



## Two fascinating fall lectures to inspire gardeners

**N**ATURAL GARDENS rely on healthy, living, breathing soil to achieve beautiful, productive results. Cultivating this vibrant ecosystem below ground relies not on doing more, but on doing less, and understanding a few basic principles. Join Elizabeth Murphy, author and soil scientist, in an exploration of the living soil food web to grow healthier plants and a greener planet. Learn how nurturing the living soil recycles nutrients, absorbs water, reduces pests and disease, captures carbon and drought-proofs the garden. Get down to the ground for a soil-eyed view that will change the way you grow.

Elizabeth's passion for growing food led her to a master's degree in soil science from the University of California, Davis.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**  
**"Building Soil for Natural Gardens, Cultivating Life Below Ground"**  
 with Elizabeth Murphy

Annual membership meeting & lecture

Doors open at noon for book signing & plant sales

Lecture begins at 1 pm

NPA Members free/Nonmembers \$15

Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue 98005



Elizabeth Murphy

She shares her experience as an organic farmer, urban gardener, extension agent and agroecological researcher to help bring soils to life. With the latest research in soil health and 20 years of hands-on experience to back her up, she shares the

simple truth that to grow more, we need to do less. Learn more and follow her blog at <http://dirtsecrets.com>.

Elizabeth Murphy's 2015 book "Building Soil: A Down-to-Earth Approach" will be available for purchase and signing.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16**  
**"Butterflies of Cascadia: Life Histories and Conservation"**  
 with Dr. David G. James

Doors open at noon for book signing & plant sales

Lecture begins at 1 pm

NPA Members free/Nonmembers \$15

Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue 98005



Dr. David G. James

**C**ASCADIA, or the Pacific Northwest, is home to more than 160 species of butterflies. In this entertaining lecture, the intimate life histories of a number of these species will be revealed, demonstrating that caterpillars can be just as interesting as the butterflies they

eventually become! The importance of conserving our butterflies will be explored and highlighted, as well as things that anyone with a garden can do to help preserve these iconic winged jewels.

David James developed a passion for entomology at the age of eight in England

by rearing caterpillars in his bedroom. He studied Zoology at the University of Salford near Manchester, and then migrated to Australia to work for the New South Wales Department of Agriculture on ways of controlling agricultural pests. A Ph.D. on the winter biology of Monarch butterflies in Sydney followed, and a career as a biocontrol scientist in horticulture blossomed. In 1999 he became an Associate Professor at Washington State University at Prosser.

In 2011 David co-authored and published a widely acclaimed book "Life Histories of Cascadia Butterflies," which renowned British naturalist David Attenborough called "magisterial." He will have copies of his book available for purchase and signing at the lecture.

- SEPTEMBER 15 **"All About Grasses" class** with Daniel Mount, Thursday, 6:30-8:30 pm, Bellevue Botanical Garden (details, page 9)
- SEPTEMBER 18 **"Building Soil for Natural Gardens" annual meeting & lecture** with Elizabeth Murphy, Sunday, 1 pm, Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden (details, page 1)
- OCTOBER 7 & 8 **Open Gardens season finale**, Friday & Saturday, 10 am – 3 pm, at Windcliff. See your Open Gardens directory for details.
- OCTOBER 16 **"Butterflies of Cascadia"** with Dr. David James, Sunday, 1 pm, Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden (details, page 1)

## A warm welcome to our new members

Christine Anderson  
 Jeff Bailey  
 Ken and Kim Baker  
 Rachael Bauer  
 Susan Baye  
 Susan Bell  
 Gwen Bennetts & Mike Moore  
 Kiffanie Betts  
 Bernice Betts  
 Julie Bouffleur  
 Mollie Boyle  
 Shannon Burke  
 Jane Burns-Peterson  
 Cindy Button  
 Maria Callahan  
 Linda Campbell  
 Barbara Cerna  
 Sarah Cheng  
 Marie Churney  
 Christine Clements  
 Carol Clingan  
 Linda Cochran  
 Linda Conway  
 George Cooper  
 Deborah Corn  
 Julie Danielson  
 Christine Deiner-Karr  
 Jeff Dixon

