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SPRING 2015

A PUBLICATION  
OF THE HARDY  
PLANT SOCIETY  
OF OREGON

front cover photos: Iris 'Coronation Anthem' in David Palmer's garden  
(See 'Why I Garden,' page 16)

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*Cultivate pollinators...*

# Hortlandia

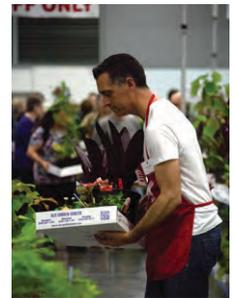
THE HARDY PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON'S  
PLANT & GARDEN ART SALE



*Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make Hortlandia 2015 a success!*

The photos here are just a sampling. One key figure is missing—Bruce Wakefield, who chairs the Hortlandia committee, and works months ahead of time to ensure the event is a success.

HPSO volunteers always work hard and have a good time. If you haven't joined in before, there will be lots of opportunities in the months and years ahead. Be an active part of HPSO!



# Blooming Junction: *A Gardener's Paradise*

by Amy Campion <http://amycampion.com>

**"Blooming JUNCTION 16 Season GARDEN & HOMESTEAD,"** the sign says, beckoning you in from Zion Church Road. "It's pretty all-encompassing, I know," says Grace Dinsdale, the owner of this charming new garden center in Cornelius, "but I have big plans for this place. I want it to become a year-round destination." In June it will be the destination for HPSO Study Weekend Soirée participants. (see the inside back cover for more information about Study Weekend)

I visited Blooming Junction in March, expecting to find a modest sampling of plants from Dinsdale's Blooming Nursery, a large, well-known wholesale operation that ships its Blooming Advantage™ perennials in their burgundy pots to independent garden centers (no box stores!) throughout the Northwest. What I found instead was a gardener's paradise, and as Dinsdale explained while giving me a tour, it's only the beginning.

Despite a mild winter and a long run of glorious sunny days, it was still early in the season, and workers had only begun to stock Blooming Junction's 80-plus display tables. However, the first shipments offered something for everyone: colorful agaves, hellebores, euphorbias,



bleeding hearts, coral bells, sedges, sedums, and wallflowers whispered, "Amy, take me home." (You can check current availability at <http://www.bloomingjunction.com/wp/garden-store-availability/>.) Blooming Nursery claims to grow over 2,200 varieties of perennials, annuals, shrubs, roses, fruit trees, and grasses, though the true figure is actually higher.

"It's an oxymoron," Dinsdale said, "but we specialize in diversity. I don't even know how many varieties we grow, but it's a lot."

Another Blooming Advantage specialty is plants that thrive on little or no summer water, like *Ceanothus*, *Cistus*, *Helianthemum*, *Dorycnium*, lavender, and rosemary. "In my own landscape," she said, "I prefer to plant in fall, because I like to be able to say that I never water my plants at all."



photos by Amy Campion

Dinsdale stopped to point out *Convolvulus mauritanicus*, a drought-tolerant morning glory relative that sports lavender-blue flowers in spring and summer. "This is a great plant. It's a selection of ours that's shrubbier and less spreading than usual," she told me. "We haven't named it." Circling back to an earlier question—"Have you introduced any new plants?"—she replied no, adding, "The whole plant patent thing is contrary to my philosophy. When we grow patented plants, I play the game, but I don't like it. Plants ought to be shared."

As she talked, Dinsdale groomed the plants, plucking a dead leaf or a spent flower here and there from her otherwise impeccable (and neonicotinoid-free) specimens. She probably wasn't even aware she was doing it, so engrained is her work ethic. Dinsdale learned about hard work doing chores on her family's dairy farm in Blooming, Oregon, with her 10 siblings. Yes, 10! "My poor mother," she sighed. "I don't know how she did it."

As the second-youngest of 11 kids, Dinsdale had a tough childhood, an experience she described as "challenging, competitive, and humbling." However, when the time came to sell the farm, she realized how strong her emotional ties were to her home. Hating the thought of losing it, at 23 she singlehandedly set out to save the family farm the only way she knew how—she worked.

Dinsdale has loved plants "since birth." "I would rescue houseplants my mom had thrown out and nurse them back to health," she told me.

Dinsdale devised a plan to turn the dairy into a nursery and use her earnings to buy out her mother's and her siblings' shares in the homestead. But what to grow? "I knew I wanted it to



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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

Dear Readers,

Welcome to our Spring 2015 issue of the HPSO Quarterly. What a dramatically early spring it has been! The earth in the garden is simply erupting with delicate, life-affirming beauty; and at our Dundee Hills vineyard we've had the earliest pinot noir "bud break" on record. I know you must be thrilled and a little frightened by all the growth in your own spring gardens.

With this issue, we bring you more of what we plan for future issues: a focus on you and our members. Whether it's the study groups who plan and enjoy excursions together, the local nursery experts who help us fulfill our gardening visions, or members who share their own stories—see those by Doug Barragar and David Palmer in this issue—we are concentrating our editorial efforts to connect you with the remarkable community of gardeners in HPSO. And if you haven't already done so, please register for this year's Study Weekend in June. "Planet Garden" will connect you to fellow members and other passionate gardeners in ways that fill your eyes with wonder and will foster long-lasting friendships.

Those of you who are print subscribers may have noticed our last two issues were printed in full color. Did you see those gorgeous hellebores in our Winter issue? After a positive response from readers, and at the urging of the Quarterly team, the HPSO Board approved ongoing full-color printing for this publication. In this way, we can write about beautiful gardens and plants and accurately illustrate them too. This will require increasing the annual subscription rate from \$7 to \$10 per year at the time you renew your HPSO membership, beginning in June of this year. The online, full-color digital version continues to be free. We predict that using color in the print version will add considerably to your reading pleasure. Those of you who do not get the printed magazine may want to give it a try!

Happy gardening,

Annette Christensen  
Editor



be a nursery," she recalled, "but I didn't know what I wanted to grow. All I knew was that I didn't want to grow conifers!" Some advice from a bedding-plant grower turned out to be golden: "Grow perennials," he said.

Dinsdale's business grew steadily in the 1980s and '90s, fueled by a surge in interest in hardy perennials. Customers caught perennial fever, and soon tiring of the limited selection available to them, demanded more variety. Dinsdale has been happy to satisfy that demand ever since. She scours mail-order lists for undiscovered gems; besides seeing the sights, she spends her vacations searching for novel plants. The nursery has become a living scrapbook of her travels.

Dinsdale trials new finds for at least a few years to determine if they're truly garden worthy. Unlike some growers, she doesn't grow a plant just because it looks good in a pot—it must perform well in the garden. To that end, she also believes in growing plants "slow and cool." "It takes longer to produce a plant that way," she explained, "but there's no shock when it leaves the greenhouse and goes into the landscape. It keeps right on growing." Dinsdale is passionate about growing the right plants the right way because she wants her customers to succeed. "I want them to have *outrageous success*," she said



emphatically. "I want them to get hooked on gardening. I want them to not be able to get enough of it!"

Dinsdale closed her first retail shop over 20 years ago to concentrate on the wholesale nursery. She missed interacting with retail customers, though, and for 15 years she searched for a site on which to build a new garden center. When she finally saw this old farm in Cornelius a few years ago, she knew she'd found the place. "It grabbed me right away," she said.

That rundown farm is now in the process of becoming a bustling "homestead." The buildings have been rehabbed and repurposed. Grace is growing produce (organic but not certified) to sell on-site, including strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, marionberries, apples, and cherries. She'll have a pumpkin patch and a corn maze in the fall and Christmas trees in the winter. A feed store is in the works. Display gardens will showcase plants adapted to our dry-summer climate. Gardening and cooking classes will take place in the shade of the granary-turned-office (below).

