

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

SOOS CREEK BOTANICAL GARDEN *and* HERITAGE CENTER

FALL 2022



Look What Flew in...new Artwork Has landed!

Thanks to a generous donation by the contemporary metal artist, Jesse Swickard, the Garden is now home to a seven-foot-tall sculpture. Is it a bird, perhaps a dragon or a dinosaur? You decide!

Jesse utilized various pieces of old farm implements, garden and logging tools plus scrap steel in the construction. Now covered in a gentle forest patina, the art piece is right at home at SCBG, tying in perfectly with the Garden's historic farming background. When you visit, see if you can find the various implements used such as a plow bottom, seeder foot, brush hog, logging peavey hook and more.

Jesse is well-known in the municipal art world for his many pieces of large-scale steel sculptures displayed throughout the Pacific NW and as far afield as Europe. As an avid outdoorsman, his work is nature based and reflects his love and respect for the environment. To see more of his work, visit Sherwood, Lake Oswego, Wilsonville, Tigard, Hood

River, Redmond, Oregon, Longview, Wenatchee, Washington or Bozeman, Montana. His work has also been displayed along the Interurban trail in Shoreline.

Next year Jesse will be constructing a 35-foot-tall sculpture for the Brundage Ski Resort in Idaho. He will repurpose pieces of a decommissioned ski lift including two ski towers, steel haul rope, and topped by a stainless-steel bird taking flight. The base will be surrounded by a propane fire and water feature.

No need to travel far and wide to see Jesse's work, come visit SCBG and see if you can find where we placed this new piece of art. (Hint: look towards the north of the pond down one of the paths.)

Katie Swickard, SCBG Board Chair

The Inside Scoop

When you really want to know the behind-the-scenes story, who do you ask? Why those directly involved, of course.

Our Garden volunteers tell it like it is:

"I just recently started volunteering and I like it because it's a "breath of fresh air" for me:) For me, volunteering at the Garden is another way to de-stress and it's not hard to come back and help because everyone I've met so far is very welcoming — a great community!"

~ Lou Fladseth

"I count it a privilege to work at SCBG. Walking in the garden never fails to brighten my spirits. I am amazed at the beauty that has been achieved by one man and a handful of volunteers. As a docent, I take pride in being able to share the wealth of unusual plants and beauty with the guests who visit the gardens.

~ Robbi Broussard

"Volunteering in this beautiful garden allows us to be close to nature. What with all the plants, birds, and wildlife what more can a person ask for? I have loved gardening since a child, now that I am approaching the golden years, the love has only intensified."

~ Donna Vincent

"I've thoroughly enjoyed my time volunteering at SCBG this year. I've learned so much and been inspired to add new plants to my garden, as well as having a much better understanding of pruning and weed control."

~ Stacey Weichbrodt

"I volunteer at Soos Creek Botanical Garden because I like to garden and be among those that like the same thing, "gardening." I want to learn all that I can from others who garden. I love working with my hands and help where needed which makes me feel respected. When my garden club (O'Brien) held a meeting in the Pavilion and they were asking for volunteers, well I jumped at the chance. So here I am!"

~ Valerie Cansler

"Lots of reasons I volunteer! SCBG is such a beautiful, friendly place to be. It feels good knowing I have a small part in that."

~ Pam Kelly

SCBG displays a rich and diverse plant assemblage, all combined into a stunningly rich tapestry. It's rather the same with our volunteer group. Our volunteers each bring unique skills and abilities as well as different perspectives to their time at the Garden, weaving together a rich tapestry



Volunteers Barbara Nagel, Katie Swickard, and Linda Hallberg...having too much fun at the volunteer picnic.

of community.

During the growing season (March-October) we have volunteer opportunities for you to come meet fellow gardeners, learn, or share some new gardening skills, or help with various office and clerical tasks.

Climate Change *Susan Miller, FCN*

Four years ago, Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Association, aka SVPA, invited Dr. Chrystal Raymond, a UW climate scientist, to speak on the Impact of Climate Change on the Snoqualmie River to farmers gathered at the SnoValley Senior Center in Carnation. Dr. Raymond said that, "climate change effects for Puget Sound will make the wet season wetter and the summers hotter and drier." Put another way, during winter and early spring season Puget Sound will receive heavier rains in the winter and experience less and less snowpack melt-off later in the spring and increasingly drier and hotter summers.

