



Tsuru Island

James Card: Editor

Planting a Personal Garden

Consider the surrounding area. What is it and what do you want it to be. This includes growth, position of the sun and how the plantings might spread over time and possibly become a nuisance. The garden is going to evolve over time and that growth over 5 – 25 years must be considered in the planning.

Style is a big factor...so many to choose from, European gardens such as Italian and English; Asian gardens; and Northwest gardens; flower and dry gardens are all possible.

Layering the garden is important, in and out plus up and down are significant and rather basic. Blends of texture and color are very important. The color does not have to be blossoms but include leaves, stems, variegations, shine, dullness, light and dark. Want some pop in the garden, try a white barked birch in clumps or contorted birch or the common river birch. Check out other trees for the bark and texture and its development over time. Benches, old items around the yard, hanging windows can present an unique effect and make the garden individualized to your taste.

If you don't have much room, consider container gardens. Think of the presentation in a larger pot with miniature plants and the use of rocks to enhance the design. This pot does not have to be

a bonsai but can be very interesting with a variety of small plants and bushes of varying heights. Many of these plants need to be kept outside to endure the changes of climate and may need some added protection during especially harsh weather. This may also apply to various plants in the larger gardens. If you have a particular plant that is not from your area, research the care it may take during winter times.

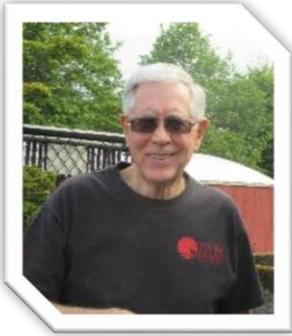
If you do not have the energy, time or desire to grow your personal garden, find one in the area that you enjoy. There are some of the most special gardens and natural areas around the Gresham area to enjoy and many around the county. Take advantage of the joy and peace that comes from viewing a garden near you.



Purchase a Paver engraved with your special sentiment at the Gresham's Ebetsu Plaza Go to gresahmjapanese garden .com

New Fence

Now that the plaza is complete the next project will be the installation of the donated black chain link fence along the Resource Center. Expected to be complete by the end of October it will be a whole new look to the entrance of the Springwater Trail.



John Harold



Bev Carlin



Amy and Sue Hughes



Mary Ann Buck



Alyson Huntting, John



Eri Muroi



Jim Card, Sylvia Owen and Tomiko Takeuchi

Volunteers, Members and Partners

September 8th was a very special celebration for the completion of the plaza and dedicated to the volunteers, members and partners of the Gresham Japanese Garden and Ebetsu Plaza. Entertainment was provided by Oregon Koto-Kia. Those attending received a ticket for a drawing and attendees received a gift packet. A big thank you to Mary Ann Buck, Mioko Fuse, Alyson Huntting and Bev Carlin for the planning and execution of Saturday's festivities.

As many of you are aware much of the plaza would not be possible if it were not for the time and efforts of John Clark, Sue Hughes, Alyson Huntting, the Gresham Parks Department and many other faithful volunteers. Thank You!

Prizes went to

- Linda BG ... "thank you" card set
- Mable Pool ... "thank you" card set
- Melissa McMullen ... cutting boards
- Chief Sells ... wine display
- Stan Morris ... bonsai

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The NAJGA Conference

Every other year the North American Japanese Garden Association has an international conference. The first conference was in 2012 in Chicago. Following conferences were held in Colorado, Florida, and Hawaii. This year it was held in Portland for 4 days with lectures and presentation by renowned speakers from several countries. Jim Card presented the rebuilding of the Gresham Japanese Garden. The slide presentation depicted photos taken by Bill Peterson, Tad Tsuneyoshi, Katey Card and Jim Card.



A Museum Display

Gresham History Museum has had a display for Tsuru Island for some time. We have been asked to provide some more up-to-date information about the Garden and the Plaza. Items that have been provided by visitors from Ebetsu and our friends Tomiko Takiuchi and Mr. and Mrs. David Ris can be presented to the museum. There will be pictures from the beginning of the Rebirth of the Japanese Garden in 2011 that many have never seen before.

Evan Smiley, the Director for Gresham History Museum, has already submitted a plan for the remainder of 2018 and beyond. Evan will be taking a look at the inventory to see what she might like to utilize. Evan started the first of September.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

There are many projects in the garden and plaza that were started in 2017 and 2018 and will continue into the coming year. Projects include:

- The smaller triangle west of the main plaza and along the stretch of the Springwater Trail. The trees will be planted utilizing water from the green house.
- The storage yard continues to evolve. Parking is now available along the barn.
- This fall and through the school year, the Kaz Kids will enjoy additional hands on projects where items will be built and taken home.
- The Gresham Ebetsu Sister City Association will host Japanese language students and the public a place and time to converse in the language to improve skills and form relationships. Dates and times will be announce.
- An activity calendar of events for the Resource Center and the Garden will be placed on the website.
- The website and literature offers private events at the garden and resource center such as, weddings, wedding photos, Tea ceremonies, promotions, elections, anniversaries parties and more. There are several wedding request so far for 2019. The cost includes clean-up before the event, privacy notice at the entrance of the garden, pre and post wedding dressing and preparation in the Resource Center, and a wonderful atmosphere.
- Workshops and/or private classes will continue; such as "aesthetic pruning", "garden design assistance", etc. Take note of the calendar for class times.
- Weekly volunteer work days will continue on Saturday and possibly Thursday as weather permits. Each person will have a planned program to follow and will become even more diverse in scope as the projects come to completion.

If you have an idea for projects or programs contact: gresham.japanese.garden@gmail.com

What Would We Do Without Trees?

We have always taken trees for granted. A Ranger in the US Army stated that if you know your trees you can survive anywhere they exist. They have so many functions that you could never keep track of them all.

Some of the basic uses are wind break, shade, fruits, fires and shelter. There are uses and pleasure after the tree has completed the life cycle for its species. Just because a tree is dead or dying there are still many uses and value, including forms of art such as furniture, live edge tables, picture frames, tools and much more.

Today we as a people understand the issues of preserving trees and forests. We understand that trees do much more than provide us with uses that we can see; but rather they function as a process for the air that we breathe. Replenishment of the trees is one of the most important things we can do as a benefactor of mother earth.

Today there is the ability to travel from one part of the world to another and see firsthand the types of trees and woods that are available. We can now share these different species of woods and learn about the history of the world through trees, including how many have used them.

There are charts established listing the woods from around the world from softest to hardest. Every one of them has a unique capacity to fulfill a need for man's life as a necessity, a function or a pleasure. Figuring it all out is part of life's experiences such as finding the wood that burns best or does not burn well, offering a choice of what to use and when. The same opportunity exists with outdoor versus indoor wood, water versus dry, strength versus weakness, and sound versus no sound. Man has figured out how to, join them, nail them, glue them, color them and shape them. In this modern age we have figured out how to use every section of the tree possible.

Now there is the DNA process to determine the exact information about a tree and its connection to trees in other parts of the world. In years gone by some trees have been typed a particular species only to discover through comparisons that they are not in that category at all. Examples of this are the "mountain ash" and many of the cedars and of course the Douglas fir.

George Nakashima writes about the gift of the tree. The seed begins to sprout and takes hold not knowing what it will encounter. The root plunges deep into the earth. In the leaves of the tree, that marvel called photosynthesis takes place. Water and minerals from the soil, carbon dioxide from the air and light from the sun combine in mysterious ways to produce the very substance of a tree's life. Without this miraculous process there would be no flora, no fauna and no man.