But the main attraction, of course, will always be the plants—row after row of those big, beautiful, healthy Blooming Advantage plants calling out your name. At the end of my visit, I looked down at the *xHalimocistus*, the *Helianthemum*, the *Convolvulus cneorum*, the *Sedum dasyphyllum*, and the purpleleaf sage in my cart and smiled. "Okay," I said, "let's go home."



# LOVE YOUR BUGS

by Lori Vollmer, owner of Garden Fever!



I spent some time looking through my 9,000,000 pictures of our garden, intent on finding some good shots of bugs

to use in this article. All I could find was a bunch of bees and other flying insects like butterflies, moths, and unidentifiable small things with wings. There were a few fabulous-looking spiders. Also one giant slug, probably a native.



*European red slug (probably)*

This must be because I'm intent on taking pictures of beautiful plants and don't focus on the ones with bugs. Maybe.

So I marched out to our nursery at Garden Fever, intent on finding something to add to the photographs for this article and gosh darn it, I couldn't find anything. Not one bug. I couldn't even find the aphids I knew were hiding somewhere.

What I learned from all of this is that the notion of bad bugs in the garden is probably not true. It's probably a giant marketing scheme—a giant conspiracy started by the plant-care-product companies (of which I will name none). The notion of bad bugs is only true in the context of "a swarm of locusts descended into the corn field and the crop was lost."

Only a few of us HPSO members have actual cornfields. Most of us have gardens

that are diverse in plant material. Our craving to have as many plants as possible is actually nature's way of making sure there is lots to eat, sleep on, and "wiggle" on, keeping the insects happy and healthy and busy taking care of the ecosystem we call our gardens.

Yes, it's nature's survival instinct working in our brains to buy more and more plants. As dutiful HPSO members, we try

*Lilium 'Scheherazade'*



*Black and yellow garden spider (Argiope aurantia).*



*Eucomis bicolor with bumblebee*

to plant our special plant-sale goodies in the place we think they will thrive the best—the best light, the best soil type, the best moisture levels, the best nutritional support. Unless we can mimic a plant's homeland, our bugs' homeland security and their friends—mold, mildew, and fungus—will swoop in and deport our special plant-find to the compost heap. Oh well, it was fun trying!

It is true, however, that one of my big, beautiful lacinato kale plants was totally covered (a slight exaggeration) in aphids this summer. I say "was" because I left it and the rest of the totally not-covered kale in the bed; kept the plants watered with a drip tape watering system, and lo and behold, I looked at the aphid-strewn kale the other day and there were no aphids on it. Actually, there were no live aphids, only aphid skeletons. The only thing I can imagine is that some unidentified insect with wings swooped in and laid eggs on all the little aphids. That sounds kind of sad, but actually what happened next was a happy ending—parasitic wasp eggs hatched on the aphids, and the larvae fed on the sacrificial aphids until there was nothing left of the aphids, and the larvae developed into beautiful parasitic wasps, and the kale lived happily ever after.

OK, enough of this silly talk—I just wanted to get you to understand that bugs are not bad. Love bugs!

Why? Because they are a part of the ecosystem that keeps us happy and healthy and well fed. I really am going to get serious now. Are you ready?

I think every person reading this article has heard this information already in some shape or form. There is much scientific evidence that we need healthy insect communities in order for our human community to sustain itself. Here are ways that

*Helenium 'Sahin's Early Flowerer' with frog and honeybee*



you can support insects, especially pollinating insects in your garden and with your gardening habits.

## Habitat for Pollinators

Create a pollinator habitat in your backyard, front yard, side yard, patio containers, or wherever you have a piece of dirt.

"Habitat" means using and grouping plants that feed insects and caterpillars of all kinds, providing plant material and a place to build nests. Speaking of nests, the more bugs you have, the more birds you have.

Grouping individual genera and species of plants in clusters is preferable to a one here, another there design. Think of it as an insect all-you-can eat buffet. If you only have one serving of potatoes on a plate, it's not very enticing and it doesn't feed very many people. But the image of a big bowl of potatoes not only draws you to it, but also feeds the whole family. And in terms of insects, they benefit from only traveling short distances in locating today's meal.

It's also important to provide a diversity of plants. A good habitat contains a mix of plants that flower throughout the year, are different colors, and different heights and shapes. This is great for the insects and the gardener because neither is restricted to just a few types of plants. A variety of plants will attract a variety of insects. Consider planting leafy shrubs that support caterpillars. Willows are number one on most butterfly and moth habitat plant lists. Yes, they will eat the leaves and you may or may not notice. If you only want perfect-looking plants, you must not want butterflies.

Native plants for your area are especially good for native pollinators. There are many opinions, scientific and anecdotal, as to how much of your garden should contain native plants in order to support pollinators. New information is being presented almost faster than you can plant a native huckleberry. Presenting all viewpoints on this subject is more than can be done in this article. But at the very least, start with a mix of natives and some of your favorite heirloom cultivars. Put the double-flowered, black-stemmed, perfect-height-for-a-pot echinacea in a container by your front door for you. The pollinators may not be interested in it.



There are many sources and lists of plants for pollinators on the web and in excellent books like *Attracting Native Pollinators*, by the Xerces Society (North Adams, MA: Storey Publishing, 2011). And on the Xerces website there are lists for the Pacific Northwest region on their Pollinator Conservation Resources page ([www.xerces.org/pollinators-pacific-northwest-region/](http://www.xerces.org/pollinators-pacific-northwest-region/)).

There are a couple more things that are beneficial practices in creating habitat for insects. Don't be such a neatnik at the end of the growing season. Leave some of the plant structure up so there is a place for beetles, spiders, and bees to overwinter. If you do prune back some plants, leave the pile of prunings in an out-of-the-way corner, creating bug habitat out of dead limbs, dried leaves, and hollow plant stems.

Last but not least, avoid using pesticides. Let the bugs control themselves. They'll love you for it.



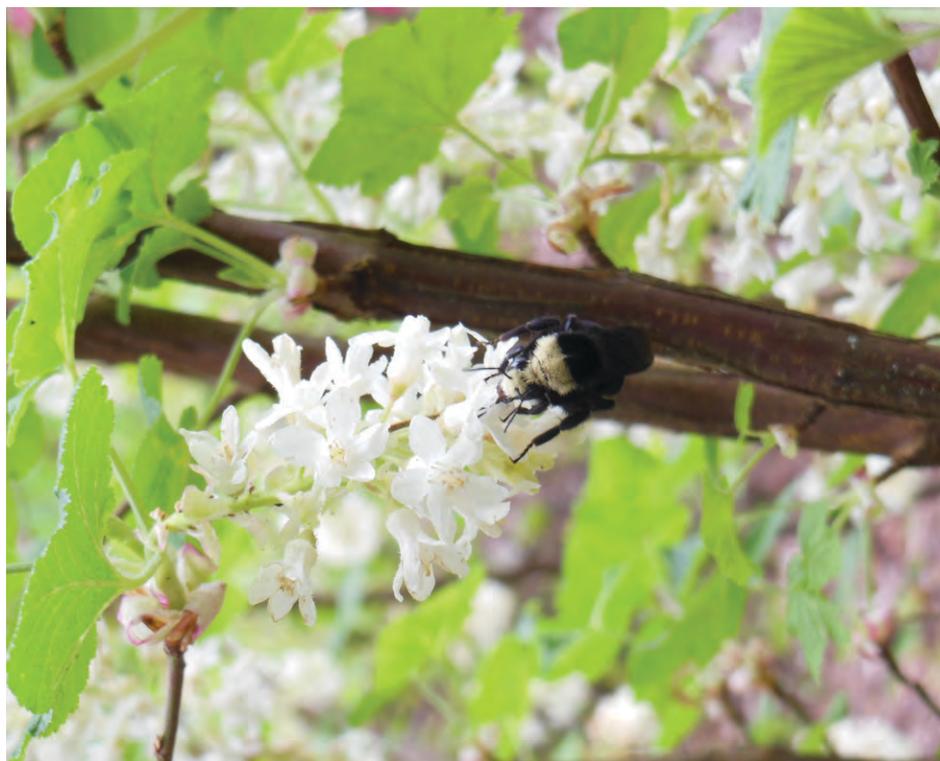
photos by Lori Vollmer

Use native plant varieties like *Ribes sanguineum* 'White Icicle', below, and *Aquilegia formosa*, above.

