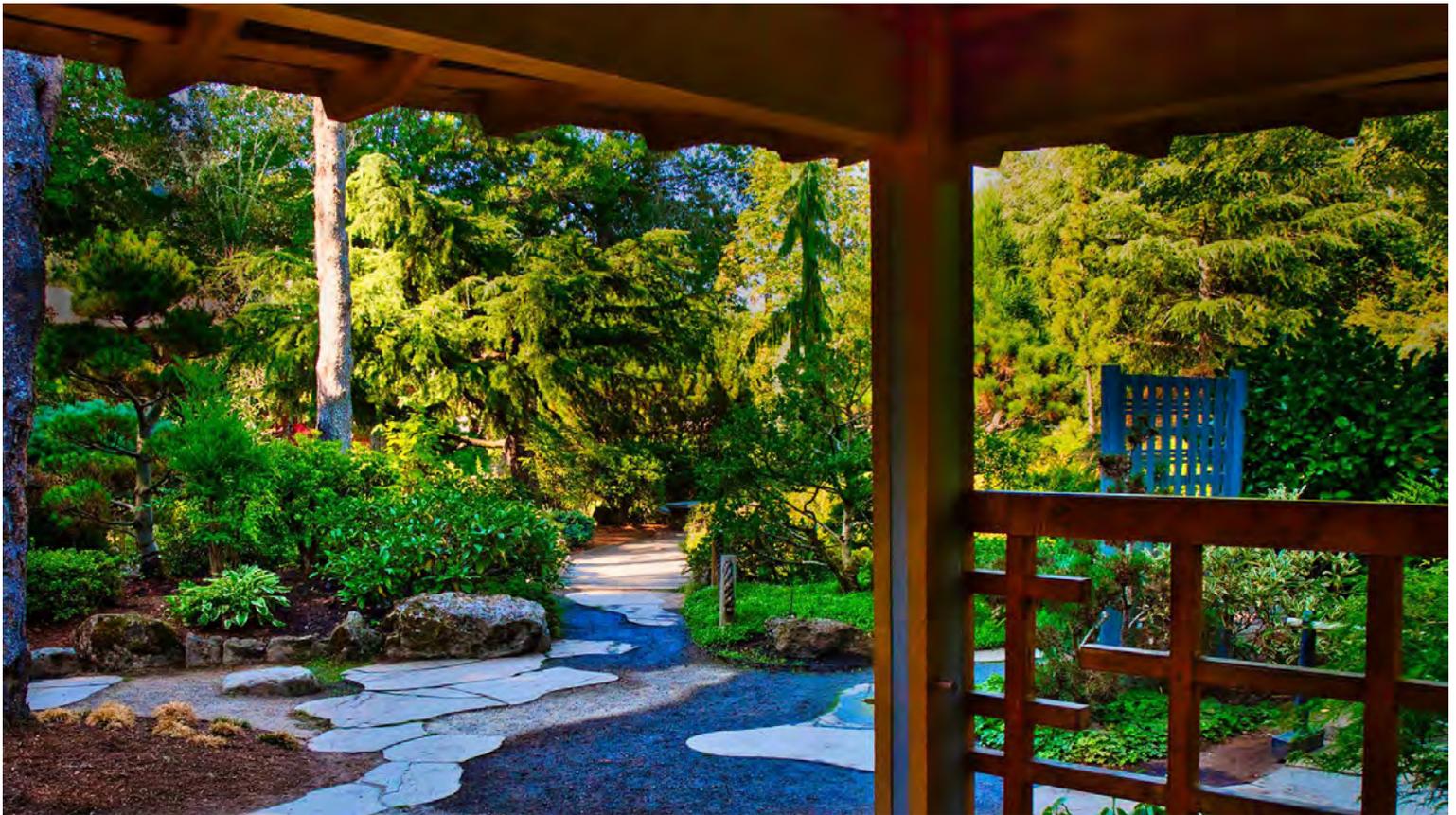


Tsuru 鶴 Soars

Friends of the Gresham Japanese Garden Newsletter



Our Deepest Bow...

Typically an organizations celebrates a 10-year anniversary during its tenth year. The Gresham Japanese Garden was so busy last year putting on cultural events, building a restroom, maintaining all the spaces in the Garden, and yes, the pandemic kept us concerned about hosting an large event, so we missed the window.

