

Tsuru Soars

Friends of the Gresham Japanese Garden Newsletter



Kyoudou Center Update

GJG's goal is to complete construction of the Kyoudou Center by early September, in time to host a 4-day regional workshop for the North America Japanese Garden Association (NAJGA).

There's still a lot of work that needs completed, and luckily, we're ahead of schedule. Frankly, if it wasn't for the work from Jim Card, and one of our most dedicated volunteers Chuck Page, we wouldn't be ahead of schedule.

Card says, "Chuck's work ethic, and attention to detail, makes this remodel run smoothly. And, he's a really nice guy."



Jim and Chuck on a sunny day prepping the space.

[Pinnacle Contractors](#) is building the 8' overhang now, and then it's Page's turn again.

Taken from his days as a Shop teacher, Page will lead a group of volunteers to build the deck, stairs, and ADA ramp.

Soon you will also notice some quarry



PHOTOGRAPHER'S VIEW

*twilight shadows
on a summer eve
sunlit tree tops*

- Bill Peterson

rocks being placed in the Kyoudou Entry Garden. But completion won't officially happen until the NAJGA members participate in a hands-on workshop to build the entry pathway *nobedan* led by Francheska Snyder, owner of Niwa Method, LLC.

Bicycle Repair Services in Main City Park

by Sue Hughes

Five years ago, Jim Card approached me about his desire to offer a bicycle repair outlet at GJG. He saw a need with all the bike traffic coming through Ebetsu Plaza off of Springwater Trail. I researched self-serve bicycle service stations and found some really nice ones. We didn't pursue because funding was an issue, and we realized we needed to stay focused on what we do best.

GJG has seen an increase in the numbers of cyclists that take a break in Ebetsu Plaza, or stopping for lunch in Ambleside Annex. We are thrilled that Bikes for Humanity PDX is offering the bike community hands-on bike repairs. It exceeds Card's vision!

[Bikes for Humanity PDX](#) is a non-profit bike shop and school located in SE Portland, with a pop-up repair station in Main City Park. Their mission is to increase public access to affordable and safe bicycles, while empowering self-sufficiency in bicycle maintenance and commute.

At their pop-up in Main City Park they provide free maintenance and repairs, and an opportunity for people to donate underutilized bikes for re-homing.

You'll find Andrew stationed by the Coho Pavilion, just north of Tsuru Island from 11am-2pm on the dates listed below.

Bikes for Humanity PDX would like to grow their service in Gresham. If you're a novice and interested in learning about bike repair, or experienced and can help with repairs, Bikes for Humanity PDX would like to hear from you. Stop by on one of the days they're at Main City Park. Through their donation program, you can donate your bike. They will repair any issues, and then re-home to a needy individual. This past week I experienced



BIKES *for*
HUMANITY PDX



Andrew at Main City Park with his pop-up repair station.

a re-homing. I went up to Andrew as he was packing up after a Tuesday repair day, and asked him how things were going. He told me he had a great day because he had just given a lady a bike. Just then a woman, who clearly appeared to be relearning how to ride, rode past us on a shiny purple bike, with her granddaughter riding close behind her. What a great day for everyone! See you at the park!

Inside Main City Park
11am-2pm
Saturday, August 5
Tuesday, August 15
Saturday, September 9
Tuesday, September 19

Call or text Andrew
503-496-6941 with any questions,
or email info@b4hpd.org.



GARDEN TIPS

Look at what is blooming in various pollinator gardens to help bees and other pollinators survive through fall: goldenrod, asters, zinnias, liatris, oregano, hydrangeas, autumn joy sedum, hardy plumbago, etc. They are worth considering for planting next year.

August is also a good time to start fall crops like; broccoli, lettuce, cauliflower, arugula and peas. They may need some protection from overly hot summer sun.

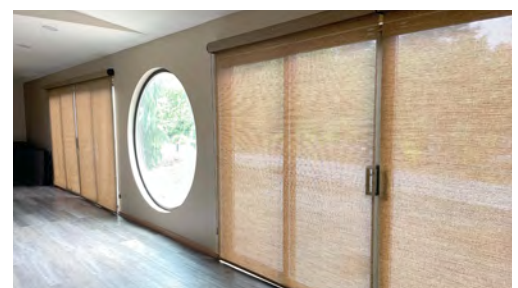
— Jim Buck, Garden Volunteer
and Organic Gardener

New Entrance Sign



Tsuru Island's interpretive sign has seen its better days. Next month it will be replaced with a new interpretive sign designed by Sue Hughes, GJG's graphic designer. This sign will depict the history of Tsuru Island, the formation of the Gresham Japanese Garden, and a historical time line starting in the early '1970s up to 2023.