at left in oval: Swallowtail butterfly on Agastache 'Blue Boa'



a dragonfly among the seed heads of *Papaver somniferum* 'Lauren's Grape'



male Anna's hummingbird



Male Rufous hummingbird above, female on a *Phygelius*, below

The color of the Rufous is rufous! I had no idea that rufous is a golden brownish-red color until I started learning about hummingbirds. The female Rufous has a green back and head with a rufous underside and an orange throat, while the male has a rufous and green back with a rufous underside and a brilliant and iridescent orange-red throat and cheeks.



Rufous visiting *Lillium leichtlinii*

# Hummingbirds in my garden

by Doug Barragar

"What are you doing here?" I said, when I saw a hummingbird perched on a newly planted Japanese maple one day in late November about 10 years ago. I'd seen a few hummingbirds in my new garden that summer, but from what I knew about them, this little fellow should be sunning himself and dining on exotic tropical flowers somewhere way down south. Was he sick, injured, or just lazy?

The search for this answer served as my introduction to the Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*). The Anna's, one of two varieties common to our area, is non-migratory. The other is the migratory Rufous (*Selasphorus rufus*).

An adult Anna's weighs between 0.1 and 0.2 of an ounce and is between 3.5 and 4 inches long.

The Rufous is slightly smaller. Both the male and female Anna's have green backs and grey undersides. The showier male's head and throat are iridescent, while the female has red only on her throat.

The Rufous migrate north to breed. They first appear in my garden in the spring-time. Most stay for a day or two and then move on, but a few will stop and stay for the summer.

From what I've seen in my garden, the Anna's wait until late January to begin mating and are done by November. As long as they have a steady food supply and females are not currently caring for young, they'll continue to breed. Each female produces two to three broods of two eggs each year. One unique aspect of their mating ritual involves the male's climbing to over 100 ft. and diving down towards a perched female. As he pulls up from his dive, he splays his tail feathers, creating a loud, high-pitched whistle.

Rufous at a *Clematis 'Myofuko'*



Hummingbirds are very intelligent, territorial, and adaptive creatures. Their hippocampus, the area of the brain responsible for learning and memory, is up to five times bigger than that in other birds. They remember the location of flowers and feeders in their territory and surrounding areas. They like to sneak food from the territories of their neighbors, leading to spectacular aerial chases. They remember who feeds them and who belongs in their territory. Another indicator of hummingbird intelligence is their high encephalization quotient, or their brain-to-body-mass ratio.

I've been feeding hummingbirds and planting hummingbird-friendly plants for 10 years, an activity that's added enjoyment to my time in the garden. In choosing plants attractive to the birds, anything with tubular flowers works. I've found *Salvia*, *Phygelius*, *Penstemon*, *Agastache*, *Lonicera*, and *Croscosmia* to be especially popular. I've often seen Anna's feeding at hellebores, lilies, hibiscus, and roses, in pursuit of the small insects gathered there. Insects provide protein, which helps these year-round residents survive the cold winter.

If you plant hummingbird-friendly plants in your garden, you'll have visitors. If you put out hummingbird feeders, you'll have year-round residents. A feeder-less garden may attract mating hummingbirds in the summer, but they'll be gone in the winter and may or may not return come spring. With winter feeding, you're likely to develop and maintain a relationship over the course of years in your garden. The recommended mixture for a feeder is four parts water to

one part white sugar; red food coloring is strongly discouraged. In very cold weather the mixture can be increased to as much as three to one, giving the hummingbirds extra energy when they need it, also lowering the freezing point of the solution by a few degrees.

It took me a while to realize the importance of keeping the food fresh and the feeders clean. For some reason, hummingbirds seem to have an aversion to moldy, fungus-laden, fermented sugar water. In warm weather food can break down in a matter of a couple days. If the solution in your feeder does reach the stage that we serious hummingbird aficionados refer to as "icky," and this happens to everyone on occasion, it's important to thoroughly clean the feeder, replace the solution with fresh syrup and change the location of the feeder. A hummingbird will remember the bad food experience and may avoid the feeder for weeks if placed in the same location.

Feeding hummingbirds in the winter has challenges as well as unique rewards. Hummingbirds are largely dependent on people to make it through the winter. Once you set up your feeders, it's hard not to develop a sense of responsibility for their welfare.

Prolonged periods of freezing temperatures are the biggest challenges. Keeping your feeder ice-free during these cold snaps, when hummingbirds need all the energy they can get, can be a chore. Some people use lights or heat tape to keep their feeders from freezing. I simply bring them inside for the night. If I'm late

dragging myself out of bed on one of these cold mornings, I'm often greeted by one of my Anna's perched on my outdoor furniture staring inside and waiting for their breakfast. Many times they'll start feeding before I get the feeders hung. Caring for hummingbirds is not always a guilt-free endeavor, but they're certainly better off with whatever effort you're able to make.

Hummingbirds have developed a great ability to get through winter cold and other tough times. At night, or times when food is scarce, they enter a state known as "torpor," which resembles hibernation. Body temperature drops from over 100°F to under 50°F, respiration drops from as many as 250 breaths per minute to fewer than 10, and their metabolic rate can be up to 300 times lower than when in flight. While torpor usually occurs at night, it can be maintained for a few days. Torpor not only helps the hummingbird, but it helps those of us who feed them. Knowing they will survive in the event you are unable to tend the feeders for a few days minimizes potential feelings of guilt.

If you're trying to achieve serenity in your garden, attracting and feeding hummingbirds is probably not for you. I find them a great source of entertainment as I perform some of the more mundane gardening tasks. Often while I'm hunched over weeding, I'll hear the buzzing of wings, look up and see a hummingbird only a foot or two away, just checking to make sure I belong in his territory. It's a joy to watch the hummingbirds as they fly, feed, chase and are chased. My garden is a richer place for having them in it.



male Anna's hummingbird

# Plant Profile:

## A Bounty of Baptisias

by Tom Fischer

photos by Tony Avent and Hans Hansen



*Baptisia 'Vanilla Cream'*



*Baptisia 'Lemon Meringue'*



*Baptisia 'Cherries Jubilee'*

It grieves me to observe that we have been lacking in our appreciation of baptisias. This is not the case in the Midwest and Southeast, where these plants are highly esteemed and where a great deal of exciting breeding work has been going on. It's time to catch up.

*Baptisia* is a genus of some 30 species in the pea family (*Fabaceae*, as we should now call it), native, more or less, to the eastern half of the country. They bear handsome, trifoliolate leaves, which may be bright green, blue green, or even covered with silvery webbing, as in the rare Georgia native *B. arachnifera*. In our part of the world baptisias usually flower in late spring, and though the season is not a long one, the developing flower spikes can be astoundingly beautiful, which counts for more than you might think. Often the flowers are followed by decorative, swollen pods that adorn the plant until frost. Somewhat slow to establish—figure on two to three years—once settled in they are cheerfully drought-tolerant and absolutely hardy. Although a mature baptisia can have the visual presence of small shrub during its growing season, as far as I know all species and hybrids die to the ground in winter.

