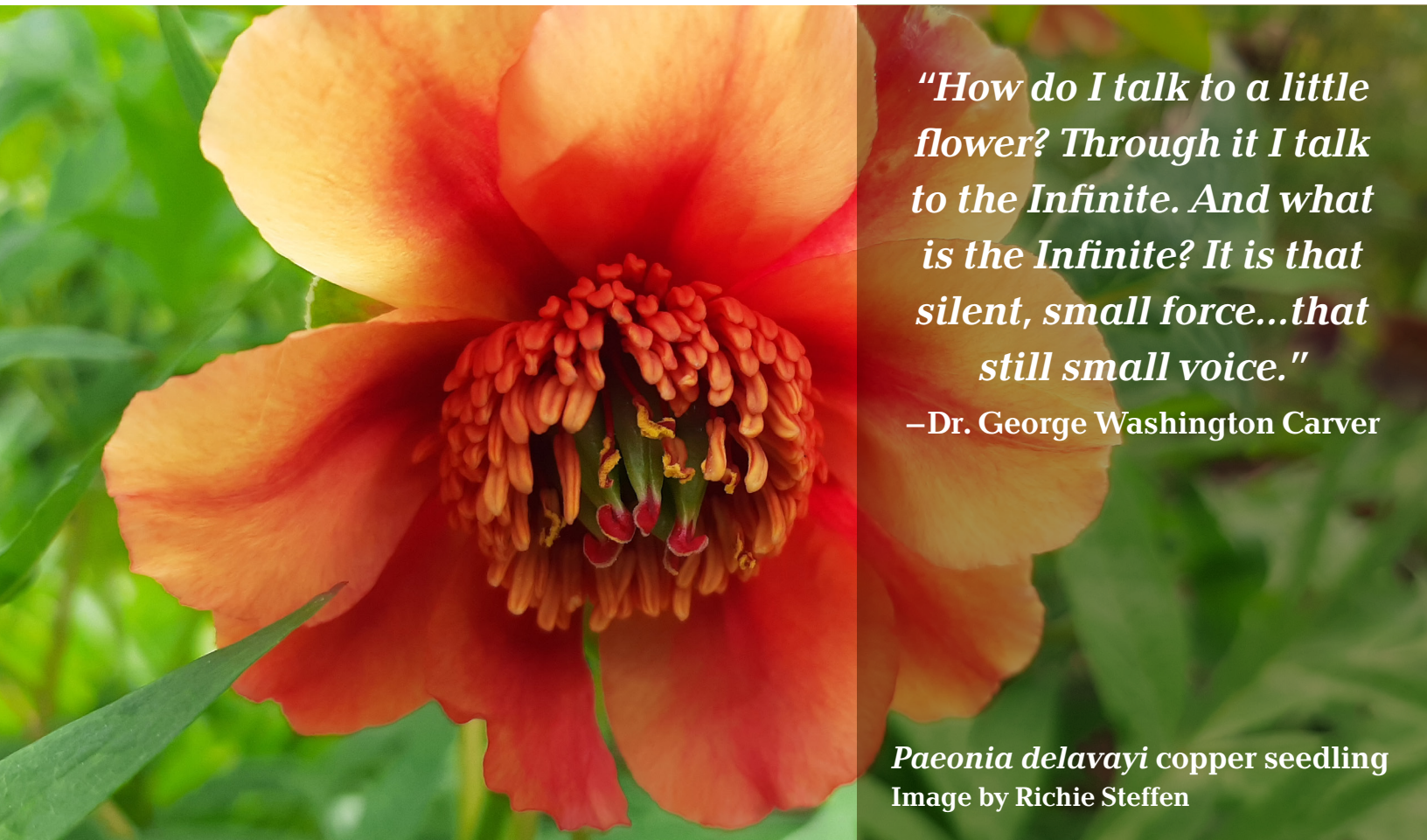
In the meantime, enjoy the glorious spring and early summer, and happy gardening until we connect again!

Sashi Raghupathy
NHS President



NORTHWEST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
PO Box 354115
SEATTLE, WA 98195

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 4842



"How do I talk to a little flower? Through it I talk to the Infinite. And what is the Infinite? It is that silent, small force...that still small voice."

–Dr. George Washington Carver

Paeonia delavayi copper seedling
Image by Richie Steffen