

# THE PERENNIAL POST

NORTHWEST PERENNIAL ALLIANCE



WINTER 2019 | VOLUME 29 | ISSUE 1

## NPA's "The Promise of Spring" Event

Come to this event to delight in the beauty, creativity and diversity found in NPA members' gardens. Be inspired; gain new insights and ideas from NPA's open garden hosts and British Head Gardener, Steve Edney. Be energized and ready for your own garden this spring.

*continued on pages 6 & 7*

Date: Sunday, January 20, 2019

Time: 10:30 am – 2:30 pm

Location: Aaron Education Center at the Bellevue Botanical Garden  
12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005

Fee: NPA Members – Free / Non-members \$15



## NPA Open Gardens: Highlights of the 2018 Garden Tours

Join Donna Bogumill and Julia Graham  
from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

What could be more fun than connecting with other passionate gardeners to share inspiring ideas, visit gardens and discover new must-have plants?

*continues on page 6*

## DAY'S SCHEDULE

10:30 am – 11:20 am Plant sale of Hellebores and other winter bloomers

11:20 am Door prizes

11:30 am – 12:30 pm NPA Open Gardens: Highlights of the 2018 Garden Tours with Donna Bogumill and Julia Graham

12:30 pm – 12:50 pm Gift certificate drawings and break

12:50 pm -1:00 pm Door prizes

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm The Salutation Gardens with Steve Edney, British Head Gardener



Julia Graham, Open Gardens Co-chair



Salutation Garden, England

JAN. 17, FEB. 21 MARCH 21, APRIL 18	<b>Border Weed &amp; Feed</b> , third Thursdays, 10 am – 12 pm. Work two hours in the NPA Perennial Border at Bellevue Botanical Garden, then enjoy a potluck lunch
JANUARY 19	<b>Growing Mushrooms at Home</b> with Tristan Woodsmith, Saturday, 10 am – 12 pm, Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden*
JANUARY 19	<b>Afternoon Tea with Steve Edney</b> , Head Gardener at Britain's Salutation Gardens, Saturday, 2 – 4 pm, at a Redmond gardener's home, a fundraiser event (See page 6)
JANUARY 20	<b>The Promise of Spring Event – NPA Open Gardens Highlights</b> , Sunday 11:30 am – 12:30 pm (Plant Sale – 10:30 am) <b>The Salutation Gardens with Steve Edney</b> , British Head Gardener, 1 – 2:30 pm, at Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden* (See pages 1, 6, & 7)
FEBRUARY 16	<b>The Hidden Half of Your Garden – A New Way to Think About Soil</b> , with David Montgomery and Anne Biklé, Saturday, 10 am – 12 pm, Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden*
FEBRUARY 20-24	<b>Northwest Flower and Garden Festival</b> , Wednesday – Saturday, 9 am – 8 pm, Sunday, 9 am – 6 pm, Washington State Convention Center, Seattle (see page 11)
MARCH 9	<b>March Mania Plant Sale</b> , Saturday, 9 am – 3 pm, Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden* (see below)
MARCH 13	<b>Spring 101 Gardeners' Question Time</b> with a panel of four King County Master Gardeners, Wednesday, 10 am – 12 pm, Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden*
MARCH 16	<b>Hydrangea How-To</b> class with Kit Haesloop, Saturday 10 am – 12 pm, Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden*
MARCH 24	<b>Nicolay Memorial Lecture, the film "Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf"</b> Sunday, (Plant Sale – noon) film showing begins at 1:00 pm Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden* (see page 5)

\* Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden (BBG) address: 12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005

## March Mania Plant Sale!

**Saturday, March 9, 9 am – 3 pm**

**Bellevue Botanical Garden**

**Aaron Education Center**

12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005

Once again, we are delighted to offer our ever-popular March Mania plant sale indoors at the Bellevue Botanical Garden Aaron Education Center. Rain or shine, you will be able to browse the unique offerings indoors, out of the elements.

You will find that parking is free and plentiful, friendly volunteers abound, and many fantastic plants are waiting for a home in your garden. Save time after plant shopping to visit the garden for ideas, inspiration and to see the magic of spring unfolding.

This is a great way to support the NPA and the specialty nurseries, chat with the knowledgeable growers, and look for that special, must-have plant. Our fabulous group of



*Happy shoppers at March Mania 2018*

exceptional growers, many of whom are generally not open to the public, include: Botanica, Bouquet Banque, Fancy Fronds, Growing Girls, Lee Farm, and Windcliff Plants. NPA will be selling plants propagated from the Border, double Hellebores and other exclusive plants.