Culture is easy: full sun, good drainage, and reasonably decent soil, on the lean side. No need to go crazy with compost and manure. Our mild, rainy winters and dry summers faze them not at all. Although gardeners back East have recently been lamenting the depredations of the genista broom moth, which considers baptisia foliage a particularly tasty snack, that bit of nastiness seems not to be a problem hereabouts, according to the entomologists at the Oregon State University Extension Service. At least not yet.



*Baptisia 'Dutch Chocolate'*

For decades, the only species you ever saw, in gardens or in nurseries, was *B. australis*, blue false indigo, and a nice plant it is, as long as you don't mind its unwieldy size (about four feet high and across) and tendency to flop or splay open. The flower color varies a good deal, too, from a washy blue-lavender to a good, dark indigo.

Then, in the 1980s and 90s, gardeners began to discover other species such as the white-flowered *B. albescens*, whose flower stalks are a striking charcoal color, and the eye-scorching bright-yellow *B. sphaerocarpa*. Plant breeders started getting ideas. One of the pioneers was the late Rob Gardner, who was curator of native plants at the North Carolina Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill. His first introduction, in 1996, was 'Purple Smoke', which originated as a chance seedling between *B. albescens* and *B. minor*. With the dark-gray flower stalks of its *albescens*

parent and towering spikes of mid-purple flowers, it's as elegant as any perennial you can grow. Equally lovely, if not more so, is 'Carolina Moonlight', a cross between *B. albescens* and *B. sphaerocarpa* that Gardner introduced in 2002. *Baptisia albescens*

again contributed gray stalks and had the further happy effect of cooling down *B. sphaerocarpa*'s glaring yellow to a gentle, buttery color. I have several clumps of this beautiful creature in my garden, where it consorts with *Salvia nemorosa* 'Caradonna' and *Geranium* 'Orion'.

In the last decade or so, the floodgate of new hybrids and selections has been thrown open. Not to overstate the matter, but the gorgeousness of these plants verges on the indecent. Overall they're sturdier, more compact, and more floriferous than their wild parents. But what really gets the blood racing is the new palette of colors they exhibit.

Tony Avent, founder and owner of Plant Delights Nursery in Raleigh, North Carolina, has long been a champion of baptisias. (With tongue in cheek, he calls them "redneck lupines"; his article about them on the Plant Delights website is a must-read.) Flower power is the hallmark of his latest introductions. 'Blonde Bombshell' (to 40 in.) is like a more floriferous 'Carolina Moonlight', with the same delicate tint. 'Blue Towers' (to 54 in.) is what *B. australis* ought to be—tall, upright, and clear of color—but often isn't. 'Royal Candles' (to 46 in.) boasts royal purple flowers and spreads to an impressive six feet. Should such gargantuan proportions alarm you, try *B. minor* 'Melissa'—a seed strain of a superb blue-flowered species that tops off at a mere 24 inches.

Hans Hansen, director of new plant development at Walters Gardens in Zeeland, Michigan, spent more than a decade collecting wild baptisias in Texas and Oklahoma to use in his breeding program; the result is the spectacular Decadence series, in which each cultivar is named after a gooey dessert. (All the Decadence baptisias grow to about 30–36 in.) The most traditionally colored is 'Blueberry Sundae', with abundant lavender-blue flowers. 'Cherries Jubilee' has intriguing bicolor flowers in maroon and yellow; the overall effect is of a bronzy brown. Darker and even more dramatic is 'Dutch Chocolate', a deep brownish purple. I suspect it would need careful placing to bring the color alive. 'Vanilla Cream' and 'Lemon Meringue'—ivory and light yellow, respectively—both have stylish, deep gray flower stalks. But the most surprising member of the series—so far—is 'Pink Truffles', a delicate pale pink that is being introduced this year. Space prevents me from describing the other Decadence baptisias, and more are surely on the way.



These new baptisias give us a whole new box of crayons to play with. And they're tough, long-lived, imperturbable garden subjects. How can you possibly wait to try them?



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The Vermont Wildflower Farm,  
[www.vermontwildflowerfarm.com](http://www.vermontwildflowerfarm.com)

top: *Baptisia australis*  
right: *Baptisia* 'Pink Truffles'  
below: *Baptisia* 'Blueberry Sundae'



# Plant Profile:



## Agreeable Abelias

by Barbara Blossom

My first adventures with abelias were a perfect example of right plant, wrong place. The previous homeowners had planted several Glossy Abelia (*Abelia x grandiflora*) next to the path that ran between my neighbor's house side door and the south wall of my house. Our inner city homes stood so closely together that from my living room window I could wave to my neighbor Sadie as she played solitaire at her kitchen table.

Those abelias would have made a wonderful evergreen hedge in the back yard where there was plenty of space, but crowded along that narrow side yard—and there were three of them—I had to prune them every few months to keep them off the sidewalk. The more I whacked, the lustier they grew, and so I was engaged in a battle instead of a love affair.

*Abelia 'Sunshine Daydream' in late summer*



*upper left: Abelia grandiflora above and right: Abelia chinensis in medium late summer*

Years later I noticed those very same shrubs glowing along a suburban road where they hid the traffic from a home standing just beyond. In the late September sun their leaves took on bronze tints and their profuse flowering branches were laden down with visiting bees. I've seen them effectively used along freeway shoulders as well, where they thrive with very little care.

Named for Dr. Clarke Abel who discovered *Abelia chinensis* on a plant expedition to China in 1817, abelias have sturdy woody stems, arching branches, and shiny leaves that come to a point. Small but profuse tubular flowers in shades of white, pink and pink-red bloom in summer and fall. When the petals drop, pink calyxes add yet another sparkle of color.

Some Abelias have the added virtue of fragrance. One autumn, on a Hardy Plant Society tour of French gardens, a deliciously sweet scent enticed me to the end of a long border. A large shrub smothered in white flowers held me captive as I inhaled the perfume. I went in search of the head gardener, and in the musical cadences of French, he told me it was *Abelia chinensis*. Back home I hunted for it for a long time, which made it all the more compelling, and finally, with great relief, I found it at a specialty nursery.



Planted in blazing sun, facing west, and in less than ideal soil, it's grown four feet tall and five feet across, and flourished through extremes of cold, heat, wind and drought. When most of the garden is on the wane, *Abelia chinensis* opens its fragrant white flowers, holding onto them from August through November. I've trained pink, summer-blooming 'Comtesse de Bouchaud' clematis through the strong woody branches for extra color. It does lose its leaves in winter, but still is very worthwhile.

I'd never heard of *Abelia mosanensis* until Roger Gossler recommended it for its fragrance. It proved to be the antidote to my disappointing experiences with daphnes—they'd bloom in my garden for five or six years and then keel over and die. Every spring this abelia's pink buds open to lighter pink flowers which waft an aroma as alluring as winter daphne. Like *A. chinensis*, this variety is also



*Abelia Kaleidoscope in bloom late summer*

deciduous, with strong woody stems through which I train *Clematis* 'Ruutel,' with vibrant, fuchsia-pink flowers.

'Kaleidoscope' is the liveliest of my abelias, with tints of green, orange, pink and gold in the leaves, giving the overall impression of bronze. Summer flowers are white, and in fall the foliage colors turn even more vivid. I've planted it at the head of a path leading down the west side of the garden, where its dazzling color says, "Welcome!" Especially in winter, 'Kaleidoscope' warms my heart with its cheerful countenance.

'Sunshine Daydream' is a petite version of 'Kaleidoscope' with smaller leaves offering the same multicolor effect. I've placed it beside several green hebes, for a punch of brilliant color to accentuate the entry to a stone patio.