In the Puget Sound region, temperatures at three seasons (except Spring) are measuring higher than the same years in the 20th century. And temps have been accelerating since 1980. Even nighttime air temps have increased by 1.8° in the last 40 years. We know summer season temperatures have increased a lot! August days, particularly, are warming markedly. If we baseline August in 1945, EIGHT August days reached 80°; in August 2010, THIRTEEN August days reached 80°; and in August 2022, EIGHTEEN August days reached 80°. Imagine if you were a strawberry bush: you would sense this earlier temperature rise and would struggle to adapt. It's no wonder that your plants have wilted, browned or died. Or looked for their pollinators only to find they just weren't ready to pollinate. Adjust, adjust.

I repeated this data to a customer at the Master Gardener

(Climate Change continued on page 5)



Jess is the first girl to complete an Eagle project at the Garden.

Eagle Scout Project

Jess C. (aka Jessica) is shown taking a well-deserved break from completing her Eagle project at the Garden. Jess is the first girl to have completed an Eagle project at the Garden.

On Sunday, August 14th, Jess and her troop, along with several parents worked together on this raised veggie bed. Previously, the bed had been put in quickly and was surrounded by cement building blocks. Jess had to disassemble that bed, lay down a barrier cloth to keep out critters, build the new wooden frame, replace the soil, and lay the pipes for watering the bed.

Nancy Purcell, the Master Gardener in charge of the Veggie Demo Garden kept a watchful eye while the project was underway. The high bed makes it easier to plant, harvest and weed. All the produce grown in the Vegetable Demonstration Garden goes to the Auburn Food Bank. The Garden volunteers hope that more young women will contact Soos Creek Botanical Garden to follow in Jess's footsteps.

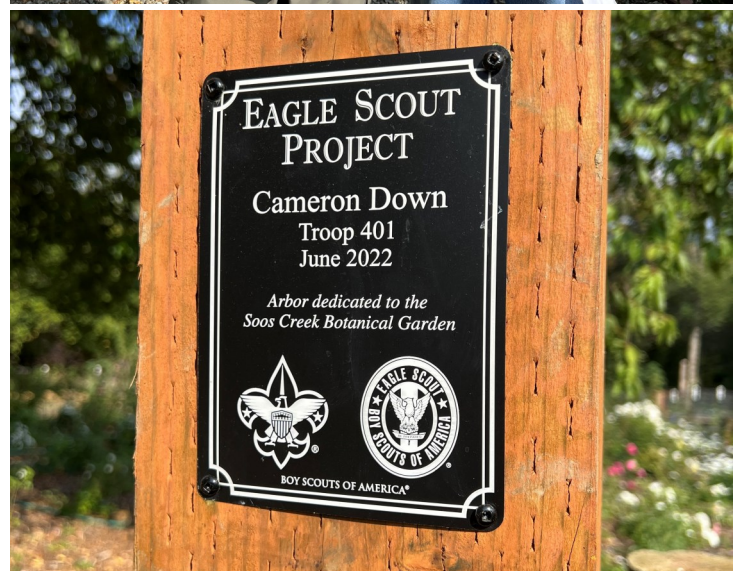
Aracelli Scout -

Araceli R-J is a high school sophomore and a Life Scout in Troop 8401 of Auburn, WA. She has been the Senior Patrol Leader of our troop, a Patrol Leader and currently is the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Araceli has also helped with multiple Eagle Projects, some were at Soos Creek Botanical Garden.

Araceli met with Mrs. Barbara Nagel and Mr. James Daly a few weeks ago to discuss ideas for her Eagle project. She decided that she will build a hand-washing station near the porta-potty. The hand-washing station will be rustic, in line with the garden's theme. I know that Araceli's Eagle Project will be a wonderful addition, and necessary for visitors as well as the volunteers, to be able to wash their hands.

Troop 8401 is the girl's unit and part of Troop 401, the longest running troop in the state. We will be 100 years young in 2023. Our troops have a long history of service in the Auburn community. We recently parked cars for the garden at the Auburn Chamber Orchestra Event. We hope to continue providing our service to the garden.