Deborah Doane  
 Christine Dowd  
 Mary Alice Duhme  
 Douglas Early  
 Gerry Evans  
 Bethany Faulkner  
 Kathleen Fieldstad  
 Nancy Finelli  
 Melissa Firaz  
 Linda Gilmartin  
 Cher Greenlaw  
 Barbara Guerena  
 Michele Hamilton  
 Elizabeth Hebert  
 Alison Hitchcock  
 Chrystal Holley  
 Diane Hurd  
 Lori Imel  
 Alison Johnson  
 Cynthia Johnson  
 Frankye Jones  
 Judith Kavanaugh  
 Sandy Keathley  
 Sheryl Kelly  
 Cheryl Knox  
 Susan Koelink  
 Pat Kulgren  
 Cynthia LaFleur & Vicky Bach

Michael Lane  
 George Lasch  
 Emily Lauckhart  
 Leila Luginbill  
 Gloria Lynch  
 Craig MacIvor  
 Rita Mathews  
 Shelley Matthews  
 Maria Meneses  
 Geri Mensonides  
 Keith Michaels  
 Ciscoe & Mary Morris  
 Barbara Murphy  
 Laurie Needham  
 Elizabeth Newland  
 Rebecca Norton  
 Dana Nunnelly  
 Heather O'Connor  
 Mary Padilla  
 Larisa Palanchuk  
 Laurel Parshall  
 Camille Paulsen  
 Marte Peet  
 Vangie Pepper  
 Mary Peterson  
 Denise Philips  
 Constance Pierce  
 Megan Pulkkinen  
 Kathryn Reith

Julia Reynolds  
 Kathleen Richardson  
 Bev Riter  
 Trina Rounds  
 April Ryan  
 Kenn Sandell & Pam Sturgeon  
 Barbara Sanderson  
 Barbara Sands & Randy Heaton  
 Diane Sawyer  
 Judith Siddall  
 Laura Singer  
 Ron & Debbie Skow  
 Kelly Steck  
 Pat Sulgrove  
 Carol Sult  
 Pam Thomas  
 Jennifer Thompson  
 Deborah Trudel  
 Eileen Van Schaik  
 Susan Veninga  
 Cathy Watt  
 Carole Williams  
 Susan Wilson-Blatter  
 Sarah Zugish



# More than a garden shed— NPA's new Plant Propagation Exhibit

*Kit Haesloop*

NPA'S EXCITING NEW Plant Propagation Exhibit at Bellevue Botanical Garden is finally complete, thanks to generous donations and the hard work of many volunteers. The grand opening celebration for the new exhibit was August 20.

The exhibit, which includes a garden shed, propagation tables and space for classes, will help educate visitors and volunteers about growing and propagating hardy, herbaceous plants. It is another way we are expanding the hands-on educational opportunities at the NPA Border.

NPA volunteers will continue to propagate plants from the Border at the Plant Propagation Exhibit to sell on our plant stand and also at NPA plant sales. You can find the NPA plant stand from March through October beside the Trillium Store at Bellevue Botanical Garden. Proceeds from the plant stand help support NPA in caring for the Border.

Major funding for the Plant Propagation project came from the prestigious Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust, which awarded the NPA a \$20,000 grant. The Bellevue Botanical Garden Society generously contributed \$26,001 including a gift from the estate of Roy Harsh. An anonymous donor contributed \$5,000 for the basalt columns retaining wall. Numerous donations were received from NPA members, with many taking part in the "Get Tagged by NPA" fundraiser.

Volunteers worked hard preparing the new area, planting, spreading mulch, installing irrigation, designing the storage and propagation areas, and moving equipment from the old yard to the new exhibit.



The new NPA Plant Propagation Exhibit at Bellevue Botanical Garden.