Susan Miller,  
Redmond  
gardener



## Will you open your garden in 2019?

### NPA OPEN GARDENS

**T**he call is now out for 2019 Open Garden hosts. Whether you're a seasoned host or a first-timer, other NPA members would love to visit your garden. Don't worry that your garden may not be "finished" (if there is such a thing.) Visitors will learn from, and be inspired by, what you've done, projects in progress, and what you're planning to do. Your garden is uniquely you and it's fun and rewarding to share with fellow gardeners.

The Open Gardens Program is an absolute favorite of NPA members. Where else would one get the opportunity to tour dozens of gardens from May through September? We're talking gardens of all styles; big and small; new, old and in-progress; throughout Western Washington and beyond.

The greatest part of all: it's by NPA members for NPA members. Its success is due to the generosity of NPA member hosts who graciously open their gardens for all of us to visit.

**The deadline to register your garden is February 26, 2019.** It's easy. Just complete the form on NPA's website ([n-p-a.org](http://n-p-a.org)) under Open Gardens and email it to [npaopengardens@gmail.com](mailto:npaopengardens@gmail.com).



Garden of Karen and Larry Beck, Gig Harbor

*Please see special insert in this Perennial Post edition for additional information.*

If you have any questions, are still undecided, or need the registration form in an alternative format, don't hesitate to send us an email or call NPA at 425-647-6004.



## Time to Join or Renew

Joining or Renewing is easy  
on NPA's website, [www.n-p-a.org](http://www.n-p-a.org)

To have a membership form mailed,  
please call 425-647-6004

### 2018, Another Banner Year

It's time to renew your NPA membership to ensure you don't miss any of the fun benefits awaiting you next year.

Top of the list for many members is our **Open Gardens** program, in which you can visit private gardens from May through September, not just throughout the Puget Sound area but increasingly beyond the Western Washington region. And our hugely popular NPA **Neighborhood Groups** promote learning from our peers and general gardening comradery during monthly meetings.

Don't forget the special **lectures** by horticultural experts during the year, all free to members apart from the annual Nicolay Lecture, in spring, which has a nominal \$5 fee for members. In addition to news of future events, the **Perennial Post** newsletter also includes articles of interest by our members, as well as Gayle Richardson's always enjoyable Book Reviews.

NPA's two annual **Plant Sales** draw not only NPA members but a large segment of the gardening public. The **NPA Perennial Border** at the Bellevue Botanical Garden affords opportunities for hands-on learning about specific plants and good gardening practices.

Many of our business members give **discounts** to NPA members. Check our website for the most current offers available. Our **Seed Exchange** is famous in gardening communities, with requests coming from out of state and even other countries. Lastly, NPA gives back to the Washington horticultural sector by offering an annual **scholarship** to a student enrolled in this field of study.

Memberships start in January and run through December, although you can join anytime during the year. Please note: all membership fees increase by \$5 on March 16.

# NPA CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

# Winter

## Growing Mushrooms at Home

with *Tristan Woodsmith from Fungi Perfecti*

**Date:** Saturday, January 19, 2019

**Time:** 10 am – noon

**Location:** Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005

**Fee:** NPA members \$25  
Non-members \$35

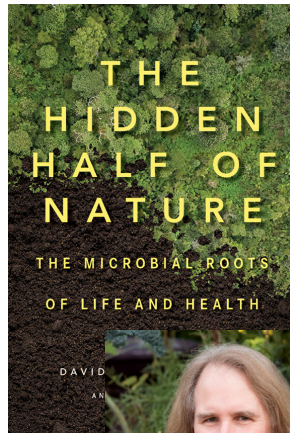
**Limit:** Min. 12 - Max. 25 participants



This workshop focuses on growing gourmet mushrooms at home, both indoors and outdoors in your yard, garden, or forest. We will discuss the mushroom life cycle, various substrates used for growing mushrooms, and low-tech methods for generating mycelium including spores, spawn, and stem-butts. Indoor mushroom patches, outdoor mushroom beds, log and stump cultivation will all be covered in great detail. Species mentioned include Oyster Mushrooms, Shiitake, Lion's Mane and more! Each student will create their own mushroom patch to observe, propagate and expand at home.

This is a joint class between NPA and the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society.

**Register via the Bellevue Botanical Garden website at [www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html](http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html).**



## The Hidden Half of Your Garden – A New Way to Think About Soil

**Date:** Saturday, February 16, 2019

**Time:** 10 am – noon

**Location:** Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005

**Fee:** NPA members \$25  
Non-members \$35

David Montgomery and Anne Biklé are authors of the book "The Hidden Half of Nature: The Microbial Roots of Life and Health."

