



The Kruckeberg Botanic Garden at Richmond Beach is dedicated to fostering and providing educational, cultural and aesthetic enrichment for all who visit: gardeners, amateur and professional horticulturalists, and young students of the plant world — in all, people of all walks of life.

“In the end we will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand, we will understand what we are taught.”

-- Baba Dioum Fenegal

Questions, ideas, suggestions?
Please contact KBGF at
(206) 542-4777
20312 15th Ave. NW · Shoreline, WA 98177
www.ctr.net/~kbgf

Newsletter produced by Susan Will

Art by Mareen Kruckeberg: *Cyclamen coum*
from the Caucasus Mountains blooms mid-winter
regardless of weather.

Message from the President

Now that two years have passed since incorporation of the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Foundation, it's worth reviewing what we're doing, why and what challenges remain. The mission of the organization is to preserve Art and Mareen Kruckeberg's plant collection in trust as a garden and open space for future generations. In order to protect the property from development as residential real estate, we will seek a "conservation easement," a legal arrangement under which the property in question is to be preserved in perpetuity.

Under the conservation easement we envision, the Kruckeberts would sell the property to KBGF, and the Foundation would become the custodian. A third party, perhaps The E.B. Dunn Historic Garden Trust or The Garden Conservancy, would serve as a guarantor to ensure the custodian complies with the terms of the easement. One element of any such agreement is the selling price, and that is normally driven by an appraisal of property value. The Kruckeberts are waiting for the appraisal which will consider the value of the plant collection. This, combined with the conservation easement, will establish a target price for purchase of the garden.

We expect the appraisal to be completed by the end of the year. Then we'll negotiate the terms of the conservation easement with the Kruckeberts. When we reach consensus on a draft easement, we'll be ready to launch a major campaign to raise the funds needed to purchase the property. In the meantime, we want to continue building our membership base by communicating the importance and the diversity of the garden to a wider public. The more enthusiastic members we have, the more credible will be our applications for major grants. Last but not least, we hope more members means more volunteers. We need lots more volunteers who enjoy getting their hands dirty, because maintenance of the Garden is quite a task! *-Michael Broili*

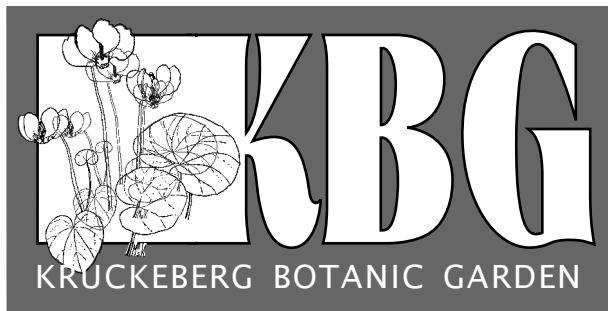
General Membership meeting

At the general membership meeting June 22, the following members were elected to fill three vacant seats on the Board of Directors: Al Brookes, Randall Hitchin, and Matt Loper. (Biographical information on these three is posted on our web site, www.ctr.net/~kbgf). Art Kruckeberg talked and showed slides about his experiences in Japan and how his interest in Japanese flora has been expressed in the Garden. We were surprised that only a few members attended the meeting. We're interested in feedback that would help us understand why you weren't there; feel free to call a Board member, leave a message at 206-542-4777, or email us at kbgf@ctr.net. The next general meeting is planned for January and we hope to see you then.

The Board normally meets at the Garden at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Members are welcome to attend. At this month's meeting on July 6, the Board elected officers for the next 12 months. Michael Broili, Kathie Morino and Bonnie Storm were re-elected as President, Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Al Brookes was elected as Vice President.

Membership Renewal

Many memberships expired at the end of June. Look at the mailing label (lower right) of this newsletter for the expiration date of your membership. Please send renewal donations to Kathie Morino, 958 Walnut, Edmonds 98020. Your donation is tax-deductible.



Garden Tours

The City of Shoreline will offer a tour of the Garden in its Fall 2000 Shoreline Parks & Recreation Guide. The tour will be on Saturday, Oct. 7. Contact the Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 206-546-5041 to sign up. The fee is \$20 per person (of which the City forwards \$15 to KBGF).

Tours may be scheduled directly by calling Mareen Kruckeberg at 206-546-1281. These tours normally are offered for groups of 6 to 15 persons by appointment. The fee is \$15 per person (fee waived for students). Tours normally start at 10 a.m. and last about two hours. Parking is limited, and carpooling is recommended whenever possible.