The Plant Propagation Exhibit was designed and built by Kunnen Design/Build Inc. A beautiful pine slab was donated by Meyer Wells – Art from Wood and treated with the Japanese technique of Shou Sugi Ban, which preserves wood by charring it with fire. Dramatic basalt columns from Marenakos Rock Center line the edge of the visitor space in front of the exhibit. Construction on the Plant Propagation Exhibit began in late spring and was finished this summer.



A rainchain hangs on one corner of the shed.

**Sincere thanks to the donors who participated in the "Get Tagged by NPA" fundraiser, including:**

*Cathy Atkins*

*Nancy Daar*

*Diana and Gary Davidson*

*Tina Dixon and Paul Stredwick*

*Noma Edwards*

*Catherine Gibbons*

*Linda Gray*

*Kit Haesloop*

*Peggy Herron*

*Joyce and Steve Kormanyos*

*Denise Lane and Roel Allers*

*Linda and Roger McDonald*

*Mercerbelles NPA Neighborhood Group*

*Rosalie Preble*

*Gayle Richardson*

*Pauline and Steve Smith*

*Molly van der Burch*

*Carolyn Whittlesey*



# A FOND FAREWELL TO GEORGE LASCH

Michele Cournoyer

**G**EORGE LASCH, who has been the NPA Border Supervisor for the last eight years, has left his position to pursue something else he loves: teaching horticulture at Edmonds Community College.

George has been an integral part of the Border since 2008. The Border at that time was on the cusp of major change, with a complete renovation in the works, and NPA was looking for a candidate to fill the newly created position of NPA Border Supervisor to help shepherd the project. George was perfect for the job. In addition to his staggering amount of horticultural knowledge, his biggest talent, as it turned out, was growing friendships. Working with the NPA Board, the management of Bellevue Botanical Garden and the Border's designers, Glenn Withey and Charles Price, George was instrumental in the Border's transformation from vast expanses of freshly dug, empty beds to the spectacular array of plants visitors enjoy year-round today. It's a garden that PBS garden personality Rebecca Sweet calls "about as close to perfection as I can imagine."



George Lasch and Linda Gray installing plant tags.

The job wasn't always easy, and the work went way beyond "maintenance supervision," which was George's job description. In addition to recruiting, educating and motivating volunteers, George wrote articles about the Border, handled reporters, led group tours, taught classes and starred in a series of gardening videos on YouTube (his "Pruning Hydrangea Paniculata" has been viewed more than 46 thousand times).

George's garden roots go back to his childhood in Connecticut, where his family owned a nursery. He went on to land a spot in the coveted Professional Gardener Training Program at Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania, followed by a year of training at the Royal

Horticultural Society's garden, Wisley. While in England, he was tutored on how to garden properly in a classic garden manner.

In the 1990's George finally found gardening paradise in Seattle, where he learned the local plants and horticulture through a few seasons at Wells Medina Nursery before running his own successful garden services company for over a decade. A co-worker from his Wells Medina days once wrote about him: "Just by looking at a withered leaf and branch, he rattles off the genus, species and best thing about it after only a moment's concentration. He handles plants like some sort of Horse Whisperer. Anything that looks rough and unruly, George takes it, corrals it and unveils its inner beauty."

Somewhere along the way, George discovered he had a knack for teaching. So in a way, it was inevitable that he would decide to leave the Border some day and this summer he felt that day had come. "It's been a good run," he



George starred in NPA Border videos on YouTube.

wrote recently. "I will miss the garden and the people." But he thinks the timing is right. "The Border has its own life now and a great group working in it." And George is ready to teach, do more traveling and



George with dedicated Border volunteers Diana and Gary Davidson.





Installing irrigation in the Border in 2008

“pursue other dreams in horticulture and beyond.”

His many friends, fans and volunteers wish him all the best. Everyone will miss having George at the NPA Border. We hope he finds time to visit and enjoy the legacy he helped create.



## Volunteer spotlight: Cheryl Van Blom

*Diana Davidson*

IT'S THURSDAY MORNING, at the south end of the NPA Border at BBG. Here, you will find Cheryl Van Blom communing with the hostas, hellebores and other shade-loving plants. Ask her about the plants, and she generously shares her knowledge; her passion for gardening is contagious.