Come and learn about how the smallest creatures on earth are upending practices in gardening, agriculture, and medicine. Learn about human and plant microbiomes and the role of living soil in keeping gardens, farms, and even our bodies humming along like they should.

David Montgomery, a Professor of Geomorphology at UW, and his wife, Anne, garden in Seattle.

This is a joint class between NPA and the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society. **Register via the Bellevue Botanical Garden website at [www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html](http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html).**

## Spring 101 Gardeners' Question Time

with the Master Gardener Team of Karen Benson, Bruce Caredio, Gordon Polson, and Randy Eakin

**Date:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019

**Time:** 10 am – noon

**Location:** Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005

**Fee:** NPA members \$25  
Non-members \$35

Join a panel of four King County Master Gardeners who will present a Power-Point of what you should be doing in the garden in spring. We will be talking about planting, pruning, propagating, soil, and compost care and taking questions from the audience. Each gardener/presenter will cover the basics of each category and then actually demonstrate a skill/tip/trick.

We will then take questions from the audience, which you can send us before the presentation or try and stump the panel!

**Register online at [www.n-p-a.org](http://www.n-p-a.org) or contact NPA at 425-647-6004.**





# NPA CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

*continued*



## Hydrangea How-To

*with Kit Haesloop*

**Date:** Saturday, March 16, 2019

**Time:** 10 am – noon

**Location:** Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005

**Fee:** NPA members \$25  
Non-members \$35

**Limit:** 25 participants

Learn how to get peak performance from the hydrangeas you grow or want to grow in your garden from the ever-expanding varieties available. In this class you will learn the distinguishing traits between species, and how best to keep your hydrangeas beautiful with the proper care. Kit will provide guidance on growing conditions, bloom color and pruning options for the different species. Finally, Kit will demonstrate proper pruning techniques on several species that grow in the NPA Perennial Border at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. Bring your questions and be prepared to go outside in the second half of the class.

This is a joint class between NPA and the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society. **Register via the Bellevue Botanical Garden website at [www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html](http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/classes.html).**



## The film “Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf”

### NICOLAY MEMORIAL LECTURE

**Date:** Sunday, March 24, 2019

Doors open at noon for plant sales  
Film showing begins at 1:00 pm

**Location:** Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005

**Fee:** NPA members \$5, Non-members \$20

Revolutionary landscape designer Piet Oudolf is known for designing public works, like New York City's popular High Line and the Lurie Garden in Chicago's Millennium Park, that redefine our conception of gardens as works of art in themselves. This gorgeous, meditative documentary immerses viewers in his work, taking us inside Oudolf's creative process. From his aesthetic theories to his strikingly abstract sketches to the ecological implications of his ideas, the film poetically reveals how Oudolf upends conventional notions of nature, public space, and, ultimately, beauty itself.

Come early to secure your seat to enjoy this documentary film on Piet Oudolf, one of the world's premier garden designers.



## Propagation Practical

**Date:** Wednesday, May 8, 2019

**Time:** 10 am – noon

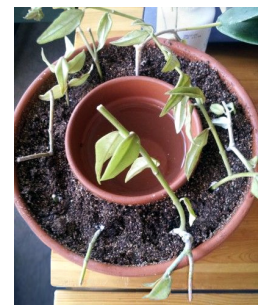
**Location:** Address and directions to the garden will follow after you register

**Fee:** Includes all materials, NPA members \$25  
Non-members \$35

**Limit:** 15

A hands-on class at a Redmond garden. A PowerPoint will cover the various propagation techniques and then it's time to get your hands dirty! You will make a Forsythe pot, and then take fresh softwood cuttings, from the host's garden, to fill your propagation Forsythe pot that you can then take away and grow on. You will need to provide your own secateurs/pruners and garden gloves (and maybe a sun hat!).

**Register online at [www.n-p-a.org](http://www.n-p-a.org) or contact NPA at 425-647-6004.**





# NPA's "The Promise of Spring" Event

*continued from page 1*

## NPA Open Gardens: Highlights of the 2018 Garden Tours



**Sunday, January 20, from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm**

*continued from page 1*

That's why the Open Gardens program is one of the most popular benefits of NPA membership.

Join Donna Bogumill and Julia Graham, NPA's Open Gardens Co-chairs, as they take you through a photo tour of many of the 100 gardens opened in 2018 by members, for members.

*Donna Bogumill, Open Gardens Co-chair*

Most were private gardens usually not open to the public, and all reflected the unique personality and generosity of the garden hosts.