Nancy Peterson, Scoutmaster, Troop 8401



Eagle Scout Cameron Down and Garden Director, Jim Daly stand for a photo under Cameron's newly created arch that leads to the Rosarian Walk. Another Eagle Scout, Cameron Daniels, and his troop built an identical arch at the exit of the Rosarian Walk, completed July 2022.

**Thank You
Veggie Crew...
another wonderful season
of growing produce and
flowers for the Auburn
Food Bank!**



(*Climate Change* continued from page 2)

Clinic in Redmond 3 times in response to his Q: “what shall I do with my dying-in-the-middle, large conifer plants in his Mukilteo water-side garden?” I suggested he move his heavily potted conifers, withered by sun, off his west-facing deck to a more shaded area. When I said next summer could be as hot or hotter than this summer, he scoffed that Mother Nature couldn’t be altered by human behavior. More accurately, Mother Nature isn’t going to move those pots into the shade!

Here’s a helpful tip on an upcoming Native Bare Root Plant Sale in **November** from the King Conservation District (KCD) in November. KCD www.kingcd.org in **October** will have their Native Plant List Spreadsheet with these data: water needs, sun needs, bloom times, and pollinator appeal. Download the KCD Bare Root Planting Fact Sheet with tips, books, and native plant nurseries.

KCD also provides a FIREWISE property assessment at no customer cost to King County residents by Mike Lesekki, Sr. Resource Specialist with Forest Stewardship, at 425-529-4812. Call for an appt. Mike’s predecessor came to my property between Redmond and Fall City, joined by the Fall City Fire Chief Culp who wanted to listen and ask questions. Firewise plant lists from OSU and WSU can be found online.

A Look Back at 2022 in the Garden

Barbara Nagel

This was a busy year at Soos Creek Botanical Garden. Many of you good friends of the Garden participated in the fun! Here’s a quick summary of the Garden happenings. Spring and Fall Plant Sales, as well as Saturday sales; 8 Docent Tours; 12 Weddings/Receptions; 12 Showers, both wedding and baby; and 4 Memorials. 1 Graduation Party; 3 Family Reunions; 3 Casual Use Rentals by Garden Clubs and Nonprofit’s; 6 Pavilion Programs; 2 Children’s Tours; 2 King County Library System (KCLS) Tree Programs; and 4 Eagle Scout Projects. But that’s not all; there were 5 large events: Heritage Rose Display; Women’s History Program with luncheon; Jazz in the Garden; Shakespeare in the Garden, and the Auburn Chamber Orchestra performed, and last but not least our annual SCBG Volunteer Picnic!

Garden Closes Saturday November 12, 2022.

Opens Wednesday March 8, 2023.

COLOR IN THE GARDEN

October — Sumac, Hydrangea, Persimmon, Euonymus, Beautyberry, Fuchsia, plus early coloring leaves

November — Blooms: Camellia, Fuchsia, Mahonia

Leaf color: Japanese maple, Ginkgo, Parrotia, Dogwood, Persimmon, and Azalea



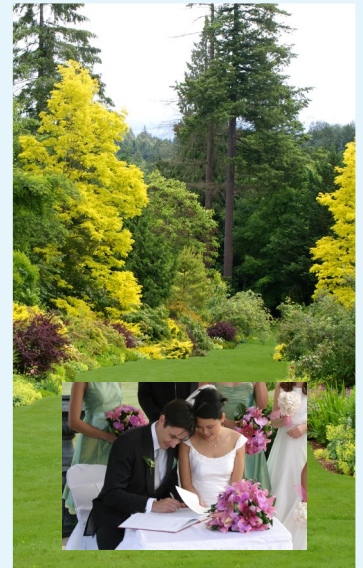
More monthly color on our Facebook page.

Schedule your Event or Ceremony at the Garden



- Weddings —
- Meetings / Classes —
- Fundraisers —
- Memorials —
- Family Reunions —

The event pavilion was completed in April, 2020. We are now taking reservations for 2023 celebrations.



Email us at: info@sooscreekbotanicalgarden.org

GARDEN CLIPPINGS is a publication of the Soos Creek Botanical Garden and Heritage Center

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