

# Tsuru 鶴 Soars

Friends of the Gresham Japanese Garden Newsletter



## Volunteers' Heart and Hands

It's always worthy to mention that the Gresham Japanese Garden is run solely by volunteers. We boast over 700 volunteer hours per month. Between working alongside each other every Saturday from 9am to noon, we have volunteers donating their time throughout the week to keep the organization, programs, and gardens thriving.

This year we brought back free seminars taught by our volunteers, and for the first time, an exhibition of Hina dolls, a Yozakura Cherry Blossom Festival this month (*see back*), and in May a plant sale. Community members who have

a passion to serve bring their hearts and hands to the Garden. As Jim Card, Garden Director says, "the Garden is the foundation to support one another. Our mission cannot progress without the assistance of the volunteers willing to work with us."

*Volunteer Orientation  
March 11, 6pm -7pm*

If you are interested in joining our "flock", join us on any Garden Saturday. We also ask new volunteers to attend an orientation meeting. Our next one is on March 11 from 6-7pm at the Kyoudou Center. RSVP to [volunteers@](mailto:volunteers@)

*dancing cranes  
and bare cherry trees  
goodbye winter*

— Bill Peterson



Meet Judy on Garden Saturdays. She welcomes you with her southern hospitality and spunk.

[greshamjapanesegarden.com](http://greshamjapanesegarden.com). We look forward to meeting you.

# New Lantern on Tsuru Island



**W**hen our photographer, Bill, is unhappy, volunteers react. Last year we cleaned out the

stream bed on Tsuru Island, causing the pond at the entrance to the garden to dry up. The element of water is an important feature of Japanese gardens.

In the summer, Bill carries out a hose and manually fills the pond. In the rainy winter, a valve controls the amount of water filling up the pond so the pond doesn't overflow onto the path.

Bill then had another concern. When a visitor walks over the bridge and sees the pond, there is nothing to keep ones eyes from dancing around. Solution: add a statement piece. Thanks to a few volunteers' donations, we were able to purchase a *kotoji* lantern now installed in

the pond.

We picked this style of lantern because a *kotoji* lantern is meant to gracefully span a small waterway, a dry creek bed, or other flowing element. Typically, one leg is placed on land and the other in water, reflecting the interdependence of land and water.

Its name *kotoji* means "harp tuner", for the two legs on which the body of the lantern stands. They resemble tuning forks of the Japanese musical instrument *koto*.

I know we make it sound like Bill is a grumpy old man, but he's not! He lived in Japan for many years and brings a wealth of knowledge, research and great photos. Thanks, Bill, for keeping us historically correct.

**Hina Doll Exhibit**  
March 3, 10am-4pm

**KATU Segment to Air**  
March 25

Thanks to the Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center, the Gresham Japanese Garden was chosen to be featured on KATU AM Northwest, March 25, 9-10am. Mark your calendar.

**Plant Sale, May 10-11**  
**TO ALL THE GARDENERS:**

If you're looking to get rid of a shrub or have a perennial that's gotten too big, we'll take it for our plant sale. Send an email to [sue@greshamjapanesegarden.com](mailto:sue@greshamjapanesegarden.com).

**"Dad's Lunch Box" Film**  
March 10, 2pm - \$5

The Portland Sapporo Sister City Association presents a delightful film from Japan called "Dad's Lunch Box" by Masakazu Fukatsu. <https://www.travelportland.com/event/4555542418957/>

## 俳句

### HAIKU CORNER

Winter stillness  
the sound  
of a branch breaking

- Margaret Saunders

冬庭や 月もいとなる むしの吟  
*fuyu niwa ya*  
*tsuki mo ito naru*  
*mushi no gin*

winter garden  
moon also is close  
insect singing

- Basho

## New Fence Installed



Out goes the black shade cloth and fencing in between the "barn" and the Kyoudou Center.

Thanks to volunteer extraordinaire, Chuck, and the City of Gresham GJG is unveiling a new façade to our parking and the Park's storage yard.

## Internship Opportunity



Meet Azahel. Azahel, has participated in GJG's Exploratory Program his entire time in the Adult Living Program (ALP), with Gresham-Barlow School District. He's one of the most open-hearted, inquisitive students we've taught.

Next month, Azahel along with four other graduate from ALP will enter a GJG internship program with Al's Garden & Home.

# 2024 Free Seminars

[REGISTER ON WEB SITE](#)

## **Spring Lawn Maintenance, Saturday, April 13th, 1-2:30pm**

**JIM CARD, GJG INSTRUCTOR:** Getting green, healthy grass is not easy without some TLC. This spring's lawn maintenance class will cover keeping your lawn healthy and green throughout the summer months in the northwest weather. It will also cover how to get moss out, what blend of fertilizer works best for lawns and how to apply, an overview of sprinkler systems, and how to water your lawn and your plants.

