

ARBORETUM Associates

Newsletter

■ COME GROW WITH US

■ August 2000



*Mary Pat Matheson,
guest speaker
for the
2000 annual
Arboretum
meeting*

Annual Meeting 2000

Mary Pat Matheson of the Red Butte Garden in Salt Lake City was the featured speaker for the 2000 annual meeting. She illustrated how a community and an arboretum could have a symbiotic relationship and help each other thrive.. She was most inspirational and left the audience enthusiastic and motivated. The Arboretum Board was able to meet with Mary Pat before the meeting to discuss long and short range strategies for our group. The session was very productive and developed many good ideas and suggestions that Arboretum Associates hopes to take on in the coming year including, we hope, our first concert series.

President, **Marlene Johnston**, summarized what the Arboretum Associates board of directors did in the past year, reported on events held and encouraged members to volunteer for various arboretum needs.

Election of Officers - 2000

Vice President - **Robb Parish** -
1 year term

Member at Large - **Joyce Parr** -
1 year term

Member at Large - **Gina Taruscio** -
3 year term

Door prizes of plants, gardening items and gift certificates were generously donated by these supporters of the Arboretum: We thank them all.

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Moscow, ID

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ARBORETUM

ASSOCIATES

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A Newsletter of
the Arboretum Associates
University of Idaho Arboretum
and Botanical garden

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August 2000



Message from the President:

It has been well over a year since you have heard from the Arboretum Associates board but a busy year it was. Unfortunately, Fall 1999 Arbornotes was one of the casualties of the busy schedule. We want to keep you informed so hopefully this newsletter will provide information about what has been going on and remind you that there is always something happening in our arboretum. Arbornotes will return to its regular schedule this fall.

Your Arboretum Associates board is currently mapping out long and short range plans for the organization. We invite all who are interested in participating or have suggestions to contact the arboretum director or a member of the board.

As always, we thank our loyal members and donors. We urge you to encourage others to join with us in the effort to make the coming years great ones for the arboretum.

Marlene Johnston,
President, Arboretum Associates

BOARD MEMBERS

Current Arboretum Associates Board Members:

Marlene Johnston, President, has been involved with the Arboretum project since 1978.. She served as president of the Arboretum Associates from 1989 to 1991. The Johnstons now live in the Orofino area where they attempt to grow things faster than the wildlife can eat.

Robb Parish, Vice President and UI alumnus, is the Manager of the Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport. Robb is perhaps the most fortunate of the board members as his home is on a viewpoint which overlooks a great deal of the arboretum.

Kris Roby, Secretary, is the College Advisor in the College of Letters and Science Dean's Office. She and her husband enjoy observing seasonal changes in the arboretum on their frequent long walks.

Joy Fisher, Treasurer, is currently the Associate Director of Trust & Investment Management and has watched the Arboretum's development from the initial stages. She's worked for the UI for 18 years, providing accounting support for the Arboretum for the past 10 years.

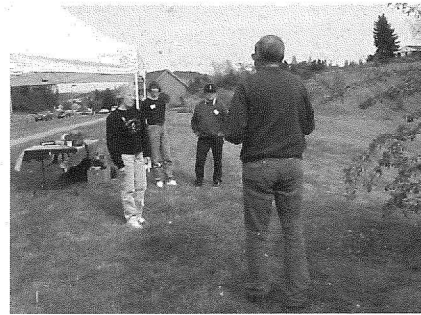
Bill Bowler, Member at Large, is a UI Professor of Architecture and a 20+ year employee. He is an avid gardener and has one of the premier gardens in Moscow. Bill's passions are hostas and his computer, on which he creates some wonderful graphics. He hopes to have a web page for the Arboretum up and running by the end of the year.

Beverly Rhoades, Past President, has worked at UI for 25 years and is currently Associate Budget Director. Bev was first introduced to the Arboretum Associates by Bob Steele many years ago.

Gina Taruscio, Member at Large, is the director of the UI Business Incubator, received a degree in Landscape Architecture in 1994 from the University of Oklahoma at Norman and is an AVID horticulturist.

Joyce Parr, Member at Large, is a Moscow resident, a member of the Moscow Garden Club and serves as the Chairman for both the Clearwater District and State Federation of Garden Clubs' Arboretum Committees.

Richard Naskali has been with the Arboretum project since the initial meeting in 1978, has served as a past board member and, in his capacity as Arboretum Director, serves as an ex-officio member of the board.



Board Members assisting with open House.

Iris Sale 2000

We will sponsor an iris sale again this year. Mark your calendar for **August 12, 2000**. The sale will again be held at Stookey's Feed and Garden Store. This year, in addition to tall bearded and dwarf irises, we will feature rebloomers and Space Age irises. The rebloomers have been selected for the likely rebloom in late summer. Reblooming is dependent on adequate water and fertilizer after the spring blooms. Space Age irises have been gaining in popularity since the 1960's but have been hard to find until recently. They are unique because of the unusual appendages at the ends of their beards. These may be horns (pointy beard ends), spoons (a tiny bit of petal at the end of the horn), or flounces (a larger, rufflier bit of petal at the end of the beard).