Cheryl's enjoyment of the Border includes her pleasure in meeting new people, both other volunteers and visitors. She finds that volunteers come with a wealth of knowledge and talents, and she loves how everyone shares ideas. Visitors come from all over the world. Some comment on how the NPA Border plants compare to plants back home, expanding



Cheryl Van Blom at work in the Border.

Cheryl's knowledge.

Working at the Border is only part of Cheryl's plant related life. Her home garden is primarily woodland perennials from around the world, obtained from incredible vendors. At northwest plant sales, including our NPA sales, Cheryl helps Beth Burman, owner of Growing Girls. She takes care of a couple of clients' gardens, and is especially proud to assist a former nursery owner maintain her yard.

Cheryl considers it an honor to be part of the NPA Border at BBG, providing a beautiful garden, open and free to the public. Voluntarily taking care of it is participating in something “larger than one's self.”

# Volunteers to be honored at annual meeting

**SEPTEMBER 18, 1 PM  
BELLEVUE BOTANICAL GARDEN  
AARON EDUCATION CENTER**

**T**HIS YEAR'S VOLUNTEERS will be honored at our annual meeting and lecture on Sunday, September 18 at 1 pm in the Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden. We will take a few minutes to recognize the many people who have helped at our plant sales, volunteered at our booth at the Northwest Flower & Garden Show, worked in the NPA Border at BBG, and/or served on the NPA Board. Volunteers attending the meeting will receive a small hand painted token of appreciation. Many thanks to all those listed below who help keep NPA the vital organization that it is!



March Mania plant sale volunteers



Volunteers Chair Diana Davidson and NPA Secretary Ellie Sanchez

## ***Thank you to all of our dedicated NPA volunteers***

<i>Connie Adams</i>	<i>Matt Freed</i>	<i>Kim Miller</i>
<i>Maryann Adams</i>	<i>Gary Fresk</i>	<i>Maxine Mitchell</i>
<i>Kathy Atkins</i>	<i>Udell Fresk</i>	<i>Kathleen Neal</i>
<i>Christa Balk</i>	<i>Lorrie Go</i>	<i>Ilse Nethercutt</i>
<i>Karen Bensen</i>	<i>Gayle Gowers</i>	<i>Karen Neumeister</i>
<i>Rachael Bauer</i>	<i>Linda Gray</i>	<i>Virginia Olsen</i>
<i>Karen Brighton</i>	<i>Kit Haesloop</i>	<i>Bruce Peters</i>
<i>Suzanne Britsch</i>	<i>Laurel Harrington</i>	<i>Ed Pognette</i>
<i>Trish Brooks</i>	<i>Cherie Hembree</i>	<i>Chris Raymond</i>
<i>Walt Bubelis</i>	<i>Ramona Hensrude</i>	<i>Lynda Raymond</i>
<i>Dana Burnes</i>	<i>Peggy Herron</i>	<i>Gayle Richardson</i>
<i>Patti Cagle</i>	<i>Kayla Hillard</i>	<i>Maura Roberts</i>
<i>Marie Churney</i>	<i>Sandra Hollenbeck</i>	<i>Fred Rowe</i>
<i>Michele Cournoyer</i>	<i>Emma Huebler</i>	<i>Carole Rush</i>
<i>Nina Cox</i>	<i>Wendy Jackson</i>	<i>Ellie Sanchez</i>
<i>Diana Davidson</i>	<i>Sandy Kanaga</i>	<i>Tia Scarce</i>
<i>Gary Davidson</i>	<i>Jim Killingbeck</i>	<i>Claire Sheehan</i>
<i>Nancy Dawson</i>	<i>Joan Killingbeck</i>	<i>Judy Silk</i>
<i>Gabriele Dickmann</i>	<i>Ed Kline</i>	<i>Toni Smith</i>
<i>Sara Drogin</i>	<i>Linda Kline</i>	<i>Vicki Sorg</i>
<i>Rhonda Duckworth</i>	<i>Jeannette Kunnen</i>	<i>Val Taylor</i>
<i>Denise DuBose</i>	<i>Kasia Kurek-Moore</i>	<i>Ann Thurley</i>
<i>Connie Dunn</i>	<i>George Lasch</i>	<i>Myrna Torrie</i>
<i>Noma Edwards</i>	<i>Joyce Lewis</i>	<i>Nancy Tucker</i>
<i>Martha Elafros</i>	<i>Heather Lowe</i>	<i>Cheryl Van Blom</i>
<i>Eleanor Ferris</i>	<i>Judy Maginnis</i>	<i>Joyce Voldal</i>
<i>Heather Flaxman</i>	<i>John Marsh</i>	<i>Melinda Wahl</i>
<i>Maria Freed</i>	<i>Mary McFarlane</i>	<i>Cynthia Wheaton</i>