Now, it's eleven years since Jim Card



GJG is hosting a "10 +1 Garden Celebration" and has invited the amazing people, businesses, city staff, and volunteers who have helped rebuild the path to the Garden's success. It has taken the

and Tomiko Takeuchi first looked at the Tsuru Island and decided to "rebirth" the neglected garden.

On September 8th,



PHOTOGRAPHER'S VIEW

短夜や 夢も現も 同じこと
Mizika-yo ya/ Yume mo utsutsu mo / Onazi koto

The short summer night, The dream and real, Are same things.

- Takahama Kyoshi (1874-1959)

generosity of many of you to make the Japanese garden a gem for everyone to enjoy. Our deepest bow. *Domo arigato gozaimasu.*

The Mural Garden Gets a Name



The mural is almost complete and the garden in front of it has been named! We like to name our spaces as an opportunity to honor an important place or concept: Tsuru Island (original name given to the Gresham Japanese Garden), Ebetsu Plaza (honoring Gresham's Sister City), Ambleside Annex (reminding us of Gresham's oldest neighborhoods and where most of the mature trees came from), and now the garden in front of the mural.

We contacted the man who helped Jim Card rename Tsuru Island, Dr. Kendall

Brown. We told him about our organization's mission—to serve our community. Dr. Brown suggested "Kyōdō." According to the Kenky-usha Japanese-English dictionary. This word means "cooperation, collaboration, partnership, union, community," a perfect description of our mission.

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The name makes perfect sense when you see the many volunteers beautifying the space in front of the mural on Saturday mornings, the cooperative efforts to plan and create the mural itself, as well as the city and businesses who worked with us.

When the City of Gresham installs a new door on the garage, the kanji symbol for Kyodo will be permanently added.



GARDENER'S TIP

After we've gotten some fall rain, aerate and fertilize your lawn using organic fertilizer to extent possible.

As garden plants die back, compost them or simply chop them in pieces and bury them in your garden bed.

You can also divide peonies and plant trees and bulbs for next spring's blossoming.

Your potatoes and squash should be ready to harvest.

— Jim Buck, Garden Volunteer and Organic Gardener

Ask Jim!



This month's Ask Jim! is a series of four videos related to watering your plants and lawn. Jim covers the watering of container plants, drip irrigation systems, and above-ground sprinkler heads.

If you have a plant or water question, Ask Jim! at <https://www.greshamjapanese-garden.org/ask-jim/>.

Riverview Bank Donations



Each month Gresham Riverview Bank chooses a different non-profit to sponsor by putting out donation boxes at their teller windows. Gresham Japanese Garden has been chosen for the month of September.

Thank you Riverview Bank.

“Planting Peace” Set for September 19

by Mary Dickson

One tiny seed and one very small lady bring life to the Gresham Japanese Garden in the form of a Peace Tree. As noted in the December 2021 *Tsuru Soars*, the Garden received a ginkgo biloba seedling, one of over 50 now planted throughout our state. According to Jim Buck, who has cared for the tree since he got it about a year ago, it is healthy, though hasn't grown much, probably because it is still in a pot.

The Peace Tree project originated with the One Sunny Day Initiative, started by Hideko Tamura Snider, who was a 10-year-old living in Hiroshima when the United States dropped the nuclear bomb on that city in 1945. Amazingly, despite 140,000 people dying, she survived, as did a few ginkgo and persimmon trees within the blast zone. As a survivor, she is called a *hibakusha*. The trees are called “survivor trees,” *hibakujumoku*. A number of years ago, seeds were collected from the survivor trees and have now been sent around the world and grown as Peace Trees.

Hideko moved to the US, went to college, married an American, worked as a psychiatric social worker, received an honorary doctorate, and now lives in Medford, Oregon. She speaks all over the world on behalf of peace and the elimination of nuclear weapons. The mission of the One Sunny Day Initiative is to plant seeds of universal peace, hope, and reconciliation.

The tree's new home, called the Peace Garden, across from Ambleside Annex at the south end of Main City Park, will be officially dedicated on September 19, from 10 to 11am. David Hedburg, a filmmaker who captured the transfer of the tree to Jim Buck from Jim Gersbach of the Oregon Department of Forestry and has documented many of the Peace Tree installations around Oregon, will film the ceremony. This event is open to



Hideko Tamura Snider speaks about her experiences as a 10-year-old after the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, in 1945.



Future home of a ginkgo Hiroshima Peace Tree in Main City Park, maintained by Friends of Gresham Japanese Garden

the public, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Preparing the site has required about 93 hours of volunteer time, according to Jim Buck. The task was difficult because the area had to be cleared of salal and Oregon grape plants with dense roots. The plants were carefully dug up so they could be transplanted into other parts of the garden. A stone path leads to the tree's new home.