Many more abelias are yours to enjoy. I've recently planted 'Rose Creek,' 'Little Richard,' and 'Sherwoodii' for their reputed compact shapes, and so far they're under three feet, but time will tell.

One word of caution: if you don't enjoy pruning, don't plant abelias. The arching branches tend to spring up every which way like cowlicks, which may be frustrating to folks who like a tidier plant. These days I don't mind spending some time pruning them after they bloom, removing some of the older woody canes, cutting out crossing branches, and eliminating any twiggy growth that jams up the plant's interior. Now I actually enjoy the process of pruning, and think of it as sculpting. Beyond becoming artists playing with color, we can also become sculptors—at least that's what I tell myself when I bring the pruners inside for sharpening, yet again.



# welcome! TO THESE NEW MEMBERS

December 1, 2014 - March 31, 2015

We give a "shout out" to those of you who recently joined our ranks. You're joining in record numbers! We hope HPSO offers you the same gardening inspiration, guidance, and camaraderie that has sustained so many of our longtime members, and we look forward to meeting you at programs, plant sales, and open gardens.

Donna Amos	Catherine Dowrey	Brook Kintz	Peter Podaras
Bridget Angin	Lee Adams Draper	David Kitch	Georgia Pope
Nancy Arford-Tasker	Linda Dunne	Mary Kitch	Derek Powazek
NanCarrol Lucia Arnold	Jim Dunscomb	Ingrid Klesh	Gordon Prewitt
Mary Ann Bailey	Kathe Dunscomb	Ken Klesh	Andy Prophet
Zachary Baker	Monica Durazo	Ann Koegen	Jean Prophet
Andie Baldwin	Beverly Eckman-	Chelsea Kottre	Candy Puterbaugh
Patti Barnes	Onyskow	Wendy Kroger	Debbie Putnam
Nancy Barrientos	Dan Elsner	Agnes Kwan	Gary Quinn
Joanne Beck	Joanne Elsner	Jana Lane	Robin Randol
D. Beebe	Steve English	Nathalie Le Breton	Bill Rautio
Mary Beko	Linda Engstrom	Jack Leutza	Pam Rautio
Bill Berliner	Robert Eubanks	Linda Lindley	Michele Reveneau
Marie Berliner	Theresa Eubanks	Chris Ling	Mike Reynolds
Marvin Blaine	Glenda Evans	Sam Linse	Barb Richardson
Cindy Blase	Marian Ewell	Leon Livengood	Joan Ritchie
Miriam Bock	Mark Fagin	Martha Logan	Mary Ann Rodal
Betty Bottemiller	Shelley Fagin	Sheila Logan	Stephanie Rodden
Connie Bottemiller	Thomas Feely	Kimberly Luger	Cory Samia
Tricia Boyd	Don Garbellano	Adam Lutzow	Anne Santa
Darcie Boyd-Smith	Timothy Gardner	Doug Mader	LeRoy Schmidt
Debi Breeden	Saurabh Gayen	Polly Magill	Alena Schnarr
Linda Brown	Carole Gibson	Robert Maxwell	Jon Schneider
William Brown	Dave Goldman	Susie McAbee	Jo Schnotala
Kim Burgess	Jan Gottlieb	Donna McClelland	Claudia Schroeder
Gayle Burrow	Rick Gottlieb	Marsha McCollum	Shane Scott
Kay Byrne	Ann Grangaard	Leutza	Rose Secrest-Sarver
Rickey Cabine	Kathy Grant	Sara Mcfarland	Robert Sims
Linda Carr	Nancy Graybeal	Kathleen McKinney	Adria Sparhawk
Alex Carreira	Jessica Greenwood	Dorothy McKnight	Patty Starr
Vicki Carstensen	Cindy Grice	Helen McShane	Larry Steuben
Judy Chadbourne	Red Griffin	Alvi McWilliams	Mary Anne Stowell
Bruce Chase	Marcia Grubb	Mary Megrant	Keven Tacchini
Debbie Chase	Kit Haesloop	Karen Meharg	Deanna Thompson
Gary Clark	Kathleen Halme	Jean Meyer	Judy M. Thompson
William Cochran	David Hart	Marcea Miller	Suzanne Tiddy
Mark Collins	Jan Hayden	Sidney Moberly	Percy Tierney
Brian Comiso	Blair Haynes	Leo Mock	Sue Toney-Dillon
Ken Cone	Kathie Henderson	Carol Moholt	Michelle Torres
Catherine Cook	Scott Hicks	Vanessa Morgan	Barbara van Doorninck
Bill Coslow	Dave Hill	Andrew Morris-Singer	Diane VanDyke
Kristi Cox	Noelle Hill	Corey Morris-Singer	Kristin VanHoose
Cindy Crawford	Roslyn Hill	Camila Morrison	Dee von Fortune
Don Crawford	Kiki Hillman	Sine Morse	Ann Wakefield
Cynthia Croasdaile	Tammy Hooper	Steve Murphy	Duane Wakefield
Kerry Cross	Celena Hoskins	Johnna Nelson	Amy Waldron
Tony Crowe	George Hull	Ilse Nethercutt	Mark Wales
Sandy Dahlberg	Tim Huntington	Patricia Nigh	Ashleigh Walker
Kathy Davies	Judy Immesoete	Dennis O'Connor	Lori Walker
Susan Dearing	Melissa Immesoete	Laura Oldenkamp	MaryJo Warr-King
Greg Dennis	Katherine Johnson	Mark Oldenkamp	Paul Warr-King
Mary Dennis	Tanya Jones	Linda Olsen	Jackie White
Lori Deringer	Gloria Joslove	Lynn Patterson	Peter White
Ann Detweiler	Merilee Karr	Chris Peck	Christina Wiley
Bridget DeVore	Claudia Kashpureff	Dennis Peck	Patti Witherite
Jim Diekmann	Nelly Kaufer	Jodee Perry	Teri Wright
Patricia DiPrima-	Lopa Kedar	Grace Peterson	Jan Zuercher
LeConche	Jim Kelley	Jim Peterson	
Angie DiSalvo	Norm King	Jack Pfeifer	

## MEMBER PROFILE:



*tropical escape in the garden of Tibor Seres.*

*photo by Beth Hansen-Winter*

“unsuspecting” hosts. The dinners are fun, casual, and only occasionally alarming (generally to neighborhood children when they see their streets overtaken by jolly, casserole-toting strangers speaking Latin).

We meet in the afternoon of the third Thursday of each month, with adjustments made now and then for special outings or speakers, and during the season often plan extracurricular field trips to irresistible gardens and new or favorite nurseries. We’re very informal. (If you’re looking for structure, we’re the wrong group for you!) We don’t use *Robert’s Rules of Order*; we don’t read minutes; we don’t take attendance. Our only rule is that no one is turned away if they want to join (we have members from as far afield as Beaverton, southwest Portland, Lake Oswego, northeast Portland, Vancouver, Canby, Damascus, and Gresham).

## THE OREGON CITY STUDY GROUP:

# A Vigorous Hybrid

*by Meredith Hilderbrand and Beth Hansen*

The HPSO Oregon City Study Group’s first tenacious sprout germinated after its founder, Mallory Jarboe, was told that the Portland group she had visited was closed to new members. As a result, the OC group has always practiced a “no exclusion” policy and has grown into a robust example of hybrid vigor nurtured in great part by the early influence of two very different and equally formidable women: Mary Hoffman and Bee Smith.

Mary, the intellectual artist/writer, and Bee, the social dynamo with a penchant for rusty artifacts, shared a fond regard for one another; maybe more important to the study group, they found themselves gardening on the same side of the Willamette River. After two decades, the group thrives and takes pride in its occasionally quarrelsome roots.