Gayle Richardson

**THE CABARET OF PLANTS: FORTY THOUSAND YEARS OF PLANT LIFE AND THE HUMAN IMAGINATION**

by Richard Mabey

Mabey has certainly forged a distinguished career: renowned naturalist and science writer who has given us numerous books and author/producer/presenter of many UK television documentaries. (One whose description utterly charmed me was an unscripted nature walk where he spontaneously talked about what he encountered on a ramble.) In this book he concentrates on humankind's relations with the plant world, ranging from Paleolithic peoples' curious, utter indifference to representing plant life in their caves and carvings to today's deep biochemistry. In between, in some 30 other essays, his wit, marvelous writing style and prodigious thinking about "things" make this book an immense pleasure to read. Color illustrations appear throughout the book and the whole is followed by an index and vast bibliography of references and sources.

**MRS. JEFFRIES WINS THE PRIZE**

by Emily Brightwell

There are loads of Victorian murder mystery series out there, but this is the first I've seen with Brightwell's particular twist. Modest Inspector Gerald Witherspoon, master of his surprisingly impressive house, and solver of more murders than any other detective in the history of the Yard, doesn't realize the game being played on him. It's his



Legendary librarian Gayle Richardson is past NPA Vice President and an avid NPA volunteer.

faithful staff, led by housekeeper Mrs. Jeffries, meeting day after day at the long table downstairs to work out each case out by themselves, who are the true detectives. Between his evening sherry and chat with Mrs. Witherspoon and the willing connivance of Constable Blake, Witherspoon always ends up getting his man. Here the case hangs on who has done in a shady orchid seller in the conservatory of socialite Helena Rayburn. She and a group of her friends are all desperate to be the one named to a prestigious horticultural committee... just how far might one of them be willing to go? Lots of Victorian color and well-drawn, entertaining characters make this a happy diversion. And if you become, as have legions before you, a rabid fan, this is number 34 in the series. Happy further reading.

**THE KEW GARDENS EXOTIC PLANTS COLOURING BOOK**

Royal Botanic Gardens

Well, it had to happen, I suppose. Even The Royal Botanic Gardens is jumping onto the by now monstrously overloaded bandwagon that is the world of "adult

coloring books," hoping to share in the profits as well. And whom could NPA members, colored pencils and ink pens in hand, be happier to support? All illustrations are taken from Curtis's Botanical Magazine, which has been published continuously for 230 years by the RBG, and are accompanied by a color reproduction of the original to guide you in your work. But why do that? Intrigued by the idea of black dieramas? Blue roses? Here's your chance to do some fiddling with botany and come up with improbable but delightful variations.

There's another title as well, **THE KEW GARDENS FLOWERING PLANTS COLOURING BOOK.**

**A BOTANIST'S VOCABULARY: 1300 TERMS EXPLAINED AND ILLUSTRATED**

by Susan K. Pell and Bobbi Angell

A nifty reference book for every bookcase, to shelve right next to that latin-for-gardeners title. Beautiful in its simplicity of illustration, each entry is printed in red (handsomely picked up by the cover of the book) with a simply-put definition and, in a great many cases, a neat line drawing. Whoever knew that some plants' leaves have sinuses, and comas are not always what you think? And how satisfying in the future to off-handedly toss off the word "marcescent" when showing off one's Carolina silver-bell by the front steps to admirers! Great fun to discover all these little bits of knowledge, along with loads more practical, everyday usage.