The presentation will showcase the diversity of the garden styles and designs, fabulous plant combinations, water features, creative hardscape and garden art, problem solving ideas, and so much more.

If you missed visiting any of the 2018 open gardens, or would like to revisit your favorites, here's your chance. The drawing for winners of the Wells-Medina Nursery gift certificates for lucky 2018 garden hosts and visitors will take place at the end of the presentation.



*Albers Vista Gardens - Bremerton*

## Afternoon Tea with the Head Gardener

**Date: Saturday, January 19, 2019**

**Time: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm • Location: a Redmond gardener's home**

**Fee: \$75 • Seating limited to 30 people**



*This sumptuous tea is a NPA fundraiser*

You are invited to a very special English Afternoon Tea with Head Gardener of The Salutation, Steve Edney. Chat with Steve over a pot of tea and a glass or two of champagne. We will also be serving a selection of savories and sandwiches, including teatime favorites: cucumber and smoked salmon. There will be an assortment of cakes, not forgetting the essential, Victoria sponge, and of course, scones with cream and jam. Your host is English, so we will make this as authentic as you can get, without a transatlantic flight.

Go to NPA's website to secure your spot at [www.northwestperennialalliance.org](http://www.northwestperennialalliance.org) or call NPA at 425-647-6004.





## The Salutation Gardens *with Steve Edney*

Sunday, January 20, from 1:00 - 2:30 pm

*continued from cover*

**S**teve Edney, the Head Gardener at The Salutation Gardens, has created a plant lover's paradise. Within the gardens sits The Salutation, a charming, boutique hotel and restaurant, designed in 1912 by architect Sir Edwin Lutyens. It is set within the glorious medieval town of Sandwich, England, nestled on the banks of the River Stour. The 3.7 acres of gardens are divided into a series of symmetrical rooms, each with a different purpose, gathered around a unifying theme.

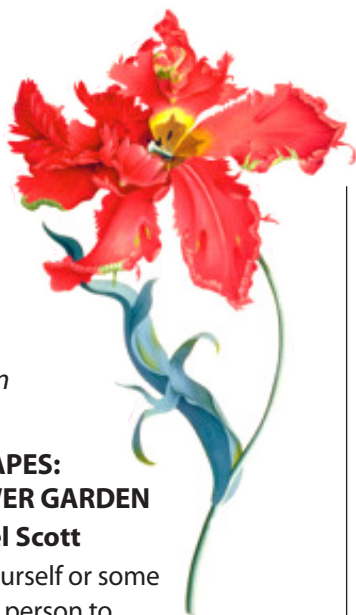
Steve will take you on a journey of discovery as he explains the history of this unique property and the restoration of its quintessential English gardens, peppered with stories of plants and people along the way.

His plant driven design incorporates an eclectic mix of heirloom, rare, and drought-tolerant plants used thoughtfully to create longer seasons of interest. Careful consideration is given to the unique challenges and opportunities presented by the garden's easterly location, soil type, rainfall, and protection from wind behind four acres of walls.

Steve has earned Gold for exhibits at the Chelsea Flower Show and the Hampton Court Palace Flower Show, is a regular voice on the BBC radio 'Sunday Gardening Show', has made several television appearances, and is a frequent contributor to numerous horticultural publications.







Gayle  
Richardson

**PAPERSCAPES:  
THE FLOWER GARDEN**  
by Michael Scott

Treat yourself or some other lucky person to this clever volume. It's a book, with lovely illustrations and packed with info on some 50+ plants, that turns into a piece of art ready for display in your home. Careful older children to careful older adults will enjoy 'making' this offbeat, but charming, ornament, and I'm guessing you'll discover a few plants you'll yearn to acquire as well. I sure did with *Brunsvigia josephinae*. If it's a hit, there are also *THE AVIARY*, *THE BUTTERFLY GARDEN*, and *THE TREE* to have fun with.

**PORTABLE LATIN FOR GARDENERS**  
by James Armitage

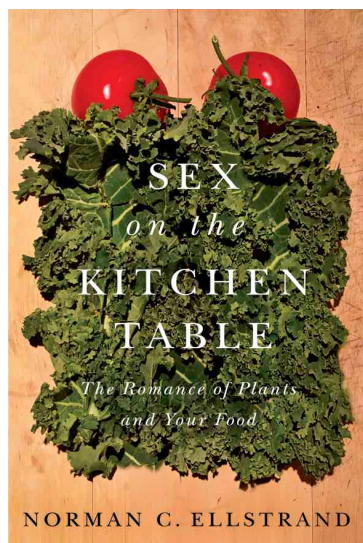
Ever since I heard of *Lobelia siphilitica*, I've been fascinated by plants with godawful species names and have kept a little list. Happily, I found a few new ones here: *sordidus*, *diabolicus*, *fatuus*, and *squalidus*. You'll enjoy learning about these and more than 1,496 others in this collection, which is arranged by category (shapes, stems, habit, man-made objects (!), etc.)." This might seem odd at first, but a rear index makes alphabetical searches a snap. An attractive, useful book with a color illustration on every page and a cover that looks waterproof—but not 5 stars, as I think I discovered two teeny-tiny errors.