## **Creating Pollinator Habitat for your Garden and Home, Saturday, June 15th, 10:30-11:30am**

**DEB PETERS, GJG INSTRUCTOR AND JUDY ALLERUZZO, AL'S GARDEN & HOME INSTRUCTOR:** They will present a seminar full of information about pollinators such as bees, butterflies, moths, and hummingbirds, which are crucial for the reproduction of many plant species. This seminar will focus on native host plants for butterflies and how to create your own pollinator yard. Learn where and how to plant milkweed and other plants to attract monarch butterflies. Coupons to Al's Garden & Home will be distributed.



## **Fundamentals of Pruning, June 8th, 1-2:30pm**

**SUE PROTZ, GJG INSTRUCTOR:** Learn the four basic cuts of pruning and the subsequent reaction from these various pruning cuts. Learn also about tools and tool care. Take a tour of the Gresham Japanese Garden to understand the niwaki-style of pruning and how you can attempt it in your own setting.

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# Pruning Program

**Instructor bios are on website. [REGISTER ON WEBSITE](#)**

## **Spring Pruning Hands-on Workshop, Onsite at Vanport International, May 4th, 10am-4pm – \$100**

**FRANCESKA SNYDER, INSTRUCTOR:** Designed for the intermediate pruner looking to advance their knowledge through experiential learning. You will prune a variety of plants and trees dependent on the time of year. The workshop will be limited to 12 participants for an optimal experience. The location is a Japanese garden at Vanport Manufacturing in Boring, Oregon originally designed by Hoichi Kurisu.

## **Spring Maintenance on Pines: Saturday, May 18th, 12:00pm-2:00pm - \$45**

**LAURA DUFALA, INSTRUCTOR:** Learn all about the why's and how's of pruning and candling pines. Laura will candle, needle, and prune a few pines on Tsuru Island for show and tell. This workshop is in person. Bring your gloves. Laura may turn the class into a collaborative session.



## **Pruning Laceleaf Maples for Character: Saturday, June 22, 12:30pm-2:30pm - \$45**

**LINCOLN PROUD, INSTRUCTOR:** Many people care for maple trees on their property, especially laceleaf maples. The class will begin in the GJG Kyoudou Center with a short lecture on the basic botany and growth habits of laceleaf maples, then move to the Japanese garden to learn how pruning is done to various maples and how to apply these principles to your own trees.

## **Hands-on Pruning a Mature Laceleaf Maple, June 29th, 1pm-2:30pm - \$50**

For the intermediate pruner. You will have the opportunity to prune beside one of the best pruners in Oregon, Francheska Snyder. On the property of Bateman Carroll in Gresham, OR sits a overgrown, unattended mature laceleaf Acer palmatum. Limited to five students for an optimal pruning experience, you will prune with Francheska to transform this laceleaf back to a beautiful focal point on Powell Blvd. GJG recommends students to participate in the June 22nd laceleaf maple class.





# Yozakura Festival: March 27 - April 7



is called *hanami*, and in past years GJG has celebrated *hanami* with live entertainment by Oregon Koto Kai. Nighttime viewing of cherry blossoms is called *yozakura*. To celebrate this year's cultural event, the Gresham Japanese Garden is offering a Yozakura Cherry Blossom Festival. We thank the Regional Arts and Cultural Council (RACC) grant for installing the electrical infrastructure into Ebetsu Plaza and Ambleside Annex.

**Y**ou know the old saying, timing is everything! Peak cherry blossom blooming is relatively short, and timing peak viewing from year to year is always a moving target for GJG. Weather fluctuations play an important role.

The Gresham Japanese Garden is committed in providing engaging opportunities for the community to enjoy Japanese cultural experiences. Cherry blossom viewing in the daytime and nighttime is a big event in Japan.

The Gresham Japanese Garden has 13 mature Akebono cherry trees in Ebetsu Plaza and adjacent Ambleside Annex. These trees *usually* bloom the end of March into the first week of April.

In the daytime, cherry blossom viewing

We have two special nights planned to enjoy this ethereal cultural event. Starting March 27th, the tree lights will come on at 7pm and stay on until midnight. Bring a blanket or chair on Saturday, March 30th and Saturday, April 6th, when Oregon Koto Kai entertains you under these delicate blossoms while you sip a cup of tea and enjoy a sakura sweet provided by GJG.

*Oregon Koto Kai  
will entertain you under  
the delicate cherry blossoms.*



## OREGON KOTO KAI SCHEDULE

### March 30th

1st set: 7:45pm - 8:10pm  
Break: 8:10pm - 8:30pm  
2nd set: 8:30pm - 8:55pm

### April 6th

1st set: 8 pm - 8:25pm  
Break: 8:25pm - 8:35pm  
2nd set: 8:35pm - 9:00pm

## SOUNDGUY PRODUCTIONS

Providing the sound for this event.