# NPA Open Gardens program connects people

Ilse Nethercutt

**A**S ANOTHER OPEN GARDEN season is winding down, the last of the sign-in sheets are trickling in from our garden hosts. Logging them in is a rewarding task, as they represent all the connections that have been made throughout the season in gardens all around the Sound – 3000 as of the end of July!

Some of the sign-in sheets are returned with a note attached, such as “I had a blast!” or “The people were so nice!” I always wished that everyone could read these. Visitors would know that they really

made a host’s day, and would-be hosts might be inspired to share their garden next time. So I asked our garden hosts to describe their experiences, and here’s a little sampling – in their own words – of their reasons for opening their gardens and what it is like to be an NPA garden host:

“I love sharing with other passionate gardeners what I am doing in my garden and listening to what they are doing in their garden that is similar or different. I really enjoyed every garden open that I have done.” Cleo Raulerson

“It’s always wonderful how the string of guests extends over the whole day and somehow doesn’t seem to bunch up. That way I get to spend time with almost everyone. The tour is a great motivator to get the garden in the best shape possible for the date. To my surprise, I have two private tours booked for August, just from also being listed as ‘By Appointment.’ What



Jeanne and Robin Cronce garden

an opportunity to meet some really fun people!” Rod Parke

“It’s a lot of work to get ready, but then I can finally sit back and enjoy the garden for the rest of the summer. Otherwise, I find I’m always seeing only what needs to be done and never appreciating it. Also, the visitors help me see my garden from a fresh perspective, with new eyes.” Fran Camber

“People came from far and wide and honored me by enduring city traffic and spending their precious time to see my garden. They were nothing but complimentary and expressed their appreciation for the experience of the tour. They expressed interest by asking questions about my techniques, plants and structures. I felt such joy to share my garden with like-minded people who appreciated the odd rarity and the thrill of plant passion.” Wendy Lagozzino

“The joys of opening the garden are many. First, it gets one doing extra things about the yard that will be enjoyed by us long after the visitors have left. The exercise is wonderful and brings on great nights of sleep. The visitors are fun to chat with as they are fascinating, appreciative and very



Janice and Steve Tallman garden



Mary Fisher (Cultus Bay Nursery)



# NPA CLASSES & WORKSHOPS



Thursday, September 15, 6:30-8:30 pm

## “ALL ABOUT GRASSES”

with Daniel Mount

Location: Bellevue Botanical Garden  
12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005  
Fee: NPA Members \$25,  
BBGS Members \$25, Nonmembers \$35  
Class limit: 40



deciduous, the grasses are the stalwarts of the contemporary garden. In this class, you will learn how to lend color and texture to your garden, how to use grasses in combination with other plants along with maintenance basics. You will come away with a renewed perspective and love for the versatile grasses. Pre-registration required.

This class is being offered in partnership with the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society and registration is being handled on the BBGS website at <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html>

The grasses, including sedges, rushes and true grasses, are one of the most carefree and long season groups of herbaceous ornamental plants. Dwarf to gigantic, shade tolerant to sun loving, evergreen or

*Continued from page 8*

knowledgeable folks. Without volunteering our gardens, the Open Garden program wouldn't continue, and what a loss that would be to the entire NPA membership.”

*Pat Wilshusen*

“It is wonderful to hear praise for your work from fellow gardeners, who can really appreciate your hard work and are knowledgeable about what it takes to create a garden. You may also get an opportunity to share tips or new ideas and learn from each other. We learn so much from visiting others' gardens and always appreciate those who are willing to open their gardens for us too.” *Linda and Tom Reeder*

“Weather was great and drew a delightful group of garden lovers — enough to keep me walking and talking all day with other enthusiasts, many of whom are becoming familiar faces as we find each other on other tours throughout the summer.”