Monthly Work Parties

Throughout the spring and summer we have been holding work parties on the third Sunday of each month. We want to acknowledge the efforts of those who gave of their time and talent at the April, May and June events. We cleverly scheduled the June affair to conflict with Father's Day (lesson learned), but a lot was accomplished in April and May. We want to thank those who made the time to help: Gretchen Brookes, Delores Chamberlain, Sandy Cook, Cindy Harry, Frankye Jones, Wendy Kay, Enid Kruckeberg, Art and Mareen Kruckeberg, Helen McCall, Mary Meyer, Kathie Morino, Rich Shrader, Bonnie Storm, Margery Ziff, Steve Havas, Dinah Coops and Tess Havas. If we missed your name, we apologize and are no less grateful.

Please consider giving a few hours of your time. The work starts about noon each third Sunday, but come whenever you can. Drop-in help is welcome, of course, but if possible please let Bonnie Storm (206-352-7088) or Frankye Jones (206-546-5325) know you're planning to come. The dates for the remainder of the season are Aug. 20 and Sept. 17. We're doing this because we want the Garden to look its best, and maintaining such a large area is a huge task. The weeds are gaining on us, and we very much need your help. We'll even have refreshments! In addition to weeding, volunteers can help with pruning, raking, transplanting and overall cleanup. Wouldn't it be great if every member could donate an afternoon's effort, say, twice a year?

For those with more time to give, hands-on help in the Garden is needed throughout the year, weekdays and weekends. We'd also welcome your help with administrative work such as newsletter coordination, computer database management, publicity, grant applications and membership growth. If you'd like your name added to the volunteer list, please contact Frankye, our coordinator of volunteers (brockfrankye@earthlink.net).

Send Us Your Email Address

Of the 140 or so KBGF members, we have email addresses for about 60 people. Email is a quick and inexpensive way for us to inform you of happenings of interest. If you think we may not have your email address, please send a message to kgbf@ctr.net. We invite friends of KBGF (nonmembers) to do the same; we have about 150 of you on our mailing list. All such personal information is kept strictly private.

KBGF T-shirts for Sale

Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Foundation T-shirts are now available for \$15. The shirts are dark green with the cream-colored KBGF logo and come in a variety of sizes. Shirts are available for purchase at the Garden or call (206) 542-4777 to order one.

KBGF Board
Michael Broili, president
Al Brookes, vice president
Kathie Morino, treasurer
Bonnie Storm, secretary
Robert Ferguson
Randall Hitchin
Wendy Kay
Matt Loper

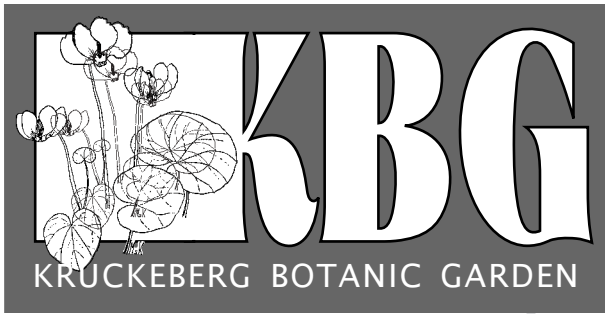
Ex officio members
Art and Mareen Kruckeberg

Mark Your Calendar

July 15	Shoreline-sponsored tour
July 16	Work Party at the Garden
August 19	KBGF Booth at Celebrate Shoreline
August 20	Work Party at the Garden
September 17	Work Party at the Garden
October 7	Shoreline-sponsored tour

Call 206-546-1281
for tour reservations

Please pass this newsletter
on to a friend!



KBGF Wish List

Besides cash donations, KBGF welcomes donations of needed items. Our wish list currently includes:

- A computer more capable than a 486 or Macintosh Performa
- A Mac-compatible external hard drive (sealed or removable cartridge)

The Japanese Influence in the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden

by A. R. and Mareen S. Kruckeberg

The stamp of Japan on our Northwest region is ever-present. The cultural uniqueness of Japanese origin display themselves in many ways here in the coastal Northwest. People of Japanese descent are prominent in our region. Witness the significant population component of Japanese ancestry in our major cities. Unforgettable is the tragic expulsion of these Japanese during World War II. Closer to our garden theme is the presence of unique Japanese-style gardens in Seattle, Portland and Vancouver, B.C.

For gardeners, less obvious is the marked Japanese flavor dominating our gardens. Many trees, shrubs and herbs we so highly prize came originally from the native flora of Japan.