Much Needed Blinds



With the window and doors installed, exposing the interior of the Kyoudou Center, was a nerve-racking time until our blinds arrived.

[Budget Blinds East Inc.](#) did a super job on all accounts—from customer service to installation, to cost.

Thank you Jodie and team.

A Maintenance Endowment

There are more than 300 non-profit organizations in North America with a Japanese garden. Most of these organizations need better funding for maintenance.

Some organizations have plenty of cash, but they tend to spend it on salaries, and misguided items. Regular maintenance seems boring, and thus gets little attention and little funding.

The Gresham Japanese Garden is NOT one of those organizations. First, we are solely run by volunteers, and our bylaws do not support paid staff. Secondly, we learned from the past mistakes of Tsuru Island such as, not having maintenance plan. And third, Jim Card's background as a landscape contractor was all about maintaining spaces.



Touchstone Paver walkway in Ebetsu Plaza.

In 2018 when Ebetsu Plaza was created, the Touchstone Paver program was established too. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the paver program is deposited into an account managed by Dino Rocha at Edward Jones. This endowment also allows a tax-deductible means for donors to contribute to the Garden.

When GJG no longer has a capable group of volunteers maintaining the spaces, this endowment will provide a steady stream of money for maintenance.

Additionally, this year our engraver retired and John Clark, owner of Stamp Connection is our new engraver. He offers a process that is even better than

we had before, *and* he's donating his services!

Currently the maintenance endowment stands at \$36,500.

Card's goal is \$100,000. Help us reach the goal. Engraved pavers are \$125 each. [Order a paver today.](#)



Upcoming Happenings

Mark your calendars! Thanks to the cultural grant from the City of Gresham, we're able to provide you with these events.

- August 5** **Hands-on Pruning Workshop, Onsite at Vanport International, 10am-4pm, \$100:**
<https://www.greshamjapanesegarden.org/calendar/winter-courses-pruning-workshop/>
- August 8** **Ikebana for Every Season, 1-2:30pm, \$45:**
<https://www.greshamjapanesegarden.org/calendar/ikebana-for-every-season-6/>
- August 17 / 19** **The Art of Bonsai, 1-3pm, \$35:** <https://www.greshamjapanesegarden.org/bonsai-workshops/>
- August 26** **Koi Expo, 10am-3pm, Free (see back cover for details)**
A family-friendly educational event for those new to the hobby, or are a Koi owner. A water quality presentation, designated children's area, origami stations and a chance to buy koi onsite!
- September 10** **'The Nature of Haiku' Workshop, In-person with Michael Dylan Welch, 2-4pm, \$15**
An exploration of haiku poetry with an emphasis on the seasonal and nature-focused aspects of this poetry, covering such techniques as kigo, kireji, and shasei. Includes a nature walk, writing exercises and a sharing and feedback session. Thanks to the City of Gresham Cultural Grant, we are able to offer this workshop for a reduced cost. <https://www.greshamjapanesegarden.org/series/haiku-workshop/>
- October 14-15** **Manga: A Brief History & Animation Workshop, 2-day workshop, \$45 total**
Brian Gonzales, a professional artist, will expose you to the rich cultural history of manga and engage you in the physical process of making a traditional cell-based animation. This workshop will be followed by an art contest. Limited to 45 students. Reserve your spot now:
<https://www.greshamjapanesegarden.org/calendar/manga-animation-workshop/>
- November 5** **Online Auction Begins, Open House and Ikebana with Nana Bellerud, 2-4pm**



Koi Expo

August 26th

10am-3pm

Main City Park



- Tailored to educate pond owners how to care for koi through healthy water, and sound pond maintenance
- Sue Kingston of K.O.I. presenting "What happens to a pond and koi when the unexpected happens."
- Meet koi keepers from throughout the Pacific Northwest ready to share their knowledge and experience.
- Children can learn how to identify koi by its Japanese name, and learn its meaning.

10:00am: 'What To Do If The Unexpected Happens' presentation

11:30am: 'Interactive Water Quality' presentation

Children of the Sun Koi

Koi for sale

Koi Appreciation and Identification

Childrens Center

Koi Fishing

Koi Matching Game

Koi Coloring Station

Origami Station

K.O.I. Informational Booth



Hosted by:

**The Gresham Japanese Garden and the Northwest Koi & Goldfish Club,
NWKG.org**