**THE NATURE FIX: Why Nature  
Makes Us Happier, Healthier, and  
More Creative**

by Florence Williams

Some readers appear to revile this one, most to revere it. Whatever the case, this really is a book you should consider. Most of us would agree that the title is blindingly obvious and a bit of preaching to the choir, so do we need to read? Well, yes. The rundown on current brain/body research that is revealing amazing new knowledge about us humans is riveting. Williams writes in a style that is easy to gulp down, often with a laugh, though sometimes with a feeling of horror (people checking their phones 2000 times a week, the percentage of British children who have no clue acorns come from trees, etc.) but in the end, let's all hope the Finns are right in thinking 'FIVE HOURS A MONTH'!

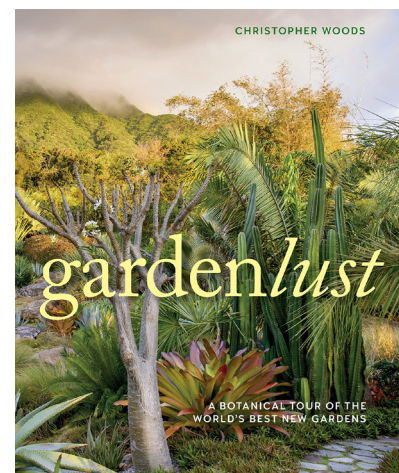
**SEX ON THE KITCHEN TABLE: The  
Romance of Plants and Your Food**  
by Norman C. Ellstrand



After countless columns heavy on the 'arty' side of horticulture it's time for some science. This one is like a college course in botany, but with no final exam. The author shows us the varying sex lives of the tomato, beet, banana,

squash and poor avocado tree, with its astonishing rigamarole. A few quibbles... two ungainly drawings should have been dropped to allow a bigger font on the text below the botanical illustrations, and why is that far smaller than the font in the bibliography which few people will consult? David Drummond's cover is sheer genius, though. Really study it and you'll burst out laughing.

**GARDENLUST: A Botanical Tour of  
the World's Best New Gardens**  
by Christopher Woods



Clear off your coffee table for this lush and lust-producing Timber Press production. Noted garden writer and designer Christopher Woods treks round the world to give us a look at fifty new gardens.

An almost ominously brooding cover is noteworthy, right from the start, and we're soon led into a beguiling variety of creations from the noble to the domestic. The Chihuly Glass Garden is featured, of course. Now it's time to put some of the others on your life-list. I hope I remember forever the roadside spiraling wall and the mind-bogglingly original sculpture arcing over a hilltop.

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



# Neighborhood Groups Enjoy Growing Together!

Jan Jensen

One of our most popular NPA benefits is belonging to one of the smaller garden groups that operate in a particular neighborhood. Currently there are 18 groups, with another group planning to form this year.

Several of the existing groups are not able to accept more members because of meeting space constraints, even though there are still people interested in joining. NPA would therefore like to offer more group opportunities so that all interested NPA members can be part of a neighborhood group. These groups offer a variety of activities and are a unique way of meeting other gardeners, sharing interests such as plant care, design and garden art often leading to lasting friendships.

Please contact myself, Jan Jensen\*, to learn more about starting a group (or how to contact a current group accepting new members.) This could be as few as four or five people! And, for you veteran group members, maybe now is the time to offer to help a new group get going! Watch for news about workshops that will be offered for all those interested in starting a group! See a current group list on page 10 and enjoy the sampling below.



*Shovels and Hoes*

**The Shovels and Hoes** leader, Linda Wager shared that they met in July where their member Cindy Andre taught them how to make Glass Flower Garden Art. Then, in August the group had fun

travelling to Vashon Island to visit two local gardens. This group is open to new members.

**Grateful Deadheaders** is the new South Seattle NPA Neighborhood Group, led by Susan Daggett and Harriet Herschel, meeting every other month. They met in July for a docent-led tour of the Kubota Gardens, and to attend a Japanese Iris exhibition. The group is still open to adding new members and already have about 22 members. They are already off to a great beginning!

