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February 2018

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Trevor Cameron, Evergreen Arboretum President

State of the Arboretum

Happy February to all the friends and members of Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens! Although it is the typical cold (and of course, wet) season, the promise of spring is just around the corner. The days will be getting longer and the sunshine a bit brighter soon enough as we head out for another successful gardening season.

Bulbs are already popping out of the ground reminding us all that spring is coming. **This year, the Arboretum will welcome spring in style with the hundreds of Daffodils volunteers planted at our Family Fun Event last October, our first annual Bulb Fest.** I can't wait to admire the swathes of yellow in the gardens welcoming visitors in another month or two. Be sure to stop in and see the new beautiful spring bulbs blooming at the Arboretum!

It was my personal pleasure to represent everyone who cares about the Arboretum - the Board of Directors, our Members, our Docents, all the Volunteers, everyone in our community who donates to the Arboretum - at a City Council meeting in January. **On behalf of all of you, it was an honor to present our new Mayor, Cassie Franklin, and the Everett City Council with a check for \$75,000 to aid in the completion of the South Area in the Arboretum.** I feel like I have been writing/talking about this for over two years in these newsletters and now it is finally happening! Construction is underway and we anticipate being able to show off the new area this spring. We have plants lined up to plant in some new gardens. Rocks are ready to be placed. The giant "Siblings" sculpture by James Madison is ready to be installed. There is still much to do, but we see progress and look forward to completing this project thanks to the help of all of you. **We owe special thanks to Lori, Bob, Geoff, Russell and many others in Everett Parks and Community Services for working on this with us as partners.** Watch for a grand opening later this spring/early summer. We all can congregate and celebrate this wonderful project achieved through the hard work and generosity of so many members, volunteers and friends of the Arboretum.



Trevor presents a check for \$75,000 to Everett Mayor Cassie Franklin

I also want to mention to all the folks who participated in our Oak Leaf Fundraising Campaign - WE HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN YOU AT ALL! This process has been long and arduous and I can only apologize for the delay. The Board of Directors looked over the final plans for the wall that was to display the leaves and we just didn't feel that it did this project justice. We felt the wall was bulky and looked out of place in the gardens. We have already begun an alternative plan to mount the leaves - in beautiful steel geometric patterns that will be prominently located near the gazebo for all eternity. The Board felt that this would be both a more appropriate and attractive way to display them. We thank all those who purchased leaves and YES we will make this happen soon!

Please make note we are trying to make the Arboretum a fun family destination where Everett residents and visitors can not only appreciate the wonderful gardens but also escape to nature when they come. There are numerous "Family Fun" events on the calendar for 2018. Please tell all your friends and family to come and join the fun. **The first Family Fun Event of our new line up for 2018 is happening as we celebrate Earth Day with ["Frog Fest"](#) on April 15th from Noon until 2 pm.** I will be taking my two boys down to explore these Amphibians for sure and I am hoping to see a nice crowd of frog lovers for sure! I mean seriously, frogs - how cool is that for an event in the Arboretum!

I wish you all a great upcoming spring gardening season. **Remember to volunteer when you can, help out with Plant Sale preparations, or even join us at our monthly board meetings.** I hope to see you in the gardens on a walkabout soon - there is always a treasure to find growing somewhere in our Arboretum that will surprise you!



Your Membership Means Everything to the Arboretum!
Attend Our Annual Banquet and Meeting

2018 brings an exciting new year of membership events at the Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens that you won't want to miss. First on the calendar is our Annual Membership Banquet and Meeting coming up fast on March 13th. All Arboretum members are cordially invited to join us for this once a year event. Your individual membership will admit one to the banquet while other membership levels above that admit two. Please consider increasing your membership level or even giving a gift membership to a special gardening friend to bring along. Take a moment to renew on line at www.evergreenarboretum.com. **We would love to receive your membership renewals or new memberships by March 1st.** Not currently a member? Just go to the website and fill out the information for a new membership..... and join the Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens family!