The membership hovers at about 60, with between 15 and 25 at most meetings. Highlights of our year include raucous spring and fall plant exchanges (no vinca, persicaria, liverwort, or, in deference to Mary Hoffman, ‘Autumn Joy’ sedums allowed), a potluck between Thanksgiving and Christmas that includes spouses and significant others, and as many garden and nursery tours as possible during the year. Although our location in Clackamas County gives us quick access to many specialty growers, we are just as inclined to make an 18-hour round trip if something further afield takes our fancy.

In 2011, with a significant contribution from the Pacific Northwest Lily Society, we endowed a Clackamas Community College Horticulture Department scholarship in Mary and Bill Hoffman’s name, and we support HPSO with open gardens and volunteer activities.

Recently we’ve begun what we call “guerrilla dinners” on idyllic summer and early fall evenings. These dinners, loosely based on the “flash mob” model, use instant-messaging technology to notify members to descend, en masse, with wonderful potluck food and drink, card tables, and chairs upon the gardens of our



*top right: Carol Koshkarian happily choosing trees at H&L Farms;  
bottom right: Lucia Navarro at a tour of Judy Rogers’ Milwaukie garden*

top: Sharon Rueda taking a break during a party at Beth Hansen-Winter's large country garden; middle: A guerrilla dinner at Tom Vetter's stunning NE Portland garden; bottom: A guerrilla lunch in Rick Serazin's splendid St. Johns garden



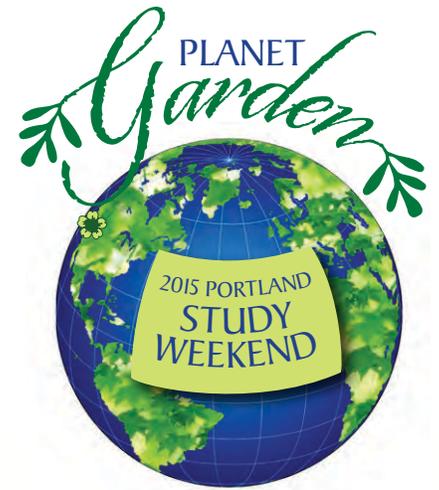
Here is a list of memorable study group trips, speakers, etc.:

Mike and Maria Stewart, Dover Rhododendron Nursery; Villa Catalana/Rare Plant Research; Flat Creek Garden Center; Laurel Hedge; Bellevue Botanic Garden; Weyerhaeuser and Pacific Bonsai Collection; H&L Farms; Timberline and Laurel Hill; Catherine Creek on the Columbia Gorge; Red Pig Tools; Tom Fischer on botanical pronunciation; garden photographer Saxon Holt; Petal Heads; and Nowlens Bridge Nursery.

Our group has become a family. We play together, we shop together, we support each other when troubles come, and we glory in each others' gardens, happily applauding successes or commiserating when ideas fall short, dreaming in the winter and reveling in the summer. Many of the friendships we've made through this group will last the rest of our lives. We hope other HPSO members will join a special-interest group or start one of their own so they can revel in the same joys of camaraderie and shared passions that make our Oregon City Study Group so much fun.



Don't forget to sign up for Study Weekend!



*Study Weekend  
June 26-28, 2015*

*Portland State University  
Portland, Oregon*

Our world is a garden. Come join us in Portland, Oregon, to explore our planet and its incredible diversity of plants, the variety of garden styles found across its continents, and the role we humans must play in sustaining it for the future.

**SPEAKERS**

**WORKSHOPS**

**OPEN GARDENS**

**SATURDAY SOIRÉE**

**PLANT & BOOK SALES**

**AUCTION & DOOR PRIZES**

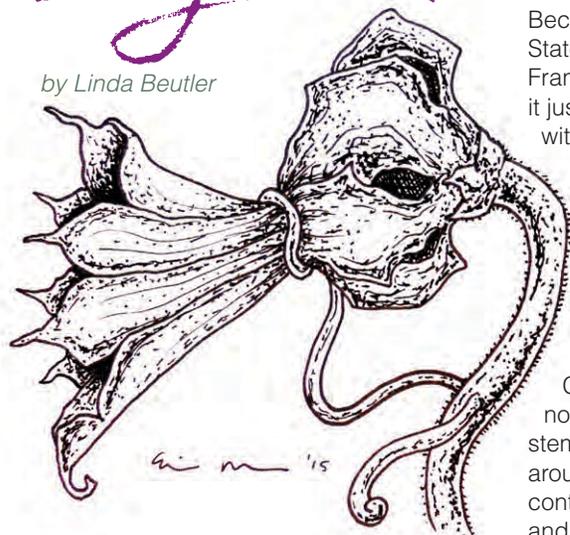
*\$165 includes all talks and entry to open gardens, plant sale, and book sale.*

*(Price increases to \$185 May 1st.)  
Soirée and workshops are additional.*

Learn more and register online at  
[www.hardyplantsociety.org/  
studyweekend](http://www.hardyplantsociety.org/studyweekend)

# Silly Plants

by Linda Beutler



It isn't every day I open the greenhouse doors at the Rogerson Clematis Gardens at Luscher Farm and find a plant making fishy lips, or maybe 'Mikolaj Kopernik' is sticking his tongue out at me? Whatever that smoochy-face is supposed to mean, it reminds me that with clematis, it's always something.



'Mikolaj Kopernik' sticking it's tongue out

I have come to dread the approach of anyone heading toward me with a small electronic device the way I dread grandmas with wallets of photos. Someone is going to show me some crazy clematis doing some daft thing and expect me to explain it. I have two standard replies: "It's the weather," or "Whoa...I've never seen that before. What are you doing to it?"

Perhaps more than any other plants in my garden, clematis are genetically unstable, and also quite responsive to the vagaries of the weather in unpredictable ways. But honestly, 'Mikolaj's' exuberant petaloid pistils were a new one on me. This plant

was sent to us bare-rooted from Poland, and perhaps this first flower was commenting on the American political system. Because this cultivar is new to the United States (it was bred by Brother Stefan Franczak, creator of 'Polish Spirit'), maybe it just wanted to announce its presence with authority. It has since been planted outside, where it makes a splendid show with *Berberis thunbergii* 'Crimson Treasure', and I have noticed this smoochy-face phenomenon happen a time or two since on one or two flowers, but it seems to be totally random.

Clematis appearing to hold their noses is not so weird. Their petioles (leaf stems) have sensitive cells that try to wrap around anything with which they come in contact. The sensitive cells stop growing and all the other cells speed up their rate of growth, which causes the whipping-around action that enables clematis to hang on during a stiff breeze and climb to great heights. But if the first thing a petiole touches is a flower bud, it will embrace it in a death grip. If it can, the flower bud will continue to develop behind the constriction. One has to admire its determination. The plant illustrated above is 'Edouard Desfossé', which is no more or less likely to hold its nose than any other large-flowered hybrid.

Clematis colors can shift a good bit due to weather. Beginning and end-of-the-season blossoms are especially likely to produce colors inspiring double takes. In this case, the deep purple/blue double 'Kiri te Kanawa' had me saying, "Girl! What the heck are you doing?" It's a stretch from dark and dramatic to white with pale blue tie-dye! This flower was



Alas, most of this plant silliness is never repeated, let alone explained! This is the sort of thing that keeps life lively in the greenhouse, though. In the International Clematis Society we swap pictures of such oddities. This is how we "clemateers" entertain ourselves.

Clematis are totally unpredictable and simply irresistible!



illustration © 2015 Eloise Bacher

a pale 'Kiri te Kanawa'

produced in November, and the stem was tagged to see what it would produce the following spring. Alas, we were back to deep blue.