**Dirty Divas'** leader Wendy Lagozzino, says the group has grown to 11 current members, with more new members welcome. To accommodate the varied schedules of their members, they recently made changes to be flexible to sometimes meet at different days and times instead of their usual Tuesday evenings. Recent activities have included a presentation on Ikebana complete with its history and lore, a walk along the new Arboretum Loop trail, and a Tuesday evening Queen Anne Tree Tour.

**Eastside Morning Glories** are currently at capacity and closed to more members, reports Peggy Ostrander. In June they had a tour of the spectacular Windcliffe garden and home of local, intrepid plant explorer, Dan Hinkley. There wasn't a plant he couldn't name, and the shopping in his nursery afterwards was great. In July, a member shared her techniques on Hydrangea propagation timed perfect for enjoying the wealth of those blossoms.

**Northern Exposure** is also currently closed to new members, says leader Phyllis Andrew. They met in May at McMenamin's Anderson School in Bothell. Riz Reyes is in charge of the garden restoration and guided the group on a tour around and through this amazing setting. The five-acre property displays



*Plant Junkies*

sun and shade gardens, perennials and trees, and an organic vegetable and herb garden offering fresh ingredients to the restaurants. After the tour everyone celebrated in the brew pub!

**Plant Junkies**, led by Gina Grohs, is welcoming more members. This group also toured the McMenamin's Anderson School gardens. At another meeting they created Mandala Rock Paintings for their gardens.

**Monday Nighters**, led by Louise Soltow, is open to new members. The group recently toured a beautiful moss, rock, perennial and woodland garden developed by Jim and Paula Umbeck on Lake Marcel in Carnation. Find more information about the garden at <https://www.seattletimes.com/pacific-nw-magazine/rock-solid-anchored-in-stone-and-idyllic-garden-of-northwest-staples>.

This active group also visited the Bush Prairie and Mima Mounds near Tumwater in May, in recognition of Prairie Appreciation Day (<http://www.prairieappreciationday.org>) and visited Lael's Moon garden Nursery in Rochester, WA. (<http://laelsmoongarden.com>.)

**Petal Pushers**, led by Donna Bogumill, has members from throughout the South Sound area, and is still accepting new members. The spring and summer meetings included a memorable blacksmithing demonstration by member Marie Churney, and a wildflower hike led by Phyllis Sturges along the Sequatchew Creek trail, which winds down through beautiful forest (very like a rainforest) to a beach on the Sound. In June, member Sara Schroeter hosted the group for making hypertufa pots.

\*Jan Jensen, Membership Chair, [jjensen.npa@gmail.com](mailto:jjensen.npa@gmail.com). or visit [www.n-p-a.org](http://www.n-p-a.org)

*Continue on page 10 for a current list of neighborhood groups*



## Current Neighborhood Groups and Locations *continued from page 9*

### SEATTLE

Ballard/Magnolia, Queen Anne **Dirty Divas**

Northeast Seattle/Queen Anne/Green Lake,  
**Northeast Clump**

Maple Leaf/Northgate/Pinehurst/Lake City,  
**Monday Nighters**

Central & South Seattle  
**The Grateful Deadheads**

### NORTH

Edmonds/South Snohomish County  
**Late Bloomers**

Kenmore/Bothell/Woodinville/Duvall/  
Sno-King, **Plant Junkies**

South Whidbey Island, **Twilighters**

South Whidbey Island, **Daylight Group**

Arlington/Everett, **Northern Exposure**

### EASTSIDE

Bellevue/Mercer Island/Medina  
Sammamish/Yarrow Point, **Eastside  
Hortaholics**

Mercer Island/Bellevue, **Mercerbelles**

Redmond/Kirkland/Bellevue/  
Woodinville, **Eastside Morning Glories**

North Bend, **Shovels & Hoes**

Renton, **Joyful Gardeners**

Snoqualmie Valley/Carnation/Fall City/  
Redmond, **Lilies of the Valley**

### SOUTH

Vashon Island, **Vashon Island Group**

Lakewood/Tacoma/Olympia/Lacey  
**Petal Pushers**

Gig Harbor, **Harbor Gardeners**

Contact Jan Jensen, to learn more about starting a group. This could be as few as four or five people! Veteran group members, maybe now is the time to offer to help a new group get going! Watch for news about workshops offered for all those interested in starting a group!