Everyone should mark their calendars for **Tuesday March 13th and join us from 6 to 8:30 PM at Floral Hall in Forest Park.** Drinks and appetizers, followed by dinner catered by our very own Marylou and friends, all await you. There will be a slide show presentation on new plants for the garden 2018. We will be showing off our new 2018 Raffle items as well as giving away some gardening goodies to those who attend. Come and enjoy a fun evening and mingle with fellow members. Hear all that your Board of Directors is working on and what our goals are for the upcoming year. This is our chance to say "Thank You" for your continued support. Remember, admission is free to all current members. [Memberships](#) are \$20 per year for individuals and \$35 per year for families. [Please RSVP in the Contact Us section of our website](#) or call (425) 257 8597. Come and enjoy great food and conversation all while helping to support the Arboretum. We hope to see everyone there!

Arboretum Focus ... Plants, Plants, and More Plants

There is always much to admire in the Arboretum gardens and late winter-early spring is no different. There are the smells of the *Sarcococca*, the blooms of the *Hellebores*, and certainly all the bright foliage of so many plants leafing out this time of year. But let us talk about what we are trying to do piece by piece throughout the Arboretum - rejuvenate and revitalize the gardens for the next generation. On your next walkabout be sure to visit the **Woodland Garden and Fernery**, a great example of what we started last year and will finish up this spring.



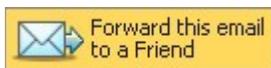
Ferns

This garden is a most peaceful spot in the shade and shows off numerous cool plants for our NW gardens.

Marylou Hart, our Woodland Garden Champion, with the help of many volunteers accomplished so much in 2017. Everyone is looking forward to helping her finish off her master plan this spring. We have pruned and removed numerous struggling plants and added some new Rhododendrons like '**Taurus**' - a magnificent big ol' red bloomer - and '**Goldflimmer**' - a bright variegated variety with striking foliage.

Volunteers planted literally dozens of new **Ferns** to fill in the areas along the dry river bed along with a new Oak Leaf Hydrangea specimen. It is a sight both prehistoric and beautiful watching the different Ferns unfold their new fronds in spring. Some new Hydrangeas, like '**Endless Summer**' and '**Bloomstruck**', will be blooming this summer. A spectacular new Japanese Maple called '**Bihou**' was added - check out it's bright yellow-to-coral bark color! And we are not finished..... more new Rhododendrons like '**Horizon Monarch**' and '**Horizon Serenity**' will be planted this spring - both sporting huge spring flowers and impressive structure. Another

Japanese Maple, '**Shidava Gold**', is being planted as well to serve as an understory tree and backdrop. Plants continue to be pruned back, a couple of old Laurels are coming out and now the Woodland Garden is taking shape once again. Thank you to Marylou for making this happen and thanks again to all the folks who have helped. Be sure to stop down and check out the improvements!



The Everett Home and Garden Show - 2018 Edition!

The 17th annual edition of our local home and garden show is set for **March 9th-11th** at Angel of the Winds (formerly Comcast Xfinity) Arena in Everett. There is always a ton of great ideas to absorb at the show and knowledgeable professionals to help answer your questions. **Friday show hours Noon-6pm. Saturday show hours 10am-6pm. Sunday show hours 10am-5pm.** Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens will have a booth at the show..... so when you go and get into the spring spirit..... stop by and say "Hello!"

Plant Sale Preparations are Underway

In fact - planning and preparations never seem to stop! Yes it is true..... It takes a group of great volunteers tons of time to make our annual plant sale a success. It is all set for June 2018 once again and we will need your help! **Our 2018 Plant Sale co-chairs are Marylou Hart and Renee Greenleaf.....** and they are excited and raring to go! They have lofty goals set for the season and look to make numerous improvements to the sale including plant selection and how it is organized. Much work is already happening behind the scenes but there is so much to do. If you are interested in helping please contact us on the website or call the Arboretum.



Fill out your garden beds with plants from the Plant Sale_

Plant Sale work parties start Thursday March 15th (10am to Noon) and continue every Thursday (same time) throughout spring. So much will happen all through spring, culminating with the annual sale on June 16th. All pertinent dates and times are also on our website. We hope to see all of you at the plant sale work parties for 2018!

Volunteers are Always Appreciated...and Rewarded!

