



# Hoyt Arboretum

*a world of trees for all seasons*



## "A Word from the Program Director"

*By Laura Zanetto*

Welcome to summer everyone! As I am writing this note I am happy to report that it is a gorgeous sunny day at the Arboretum. Many folks are out on the trails and their dogs are trotting along happily in the warm air. Not only are the people happy about this change in the weather, the trees and shrubs are showing their excitement as well. Below, our Curator, Martin Nicholson, has profiled a stunning Philadelphus in his article, "Plant Talk." I passed by it this afternoon and was struck with the wonderful fragrance from its flowers- from feet away!

It's helping folks appreciate these amazing botanic changes that make my job so fulfilling. As program director for Hoyt Arboretum Friends, I am thrilled to be able to work closely with the community to help further awareness of these gorgeous public spaces we Portlanders are so lucky to call "ours." As the seasons change I look forward to generating new ideas and activities for us all to enjoy. Wonder what is happening now at the Arboretum? Read on! This newsletter is packed with all sorts of exciting new activities at Hoyt - enjoy!

Laura Zanetto  
Program Director

## "Introducing the Hoyt Arboretum Herbarium"

*By Erin Riggs, Systematic Botanist*

Martin Nicholson, Curator, and Erin Riggs, Systematic Botanist, are collaborating on building a herbarium collection of the trees in Hoyt Arboretum. A herbarium is a collection of preserved plant specimens, or vouchers, targeted for conservation in perpetuity. These voucher specimens may be whole plants or plant parts; these will usually be in a dried form, mounted on a museum quality sheet. A voucher specimen is any specimen that serves as a basis of study and is retained as a reference.

Hoyt Arboretum houses over 123 families, 1000 species, and more than 62 globally threatened or endangered species. Herbaria are essential for the study of *ex situ* conservation, the study of geographic distributions, and the stabilizing of nomenclature. Included in this herbarium project is the verification of each individual in Hoyt's collection. Verification helps maintain the quality of the Arboretum's collection at a high standard and provides useful taxonomic information about the collection as a whole. With this herbarium project Hoyt Arboretum aspires to expand local research opportunities and add to the body of global species knowledge.



This is a public reference resource. All are welcome to visit the Herbarium, in the Bill DeWeese Classroom of the Hoyt Arboretum Visitor's Center. Please contact Laura at 503.823.1649 before you plan to visit the herbarium.



## "Plant Talk"

*By Martin Nicholson, Curator*

Currently blooming in spectacular fashion is a wonderful Philadelphus from China. Received as *Philadelphus delavayi* this plant has a wealth of appealing features from fragrance to the purple leaf and calyx.

Recently the genus was moved from the family saxifragiaceae to the family hydrangaceae, a move which puts the group closer with its cousins. The genus itself is most well known for the mock orange – *P. lewisii*, the white blooms being some of the most fragrant in Pacific Northwest gardens and forests. Mock orange can be found in Forest Park along forest edges and open spaces. It is tolerant of many soil types which helps it survive in garden situations.

Our feature plant is *Philadelphus calvescens* previously known as *P. delavayii* var *calvescens*. The plant has been recognized as a separate species for *P. delavayii* only recently due to a few morphological differences. The leaf of *P. delavayii* is densely hairy abaxially while *P. calvescens* is only slightly hairy along the leaf veins. *P. calvescens* has a larger flower and obviate petal with a rounded and occasionally retuse tip

Our plant was received from Heronswood nursery and was a collection made by Dan Hinckley in Sichuan province, China, at an elevation of 3600m. It is a robust plant, with profuse white blooms, purple branchlets, leaf veins and calyx. The collection information on this specific specimen noted the extreme purple foliage. It can be viewed along Beech trail below the magnolia garden.

### Concerned Citizens Call for Action on Proposed West Burnside/Wildwood Trail Bridge

*This announcement provided courtesy of Andrew Wheeler*

Accidents and near-accidents are all too frequent where hikers on the Wildwood Trail must cross West Burnside east of NW Barnes Road. With ever-growing traffic on W. Burnside and an easily accessed wilderness trail attracting more and more hikers, the risks increase. The Wildwood Trail is a 30-mile trail and a major part of the 40-Mile Loop in metropolitan Portland. It connects hikers to the Hoyt Arboretum, The Pittock Mansion, Balch Creek, Forest Park, the Oregon Zoo and its neighbors.



West Burnside is a three lane road (one lane downhill and two lanes uphill) posted at 40 miles per hour. Burnside carries Route 26 overload and traffic to St Vincent Hospital and points west, and traffic to Northwest Portland and the city center to the east. The intersection of the trail and the street takes place just below a curve. Hikers, some with children and dogs, must often wait a good while before they can move across West Burnside. And then they must move quickly. Hikers should not have to risk their lives to enjoy this remarkable urban asset.

A group of concerned citizens led by local architect Andrew Wheeler is working to raise awareness of the urgent need to complete a bridge. Anyone who is interested in advocating for the bridge should contact Andrew Wheeler at [andjul@spiritone.com](mailto:andjul@spiritone.com)



### Upcoming Events

#### Tree Climbing in the Arboretum

July 15th, 12-4pm

Cost: \$25 per person

Join certified tree climber, Tim Kovar, with Tree Climbing Planet for an extraordinary tour of the canopy of an Oak tree. This is an incredible way to experience trees- from the top down! Folks will climb the trees using the rope-and-saddle method and focus on Doubled Rope Technique tree climbing, the style of climbing

developed by tree care professionals using friction knots on a supple rope. It is the most versatile climbing technique. For more information and registration information check out the [Upcoming Events](#) page on our website.

#### Guided Tours

Saturdays throughout the summer, 10:00am  
\$3 per person

Each Saturday, meet us at the Visitor's Center for a guided tour of the Arboretum. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Arboretum and see the changes in the seasons. Our experienced tour guides are happy to answer questions, and share their knowledge about the Arboretum's collections. Check out our [Tours & Walks](#) page on our website for more information.

#### Treeverse Movie Premier

August 26th, Steven's Pavilion

Visit the Arboretum on Friday, August 26th for a day devoted to the trees! Our friends with Ascending the Giants will be premiering their new movie, Treeverse. This is a great opportunity to watch a movie in the park, enjoy some snacks and learn more about our trees! This program is still in the works, please check back on our [Upcoming Events](#) page on our website for more information. To learn more about the film and the amazing production behind it, visit the [Ascending the Giants Website](#).

For information about posting in our newsletter please contact  
Laura at 503.823.1649

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