\* Jan Jensen, Membership Chair, [jjensen.npa@gmail.com](mailto:jjensen.npa@gmail.com). or visit [www.n-p-a.org](http://www.n-p-a.org)

## A Classy Fix for a Common Problem

Tired of the grass growing or path material bouncing into your garden beds or mulch spilling onto your lawn? Well, so is NPA. In the NPA Border at the Bellevue Botanical Garden, we have the same gardening issues that personal gardens have, but on a larger scale. Over 350,000 visitors walk our paths each year. That's a lot of foot traffic!

The NPA Border garden beds constantly have gravel from the paths being transferred into and amongst the plants. On a regular basis, volunteers rake out the invading gravel. However, we thought it was time to find a cost-effective solution to prevent the gravel from entering the beds to begin with.

Border Co-Supervisor, Cheryl Van Blom, suggested metal edging, which would be a strong barrier. After her research, SiteOne Landscape Supply in Issaquah had the best product. The edging is in 10-foot sections and 4

inches wide. The sections have overlapping and locking pieces with metal spikes that anchor into the ground. NPA decided to trial it on a heavily used and steep path.

Huge kudos to the six volunteers who worked installing and creating a professionally finished project. Craig Wagner, Dennis DeMuth, and Ron Vize, spent about three hours installing the metal edging. MaryAnn Adams and Diane Dancer came behind and planted *Ophiopogon japonicus* 'Nanus' and backfilled with topsoil and mulch. Peggy Herron put the finishing touches on smoothing the mulch in the beds and the gravel along the edging.

Wow! The final outcome is beautiful and effective. NPA will be using it on other tough border paths. This classy edging is also an excellent solution for our own gardens.



*MaryAnn Adams and Diane Dancer planting along new edging*



*Peggy Herron adding finishing touches*



*Craig Wagner, Dennis DeMuth and Ron Vize resting after finishing edging project*



## MEMBERS' CORNER

Winter

### Sign Up for Free Admission to The NW Flower & Garden Festival

February 20 – 24, 2019 at the WA State Convention Center



Diana Davidson welcomes visitors

This is the best venue for sharing the benefits of NPA membership with the public. We need enthusiastic volunteers who will encourage visitors to our booth to join NPA on the spot. The volunteers work in pairs for three-hour shifts. **When you volunteer you will get a FREE show pass that is good for the entire day on which you volunteer.**

If you can't volunteer but plan to visit the show, be sure to stop by the NPA booth (#2501) and sign up for our drawing to win a garden-related prize.

The earlier you contact NPA, the better your chance of getting the day and shift you prefer. To volunteer, email: [volunteernwfgs@northwestperennialalliance.org](mailto:volunteernwfgs@northwestperennialalliance.org) or call NPA at 425-647-6004.

### Board Director and Project Chair Vacancies

NPA has a few vacancies for board members and project chairs. Keep NPA growing and blooming by helping to run NPA. If you enjoy working with others and are enthusiastic about NPA, we need you to step forward and share your talents and skills!

If you want to get involved, please contact: Kit Haesloop, NPA President at [haesloop.npa@gmail.com](mailto:haesloop.npa@gmail.com) or call NPA at 425-647-6004.

### Apply for an NPA Scholarship

**D**o you know a deserving horticulture student who would appreciate a little help with tuition and books? Encourage them to apply for an NPA Scholarship.

This year the NPA will award a \$1,000 scholarship to be used at a two- or four-year accredited college or accredited trade school within the academic year following receipt of the scholarship. Applicants must be enrolled as matriculated students pursuing education in horticulture, botany, landscape design/architecture, or environmental science.

Funds are paid directly to the school that the recipient will be attending. These funds may only be used for tuition and books. The scholarship recipient also receives a one-year membership in the NPA. Applicants can download the application form on the NPA website at <http://www.northwestperennialalliance.org>. The deadline for applications is May 15, and funds are available in June.

#### NPA Advisory Board

Kelly Dodson	Sue Moss
Val Easton	Chitra Parpia
Roger Gossler	Charles Price
Pam Harper	Debra Prinzing
Dan Hinkley	Barbara Swift
Thomas Hobbs	Joanne White
Nancy Kartes	Glenn Withey
Denise Lane	Barbara Wright
Linda McDonald	

#### 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 2018-2019 Officers:

Kit Haesloop, President: 425-333-6529

Linda Kline, Vice President: 425 643-0182

Denise Hartzell, Secretary: 708-415-5287

Joan Baldwin, Treasurer: 425-485-6889

#### Membership:

Membership are \$40 - individuals, \$50 - household, \$80 - business memberships, \$25 - student. 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.