The number of sepals (clematis don't have petals; they have sepals) a clematis variety has in each flower is usually pretty standard, with the minimum being four. Imagine my surprise when a new plant of 'John Huxtable' produced a larger-than-expected bud, only to reveal it was working on its trillium imitation for the local talent show. It taunted me never to say, "Never." This stunning blossom lasted a remarkably long time, and it is likely I am not the only person to have taken its picture.



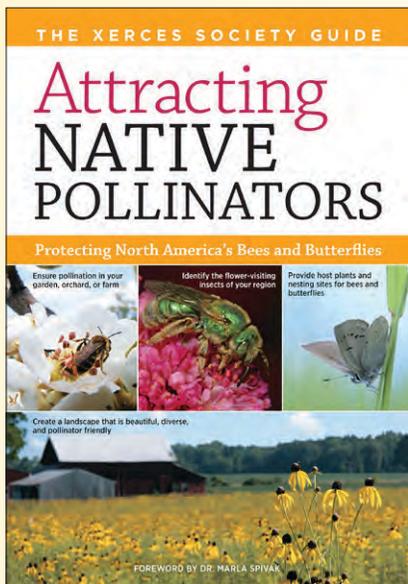
'John Huxtable' imitating a trillium.

Again, the plant was watched for any similar repetition, to no avail. A novelty such as a clematis consistently bearing three-sepaled flowers would earn the Friends of the Rogerson Clematis Collection enough money to establish a healthy endowment fund. Sadly, no: the three-sepal blossom was a one-off.

# BOOK REVIEWS: SUSTAINABLE GARDENS & PROTECTING WILDLIFE

by Carol Gaynor, Library Committee Chair

I'm continually amazed by the garden knowledge of my fellow Portland-area gardeners, especially when it comes to techniques for creating sustainable, organic gardens and protecting wildlife, especially the all-important pollinators. Therefore, I wanted to bring to HPSO members' attention some of the fine, comprehensive books we have in our library on those topics.



**Attracting Native Pollinators**, The Xerces Society (Storey Publishing, 2011)

This book shows you how to encourage the activity of pollinators other than honey bees by creating flowering habitat and inviting nesting sites. You'll find comprehensive information on every kind of pollinator, instructions for building nesting structures, ideas for involving children, and an extensive list of resources. This is an essential reference and action guide for anyone who is growing food or concerned about the future of our food supply.

**The Elements of Organic Gardening**, HRH The Prince of Wales (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2007)

The Prince's explanation of his techniques for maintaining healthy soil, planting varieties, and sustaining an ecosystem "in harmony with the natural laws and rhythms of the universe of which we are an integral part" offers a wealth of wisdom to delight and inspire any gardener.

**Grow More with Less**, Vincent A. Simeone (Cool Springs Press, 2013)

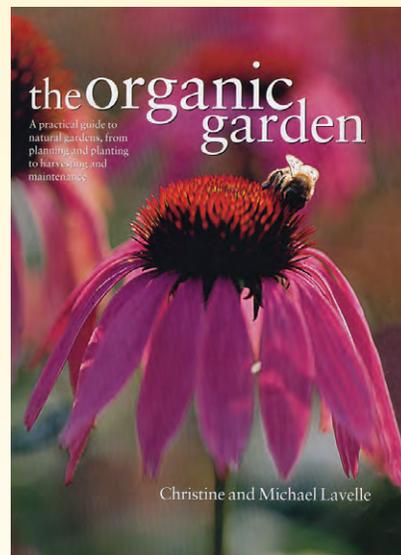
With detailed, strategic timelines for both short-term and long-term gardening techniques, this book lets you put your best foot forward in creating an efficient, sustainable home landscape. From composting and mulching to planting trees, the author covers all the eco-friendly essentials in one straightforward handbook.

**Grow What You Eat, Eat What You Grow**, Randy Shore (Arsenal Pulp Press, 2014)

Equal parts a cookbook, gardening book, personal journal, and passionate treatise on the art of eating and living sustainably. In his quest for self-sufficiency, improved health, and a better environment, the author resurrects an old-school way of cooking that is natural, nutritious, and delicious.

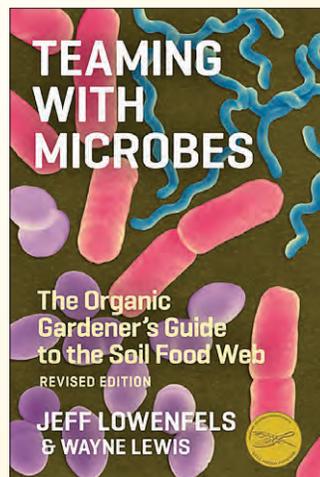
**Northwest Gardener's Handbook**, Pat Munts and Susan Mulvihill (Cool Springs Press, 2014)

The authors' goal is to help you create a sustainable landscape "that is designed, laid out, and maintained in such a way as to respect the natural environment and minimize the use of water, fertilizers, chemicals, labor, and maintenance while still providing spaces for the kids to play, growing your own food, entertaining and relaxing with friends and family, or displaying your prized rose collection."



**The Organic Garden**, Christine and Michael Lavelle (Lorenz Books, 2011)

The publisher describes this book as "a practical guide to natural gardens, from planning and planting to harvesting and maintenance."



**Teaming with Microbes**, Jeff Lowenfels & Wayne Lewis (Timber Press, 2010)

Healthy soil is teeming with life—not just earthworms and insects, but a staggering multitude of bacteria, fungi, and other microorganisms.

Lowenfels urges us to garden in a way that strengthens, rather than destroys, the soil food web.



# WHY I GARDEN...

by David Palmer

It is often said that England is a nation of gardeners. Having been born there does give me some justification for taking up the art of gardening. My birthright alone wasn't the only reason I love to garden, but it certainly helps.

Plants, I find, are often a link to past memories or friends. While too young to know Latin plant names, I remember as a primary schoolboy (five to ten years old) in Yorkshire being impressed by two large flowering cherry trees (*Prunus serrulata* 'Kwanzan') in our back garden. Their yearly spring display of rich double-pink flowers was followed a couple of weeks later by a profusion of pink confetti scattered everywhere.

Visits to grandparents who gardened also provided many plants that trigger memories. One set of grandparents had a large garden with a sunken formal pond and a couple of greenhouses, one of which usually had several pots of *Pelargonium* 'Paul Crampel', the famous "red geranium" that is planted outside Buckingham Palace. This is probably the reason I collect the fancy-leaved *Pelargoniums* today.

The other grandparents, where I spent many summers at the beach, had a smaller, more orderly garden. The front portion was very formal with a mixture of perennials and annuals, always with the vivid colored *Salpiglossis*, while the back

garden was mostly neat rows of vegetables plus a couple of rows of sweet peas. The fragrance from these and the line of *Phlox paniculata* against the fence was sometimes overpowering.

Moving from the cooler climate of northern England to the southern county of Essex should have provided better growing conditions, except for the ubiquitous Essex clay that turns to concrete in the summer. From an early age I had an interest in nature and things that grow. Living close to the area of Great Warley, a place I much later found out was gardened by the late Ellen Willmott, meant many spring trips to woods carpeted with acres of bluebells. I often came home with bunches of bluebell flowers, a habit frowned upon today since they are now a protected flower.

On graduating from school it is often a difficult choice as to what career to follow: the British educational system then didn't push you into the university system. Having already developed a passionate interest in growing plants, I left school and started work with the local Parks Department, a move not thought of very highly by my fellow schoolmates.

My first job in the Parks nursery entailed weeding a bed of seedling wallflowers. Later it was transplanting and weeding some 70,000 plus wallflowers during the summer. That first year was pro-



*Pieris formosa* var. *forrestii*  
and *Cornus nuttallii*

bationary to see if I liked the job and if it liked me. Having survived that year I signed a four-year apprenticeship. While getting an education in the theory of horticulture, the moves to the different parks and departments gave me practice in the maintenance or construction of flower beds, lawns, bowling greens, soccer fields, cricket pitches, tree and shrub pruning, and more.