*Hilary Turner*

Thank you, NPA garden hosts and visitors, for connecting with each other and sharing your love of gardening, And if you haven't quite gotten your fill of gardens this summer, remember there are still Open Gardens to come, and you can also design

your own fall tours via our “Self-Guided Tours” and “By Appointment” sections in the Directory. Let's keep the excitement going and the connections open!

### MEET OUR NEW OPEN GARDEN CO-EDITORS

I am not only excited but truly honored to announce that Julia Graham and Donna Bogumill have agreed to be our next Open Gardens Co-Editors!

Julia and Donna are both avid long-time gardeners and love to visit and be inspired from others' gardens. Julia has

opened her garden many times for the NPA Open Gardens program, and Donna was a new garden host in 2016.

Both helped with the 2016 Open Garden Directory, which benefitted from their amazing eyes for detail and way with words. As the new Co-Editors, they bring unique perspectives to our program and their new volunteer job. The fact that they are really nice ladies and fun to work with is just the icing on the cake.

Thank you, Julia and Donna, for stepping up to take on the huge task that is the 2017 Open Gardens Directory.



Julia Graham



Donna Bogumill

Noma Edwards and Karen Brighton

## Neighborhood group leaders visit Chihuly Glass

There is nothing like combining serious responsibility with light-hearted play. That was my experience last March when the neighborhood group leaders were treated to a day at the Chihuly Glass & Garden Museum at the Seattle Center. Former membership co-chair, Denise DuBois, fearlessly asked for free tickets and they were graciously given to her. That particular March day was forecast to be rainy and chilly and surprised us all with bright sunshine and warm breezes, a perfect day to enjoy the gorgeous glass displays inside and out! Over 30 NPA leaders and guests are very thankful to Denise and Chihuly for the visiting and sharing of activity ideas. What a wonderful full day of NPA.

## Enthusiasm is contagious

The NPA membership co-chairs particularly enjoy helping new NPA members connect with neighborhood small groups. The enthusiasm these new members bring to the small groups is contagious. Often they have an abundance of garden knowledge and wisdom adding to a neighborhood group's dynamic. Many bring ideas for new gardens to visit, new craft project possibilities, or knowledge of special tours previously unknown. Some new members join NPA with very little gardening experience and with the hope of learning from their fellow NPA members. They are never disappointed. Welcoming all of these new members regardless of their gardening expertise is what makes NPA so special. Our organization prides itself on enabling members to continue to grow (pun intended) not only in their gardening knowledge but also in their gardening friendships.

## A reminder about membership dues

A quick reminder for those of you who are still a little puzzled about when your membership dues are due: our memberships run from January through December. An added bonus for new members who join after September 1st is their memberships run until December of the following year, for a total of 16 months! Our membership cards are included in the Open Gardens Directory so be sure to snag it and keep it in your wallet since discounts at various nurseries are valid through April of each year. Don't forget, these colorful cards are also good for NPA lectures and classes. Thinking ahead to the holidays? An NPA membership makes a wonderful gift for a gardening friend. It's never too early to begin shopping!

## Announcing the 2016 NPA Scholarship Recipient

Kit Haesloop

**T**HIS YEAR NPA AWARDED one, well-deserved \$1000 scholarship to Dana Nunnally, a student enrolled at the Lake Washington Institute of Technology in the Environmental Horticulture Program. Dana, who began gardening as a perennial and herb gardener, believes that as a culture we have strayed too far away from our agricultural roots, as there is something literally healing when you dig in the dirt.

After spending a chunk of her career in corporate America,



NPA Scholarship winner Dana Nunnally

Dana said it was her garden that "grounded" her. She is now following her passion and changing careers, and is very excited to be on this new path. One of Dana's career ambitions is to use her horticultural knowledge to create educational programs and events. She is passionate about gardening and educating people in ways that can help them successfully incorporate gardening into their lives.

NPA scholarship applicants are evaluated based on their academic record, references, career goals and experience. The scholarship funds must be used at a Puget Sound two or four-year accredited college or accredited trade school within the academic year following receipt of the scholarship. NPA Scholarships are for students pursuing education in horticulture, botany, sustainable agriculture, landscape design/architecture or environmental science. Along with the scholarship award, recipients also receive a one-year NPA membership.