Further, there is the biogeographic connection. Long known to botanists is the close affinity of our two floras — Japan and North America. Long ago, Harvard's Asa Gray, the father of American botany, saw the close connection between the Japanese archipelago and North America. Conifers, maples, oaks and many shrubs and herbs have paired types in both areas.

Given the comparable climates of central and northern Japan to our benign maritime climate, plants from Japan thrive here.

The Kruckeberg Botanic Garden has a rich Japanese flavor. For cone-bearing plants, we have delighted in growing hemlocks, pines, firs and spruces from Japan. Notable among these are the Japanese counterpart of our Douglas fir, the Japanese *Pseudotsuga wilsoniana*. The elegant hemlock *Tsuga sieboldii*, thrives with us, as does the alpine pine, *Pinus pumila*. Uniquely Japanese are the Japanese umbrella pine (*Sciadopitys verticillata*) and the *iTsugii* (*Cryptomeria japonica*), also in our collection.

Among the broad-leaved trees, we cherish the Katsura (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*) and the striking Japanese dogwood (*Cornus kousa*). Japanese oaks get high praise too: both evergreens (*Quercus myrsinifolia*, *Q. glauca* and *Q. phillyreoides*) and the deciduous types, *Q. acutissima* and *Q. mongolica grosseserrata*. A favorite in our garden and growing in local popularity is the striking "Keaki" (*Zelkova serrata*), now replacing elms with surpassing grace. A glory in mid-spring is the Japanese magnolia (*Magnolia kobus*), festooned with thousands of white-petalled flowers. High on our list of Japanese favorites is the charming alder, *Alnus sieboldii* and the elegant wheel-tree, *Trochodendron aralioides*.

Shrubs galore of Japanese origin grace our garden. Easily the most common shrub in Puget Sound country is the white-flowered lily-of-the-valley bush, *Pieris japonica*. We grow the pink-flowered form. Several of the Garden's rhododendrons are native to Japan. The butterfly azalea (*Rhododendron schlippenbachii*), the tidy low iyakusi (*R. yakushimanum*) and



Japanese flowering dogwood (*Cornus kousa*) is a medium-sized deciduous tree with a generous display of dogwood blossoms, dancing ballerina-fashion atop each twig. It flowers in early summer, long after other flowering dogwoods and is resistant to dogwood anthracnose disease.



Japanese snowbell tree (*Styrax japonica*) is a small deciduous tree with elegant branching in winter and copious small, white, bell-shaped, pendant flowers in mid-June.

Continued on the next page



membership

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

email _____

Membership Categories

_____ \$1,000 Oak (Benefactor)

_____ \$500 Douglas Fir (Patron)

_____ \$250 Red Cedar (Sustaining)

_____ \$100 Dogwood (Club)

_____ \$50 Dawn Redwood (Contributing)

_____ \$35 Madrone (Regular)

_____ \$25 Vine Maple (Student/Senior)

Please make tx-deductible checks payable to
KBGF and mail to
Kathie Morino
958 Walnut
Edmonds, WA 98020

Please let us know how you heard about the
Garden:

that distinctive narrow-leafed, *R. makinoi*.

Herbaceous perennials, both ferns and flowering plants of Japanese origin take pride of place in the garden. Three of our favorite Japanese ferns are *Dryopteris wallichiana*, *D. erythrocarpa* and *Arachnoides standishii*. Of the flowering plants we love, the big, bold *Kirengeshoma palmata* with its creamy yellow, large bell flowers; *eKirengeshomai* is its Japanese common name! It never fails to amaze the visitor, especially to find that it is a member of the saxifrage family. Of the several Japanese primroses we grow, there are the outstanding *Primula polyneura* and *P. kisoana*. A Japanese botanist introduced us to the fine species and hybrids of *Epimedium* native in his homeland, and kin to our own inside-out flowers, *Vancouveria*.

The intermixing of exotics with natives in the coastal Northwest is never more pleasing than with Japanese shrubs and herbs in the understory of our own native trees like Douglas fir, western hemlock and western red cedar. Their similar native habitats make them highly compatible.

Not all Japanese species have close counterparts now in our region. But in earlier geologic times, they were here! The rich fossil beds at Republic, Washington, abound with specimens of the Katsura (*Cercidiphyllum*), the wheel tree (*Trochodendron*) and many others not now in the Northwest. Indeed the botanical links between Japan and North America are impres-



Winter hazel (*Corylopsis spicata*) is tall deciduous shrub with copious cream-yellow flowers in pendant clusters in early spring before the leaves, and fine foliage patterns during the growing season.

KRUCKEBERG BOTANIC GARDEN FOUNDATION
20312 15th Ave. NW
Shoreline, WA 98177