A move to another Parks Department in Devon in the southwest of England added more dimension to my horticultural learning. Exeter is an old Roman city that relies heavily on tourism. With a city beautification program and promotion to management, it seemed like the horticultural career I had chosen was progressing.

After five years at Exeter I felt I still needed to improve my gardening skills. I applied and was accepted as a student at Wisley,

left: the front perennial border  
below: Peony delavayi



the garden of The Royal Horticultural Society in Surrey south of London. The two-year course gave me a thorough grounding in all aspects of ornamental gardening. A large garden of over 200 acres, Wisley has many styles, designs, and an outstanding collection of plants to cater for all tastes. The Society's showplace was originally designated as a garden to teach and educate gardeners, and it has trained horticulturists that are spread around the world. Here in the Northwest, the late Brian Mulligan, Director from 1946 to 1972 of Seattle's Washington Park Arboretum, was a Wisley student.

Wisley proved to be a great stepping-stone in my career. It not only provided a good horticultural education and a Wisley Diploma, but also my wife Jan, who had come to train at Wisley from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Our move to Oregon, where I took the position of Director of the Berry Botanic Garden here in Portland, resulted from a chance meeting with a passenger on a cruise in the Mediterranean, where I was hired as a botanist. This passenger was the nephew of the late Rae Selling Berry, a remarkable plantswoman whose plant collection was saved as the Berry Botanic Garden. A later visit to his garden resulted in being given cuttings of *Stewartia malacodendron* that Rae had given him. The *Stewartia* was one of the first plants that started us on building our plant collection.

Collection is a kind word. What started as a hobby, became a career, then grew to what now seems an obsession to grow more and more plants. Our half-acre garden is varied in habitats, the front being the sunniest area, whilst the back-yard provides a sloping hillside with high filtered shade. While my plant tastes are varied, the different habitats and topography provide a wide spectrum for planting. With Jan's expertise in propagation, one plant never seems to be enough and trays of plants usually spread out over the lawn.

*right: the back hillside  
below: propagation house*



Having spent the last 52 years in horticulture as a profession, I decided retirement from full-time work was in order so I could spend more time working on our garden. Life can often be like a garden path, deciding which one to take and not knowing where you'll end up. You could end up at the compost heap (essential to any garden), go full circle and end up at the beginning, hopefully taking a path that has many gems to see along the way and ends with the best plant in the garden in full bloom.



*Additional photos from David's garden are on the front and back cover.*

*"Why I Garden" essays will appear intermittently in upcoming issues of the Quarterly. We invite you to submit your own essay on the subject. Contact the editor, Annette Wilson Christensen, for submission details.*

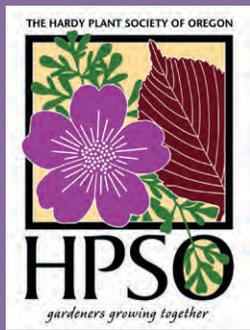


*Stewartia malacodendron 'Raspberry Splash'*



*Rhododendron sanguineum var. didymum*





The Hardy Plant Society of Oregon  
828 NW 19th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97209

[www.hardyplantsociety.org](http://www.hardyplantsociety.org)

*The Hardy Plant Society of Oregon is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose purpose is educational and whose mission is to nurture the gardening community.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### GEN(I)US PROGRAM:

"Old Roses for New Spaces: Selecting Roses for the Modern Garden"  
Sunday, May 17

### REGISTER NOW FOR STUDY WEEKEND:

June 26-28  
(see inside back cover)

### GEN(I)US PROGRAM:

"Keeping the Color Coming: Late Summer Flowers for the Garden"  
Tuesday, August 11

### 2015 HPSO/ GARDEN CONSERVANCY OPEN DAY TOUR:

Saturday, August 29

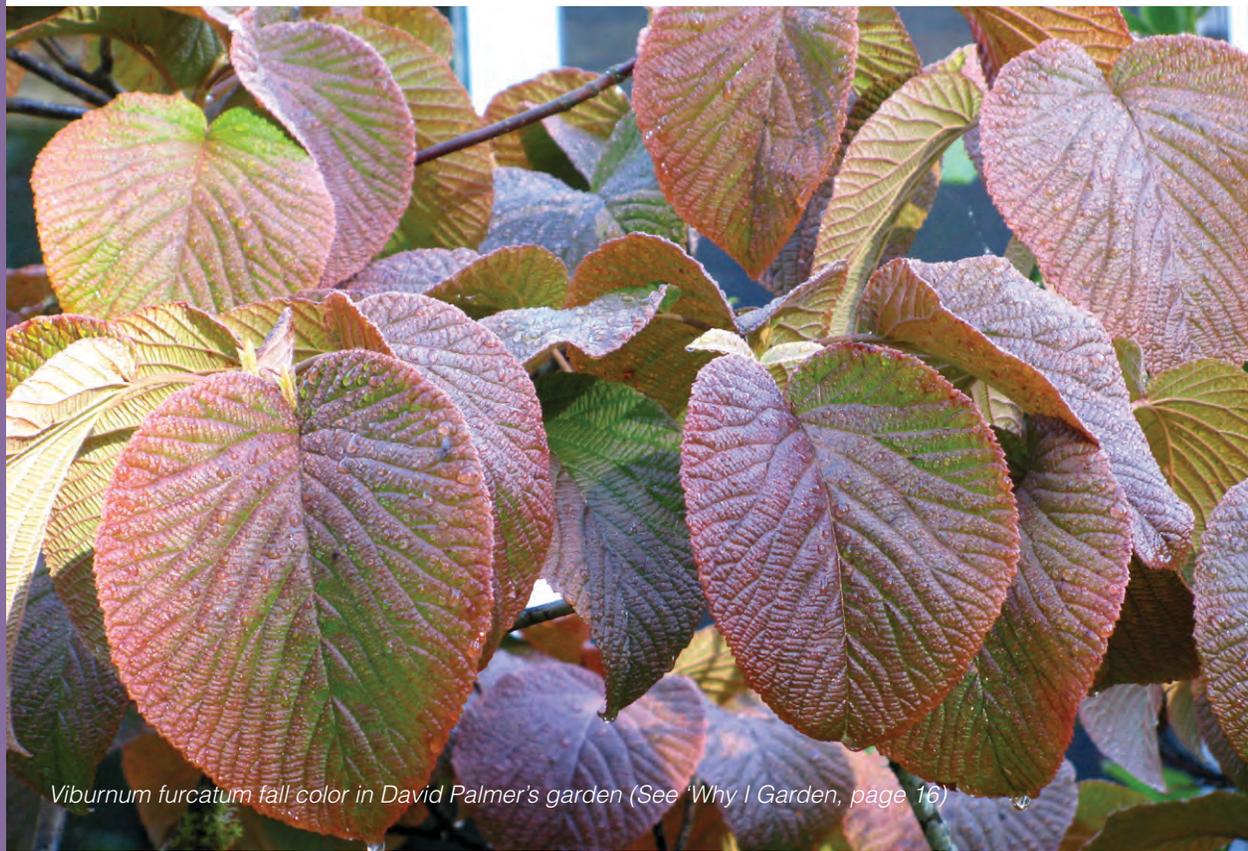
### FALL PLANTFEST PROGRAM AND PLANT SALE:

Saturday, September 12

### PLUS OPEN GARDENS

April - October.  
HPSO members can visit other member's gardens from spring through fall.

for more program information visit [www.hardyplantsociety.org](http://www.hardyplantsociety.org)



*Viburnum furcatum* fall color in David Palmer's garden (See 'Why I Garden, page 16')



*Viburnum furcatum*