#### 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:

Contact the Post Editor at [post@northwestperennialalliance.org](mailto:post@northwestperennialalliance.org)

The Perennial Post is published by:

Northwest Perennial Alliance

PO Box 1034

Bellevue, WA 98009-1034

Volume 29, Issue 1

Winter 2019

Co-Editors: Jacqueline Houston & Jeanne Macdonald

Copy Editors: Sara Drogin, Wendy Lagozzino

Printer: Precision Press, Redmond

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### ATTENTION MEMBERS: NPA Seeds Calling!

Do you have any envelopes tucked away with seeds collected from your 2018 garden successes? NPA Seeds would love to help you share them with other members if you'd like. Just send an e-mail to [seeds@northwestperennialalliance.org](mailto:seeds@northwestperennialalliance.org).

Thank you, Gayle Richardson, Seeds Chair



**THE PERENNIAL POST**  
Northwest Perennial Alliance  
PO Box 1034  
Bellevue, WA 98009

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**Time to Join  
or Renew** *see page 3*



## March Mania is coming Saturday, March 9!



### MARCH MANIA PLANT SALE

March 9, 9 AM – 3 PM

Bellevue Botanical Garden  
Aaron Education Center

12001 Main Street  
Bellevue, WA 98005

(See page 2)







## NPA Open Gardens 2019

### We would love to visit your garden!

Touring gardens for inspiration, new ideas, and just plain fun is an all-time favorite of NPA members. The success of the Open Gardens program depends on the willingness of members to open their gardens for the rest of us to see.

*Will you be an NPA Open Gardens host in 2019?* While it takes some effort to get ready, it is so fun and rewarding. Garden hosts totally enjoy welcoming visitors, showing their garden, and connecting with fellow members who share their passion.

### Yes, your garden is worth visiting

The wonderful thing about gardens is that they are as varied as the gardeners who create them. Your garden is uniquely you. It's your pride and joy, and members would love to see what you've created.

Should you have any doubt about opening your garden because you think that it needs to be "finished," consider that gardeners learn as much from works-in-progress as from the "final" version (if indeed there is such a thing).

It doesn't matter what kind of a garden you have – small or large, formal or cottage, rural or urban, new or well-established – it will be different from all the other gardens. People will want to visit.



*Garden of John Marsh, Marysville*

### Sign up now

It's easy to register your garden to be an Open Gardens host:

1. Go to NPA's website at [n.p.a.org](http://n.p.a.org), and click on the Open Gardens tab to access and download the registration form.
2. Fill it out and email it to [npaopengardens@gmail.com](mailto:npaopengardens@gmail.com).
3. The deadline to register your garden is February 26, 2019.

Please see the reverse side of this insert for some brief registration tips.

**We look forward to visiting you in your garden.**



## NPA Open Garden Hosts

# Tips for registering your garden

Thank you for your generosity in opening your garden for your fellow NPA members. What's next? Following is a list of considerations for registering your garden. More complete guidelines are available on NPA's website.

### Membership

To open your garden, you must be a current NPA member. Please make sure you are up-to-date with your membership dues for the current year when you submit your registration form. It's easy to renew online via NPA's website at [n.p.a.org](http://n.p.a.org).

### Access the Open Gardens registration form

Go to NPA's website and click on the Open Gardens tab to access and download the registration form. If you have any problems with the form, let us know and we'll help you use an alternative format.

### Write your garden description

Think of it as an overview of the kind of experience that awaits the visitor. What kind of garden is it? What do you love about it? Don't be modest – go ahead and brag a little!

### Choose your days and hours

Typically, gardens are open Saturday and/or Sunday. It is best to be a little flexible in case dates need to be negotiated between you and the other garden hosts on your tour. The standard hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., but you can specify a different time frame. Feel free to open more than once during the May-September tour season. You can also open your garden "by appointment."

### The more, the merrier

Tours of three or more gardens in a given geographic area tend to bring more visitors. If you know of fellow gardeners in your general vicinity, talk to them about opening their gardens at the same time as yours. If they're not yet NPA members, we can help them get signed up.

### Register early!

If possible, submit your registration early, ideally in January. This allows time for the Open Gardens team to: (1) recruit and coordinate dates with additional gardens in your area, if needed; (2) make sure that the information in the tour directory accurately represents your garden; and, (3) get the directory printed and mailed to members by mid-April.

### Questions? Email the Open Gardens team

If you have questions or need assistance, email us at [npaopengardens@gmail.com](mailto:npaopengardens@gmail.com). To ensure you get the attention you deserve, please add your name to the subject line (for example, "Open garden John Doe").



*Garden of Cleo and Peter Raulerson, Bellevue*