To learn more about the NPA Scholarships or for questions regarding applying for a 2017 NPA Scholarship, please visit the NPA website at [www.n-p-a.org](http://www.n-p-a.org)



# NPA Board welcomes two new directors

Kit Haesloop

NPA IS EXCITED TO INTRODUCE two new members of the NPA Board of Directors, Heather Flaxman and Denise Hartzell Pecyna. We look forward to their cleverness, creativity, energy and enthusiasm along with their love of gardening. Welcome!

## HEATHER FLAXMAN

According to Heather, she was “germinated and raised as a seedling by gardening enthusiasts” in the ancient kingdom of Northumbria, famed for its wild heather moors. She bloomed and flourished at Durham University, studying history and education.



Heather’s first garden challenge was an overgrown orchard and market garden next to Sherwood Forest. She reports that she “hardened off” during an 18 year teaching career in elementary and nursery schools. She was “trained and espaliered” during her ten years as an educational advisor in Special Needs.

Heather was transplanted to Singapore in 2012, returning to her Cottage Garden in the rural county of Rutland in 2013. She was “dug up again and replanted” in Duvall in 2015, where she’s still getting established “but showing some encouraging signs of new growth.”

She describes herself as an enthusiastic but by no means expert gardener, who is enjoying the challenge of a new garden, country and continent. Her favorite plant, of course, is the English rose.

## DENISE HARTZELL PECYNA

Denise is currently pursuing a degree in landscape design. She was born in the Chicago area and has a fond love of plants that grew from a rewarding youth filled with wonderful days of gardening with her mother. Denise is an entrepreneur with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from



Northern Illinois University and ten years’ experience in management and sales. In addition to gardening, she enjoys hiking, camping and music. Denise donates considerable time and effort to several charities, most notably Olive Crest and the United Way.

## 2016-2017 NPA Board of Directors

President	<b>Kit Haesloop</b>
Vice President	<b>Diana Davidson</b>
Treasurer	<b>Trish Brooks</b>
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## Northwest Perennial Alliance

*The Northwest Perennial Alliance is a community of friends, neighbors and experts who share a passion for gardening in the Pacific Northwest. Everyone is welcome.*

Website: [www.n-p-a.org](http://www.n-p-a.org)  
Phone: 425-647-6004  
Email: [info@northwestperennialalliance.org](mailto:info@northwestperennialalliance.org)

## NPA 2015-2016 Officers:

Kit Haesloop, President: 425-333-6529  
Diana Davidson, Vice President: 425-896-8040  
Ellie Sanchez, Secretary: 425-828-6820  
Trish Brooks, Treasurer: 360-579-2030

## Membership:

Memberships are \$35 for individuals, \$45 for household, \$75 for business, \$20 for students. The membership year runs from January-December. To join, visit [www.n-p-a.org](http://www.n-p-a.org) to pay electronically or download a membership form. You may also mail a check payable to NPA, to the address below. Include your name, mailing address, email address and telephone number. NPA accepts certain credit cards and debit cards by telephone at 425-647-6004.

## Donations:

NPA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. Donations are used to support our educational programs, including Open Gardens, lectures, workshops, the NPA Border and student scholarships.

## Submissions and paid advertisements:

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# A fun weekend on NPA's Yakima Gardens & Wine tour

All the participants on our sold out Yakima tour had an enjoyable and memorable weekend. We saw seven spectacular gardens, toured stunning artists' homes, studios and gardens, tasted incredible wines and saw unbelievable beauty in the Yakima region. It was a full agenda from start to stop with most everyone asleep on the bus within 30 minutes of departing for home.

Photos by Kit Haesloop and Linda Gray



The tour group enjoys a sparkling wine tasting at Treveri Cellars



Top: Colors pop in Lavonne Brenner's garden

Bottom: Admiring Kim Brewer and Rick Main's rock wall planter