At the base of the tree, visitors will find a plaque from Ms. Tamura Snider, who serves as a Peace Ambassador to the City of Hiroshima. The plaque will include QR codes so that visitors can use their cell phones to get more information about One Sunny Day's various educational initiatives. Hideko Tamura Snider has written a children's picture book about creating peace in the world called **When a Peace Tree Blooms**, a “story of affirmation for human resilience and a choice toward enduring peace through reconciliation,” according to the One Sunny Day Initiative's website.

A second plaque will identify the groups that worked together to bring the Peace Tree to GJG. They are: Urban Forestry Sub Committee, Gresham Butte Neighborhood Assoc., City of Gresham, and Gresham Japanese Garden.

Steve Stevens has donated the land-

scaping plan for the area, incorporating plants aligned with Japanese landscape design, including shrubs, grasses, currant, and heather, plant materials that provide color during all seasons.



Jim says, “within the plant kingdom, there are five divisions with over 300,000 species of seed-bearing plants.

The ginkgo is one division and it's the only species in its division, because of its uniqueness. It's the oldest living plant specimen, from the time of the dinosaurs. It takes about 15 years for it to mature, and until then, we won't know if it's male or female! If it produces fruit, it's female. If it only produces pollen, it's male.” Read December 2021's first Peace Tree newsletter article: https://www.greshamjapanesegarden.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Tsuru_Soars_dec-online.pdf.

Oregon has one of the largest collections of Hiroshima peace trees of any state or nation outside Japan. You can visit others throughout the state. The location list is at: <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/forestbenefits/Pages/hiroshima-peace-trees.aspx>.

Please join us on September 19th at 10am for the dedication.

Giving Back To Communities

If you read the newsletter from front to back, then you already know we're proud to call ourselves a community-based garden. This month, we proudly add LGI Homes to our Garden family.

According to their website: In 2016, the LGI Giving initiative was established. "The mission of LGI Giving exemplifies our Core Values by supporting communities financially and through volunteerism, strengthening our local relationships and demonstrating loyalty. In other words – we want to empower our employees to make an impact in local communities."

"LGI Homes has contributed over \$2,500,000 in corporate, non-profit sponsorships and donated over 20,000 employee service hours. We have collaborated with several non-profit organizations over the years. We strive to make an even more significant impact as our company continues to grow. From constructing fences and cleaning up parks, organizing food drives and volunteering at children's clubs, we are committed to being a positive presence in the communities we build."

"One of the best days of the year at LGI Homes is our annual service event, Service Impact Day. We close all offices nationwide for one day, focus turns away from sales and closings as we dedicate the entire day to giving back. Every LGI employee spends the day volunteering in the local community. We are proud to support this event and make a difference year after year."

The Gresham Japanese Garden is this year's recipient of LGI Home's Service Impact Day. If you're wondering how and why LGI Homes picked GJG, we did too! Unfortunately, we couldn't get an interview set up in time for the publication, but needless to say, we were able

to put the puzzle pieces together. LGI Homes is currently building a development called Sunset Village, east of 190th and south of Richey Road, so they focused on Gresham for this year's community service work. Through the goodwill of the City of Gresham, our garden was given to LGI Homes as a good service project. When Jim Card was contacted by LGI Homes, he immediately said, "Yes, we have a project for you."

The project: installing pavers around the backside of the Resource Center. This area is where we have our shadehouse and our greenhouse, and sometimes conduct classes. The walkway to these

areas is made up of gravel, mats, dirt, and lots of weeds. Adding a paved path will make it safer, wheel-chair accessible and smooth enough for volunteer Mike Henke's motorized scooter.

This project has been on our radar for a couple years, so much so that we had purchased some pavers and will recycle others from the Touchstone paver campaign.

In preparation, Chuck Page and other volunteers have graded the site, readying it for LGI employees on September 22nd.



Workshops



IKEBANA: Tues., Sept. 6, 1-3pm

<https://www.greshamjapanesegarden.org/ikebana-for-the-season/>



ORIGAMI: Mon., Sept. 12, 6-7:15pm

<https://www.greshamjapanesegarden.org/family-origami-folding/>



BONSAI: Thurs., Sept 15th & Sat., Sept. 18, 1-3pm

<https://www.greshamjapanesegarden.org/art-of-bonsai/>