As with all charitable organizations, a need for volunteers continues to exist. At Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens, we would love to share our passion for the Arboretum and its gardens with you. Our group is always looking for special representatives from garden clubs to help us build relationships with all our local residents. We all simply love plants, gardening, nature, and of course the Arboretum! We need help from folks who would enjoy assisting us with fundraising campaigns. Every year we need people interested in learning about and helping with garden

maintenance to assist with work parties. The Board would love more folks to assist in organizing and staffing our annual events. We are involved in such things as the Everett Home and Garden Show, Sorticulture, our Annual Plant Sale, our Family Fun Events and much more.

The Board of Directors can always guarantee you three things - you will be among fellow nature, garden, and art lovers, you will have some serious fun helping out, and you will feel awfully good for joining the team! And..... we also hand out gift certificates to Sunnyside Nursery in Marysville each month. Just show up and help out at any Arboretum work party (including Plant Sale Work Parties), enter your name, and we draw lucky winners! Contact us on our website www.evergreenarboretum.com or call us at (425) 257 8597 with any questions. Thanks in advance for getting involved when you can and helping out Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens.

Captivating Cultivating Classes: Provided by Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens!

Come and learn about all things horticulture from our guest instructors at the Arboretum. Classes are the 3rd Saturday of each month from 12 to 1pm unless otherwise noted. **Special note to members - you will have access to all seminars this year in the gardens free of charge! Others may join these classes by becoming Arboretum members or paying a \$10 registration fee.** Please RSVP by calling 425-257-8597 or online at contactus@evergreenarboretum.com. See a complete class listing for 2018 on our [website](#) as well. Let's make this the best year of Arboretum classes yet!

Winter Pruning Workshop

Saturday, February 17th

10AM - 2 PM Members FREE; Non-members \$10

Come and join our Arboretum President and learn the ins and outs of proper pruning. The class will focus on what should be done over winter months including most deciduous plants, focusing on Hydrangeas and Japanese Maples in particular. You can come for the entire session or part of it. Bring your pruners, raingear and questions. Come on down and let's get pruning!

Instructor - Trevor Cameron, Arboretum President and General Manager of Sunnyside Nursery in Marysville

Backyards that WOW!!

Saturday, March 17th

12-1 PM Members FREE; Non-members \$10

Come and learn from the "Whistling Gardener" himself on how to create a landscape that is anything but boring! If you missed him at the Home and Garden Show come and enjoy his talk full of information and laced with some humor. You too can have a yard with year around interest - be the envy of the neighborhood!

Instructor: Steve Smith, "The Whistling Gardener", Sunnyside Nursery Owner and Arboretum Board Member.

Frog Fest - A Family Fun Event!!

Saturday, April 15th

12 - 2 PM Members FREE; Non-members \$10

Come and explore the world of frogs in our environment and landscapes. **All ages are**

welcome and families are encouraged to attend. Thayer will show participants how to create a suitable frog habitat. In honor of Earth Day, attendees will help plant native starts in the new Native Garden and also take a plant home!

Instructor: Thayer Cueter, "The Frog Lady" of Just Frogs Foundation and friend of the Arboretum.



Family Fun on Earth Day



Come Get Dirty With Us!

Arboretum work parties have been scheduled for the coming 2018 season. We would love to have anyone interested in helping join us. These work parties are necessary to continue to keep the gardens looking top notch. Come and pitch in while you talk plants and gardening with other volunteers. Enjoy the fresh air and our beautiful Arboretum. Be sure to bring your gloves, tools, a bottle of water and your smiles. We hope to see you there and thank you in advance for your help!

Wednesdays 10am - 12pm	Saturdays 10am - 12pm
Wednesday - March 7 th	Saturday - March 17 th
Wednesday - April 4 th	Saturday - April 14 th
Wednesday - May 2 nd	Saturday - May 19 th

A special thank you to all who participated in the 2017 work parties. They were a huge success with the all the volunteers and help from the Everett Parks and Community Services Department. The work in the South Area has begun and we will have some new areas to plant and help maintain. We thank you and appreciate all of you that came and got dirty with us in 2017!





Spring Bulbs

Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens

[Visit our Website](#)

Mailing Address: PO Box 13014 Everett 98206



Thank you to all of our faithful members that have renewed their membership for 2018! If you have not renewed it is never too late to [join and help support Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens](#).

Evergreen Arboretum & Gardens, 145 Alverson Blvd, Everett, WA 98201

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