Plant Sale

The Associates held it's first-ever plant sale on May 20 of this year. The sale featured heathers hardy in our area and a nice selection of tree seedlings donated by the UI Forest Research Nursery. The remaining plants were donated by several local gardeners, to whom we are most appreciative, and were divided and potted by volunteers. In addition to board members who helped at the plant sale, we wish to thank volunteers **Joanne Sutton, Janet Campbell, Mary Luther**, and **Nancy Zabriskie**. The plant sale raised over \$2,600. Money raised by this type of activity has helped pay for a plant label machine, a botanical database/mapping software program, and an exhibit board for use at various public functions as well as covering other incidental expenses.

Pruning Workshop

A hands on pruning workshop was held in the Arboretum on Sunday, June 18, 2000. Attendees learned the correct way to prune lilacs, general pruning techniques, as well as the importance of proper cleaning of pruning shears, as they made their way around the asian and the European lilac plantings trying out their new skills.

PAST NEWS

Annual Meeting 1999

Richard Naskali presented a slide program titled "Eight Days in Kyoto". The show took us on a tour through a number of Japan's fine gardens. It was interesting to see the painstaking thought given to creating the quiet beauty of the gardens he visited. President **Bev Rhoades** reported on the activities and accomplishments of the past year

Elections were held and the following people were elected to serve on the Arboretum Associates board:

President - **Marlene Johnston** - 2 year term
Vice President - **Dean Vettrus** - 2 year term
Secretary - **Kristine Roby** - 2 year term
Treasurer - **Joy Fisher** - no term limit
Member at Large - **Bill Bowler** - 3 year term
Member at Large - **Robb Parish** - 2 year term

Contributing to the evening's festivities were the drawings for prizes. We would like to thank these generous businesses who provided door prizes for the meeting:

Crossroads Nursery & Garden Gifts,
Pullman, WA
Patt's Garden Center,
Clarkston, WA,
Prairie Bloom Nursery,
Pullman, WA
Smith's Garden Square, Inc.,
Lewiston, ID,
Stookey's Feed and Garden Store,
Moscow, ID.
SYG Nursery & Landscaping,
Pullman, WA

Of Local Interest

Congratulations to the **Moscow Garden Club** on the celebration of it's 50th Anniversary in the fall of 1999. Attending the function were many past presidents and one of the founding members — Mrs. Alice Huffman.



The 1999 Iris sale was a great turn out and exceeded all expectations in sales

Iris Sale 1999

The Arboretum Associates sponsored a fund raising Iris Sale on August 14, 1999. The sale exceeded the board's expectations by raising over \$2600. The success of the sale was largely due to the efforts of volunteers **Richard Naskali, Bill Bowler, Jaki Wright, Nancy Zabriskie** and her son, **Joey**, who helped dig, divide, wash, label, disinfect, sort and box the irises at the Johnston home. We send a heartfelt thanks to **Bill Stookey** of Stookey's Feed and Garden Center who kindly allowed us to use an empty greenhouse for the sale when rain greeted us as we were setting up. A BIG thank you to all who contributed to the success of the sale!

Open House

On May 20, 1999, the board hosted the Moscow Chamber of Commerce and general public at a well attended Open House. The event was made extra special by the scores of Mr. Frank Werner's handcarved wooden waterfowl decoys, which floated in arboretum ponds. We encourage other groups to arrange for tours through the arboretum by contacting Dr. Naskali at (208) 885-6250.

Congratulations to our Friend!

Our annual meeting speaker of two years ago, Panayoti Kelaidis of the Denver Botanical Garden, is the year 2000 recipient of the Scott Arboretum's prestigious Arthur Hoyt Scott Medal and Award. The medal and cash award is presented annually for outstanding national contribution to the science and the art of gardening. The purpose of the award is "to promote a greater love of nature, make the nation more conscious of the beauty of the outdoors, develop a greater knowledge and love of plants and flowers, spread the gospel of better planting and designing, and arouse a wider interest in better planting and more beautiful gardens among all citizens. Arboretum Associates are honored to have had a speaker of such renown at their annual meeting."

CONTRIBUTIONS

We would like to thank the many wonderful people who continue to support the UI Arboretum and Botanical Gardens. We wish to acknowledge those who contributed during the period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999. Fiscal Year 2000 donors will be acknowledged in the Fall issue of Arbor Notes.

Acknowledgment of Gifts

Life Associates:

Roberta & Charles Graham
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 S.Y.G. Nursery & Landscape
 Smith's Garden Square
 Stookeys' Feed and Garden
 Marcia & Robb Parish

Websites for Gardening Enthusiasts

<http://www.gardenweb.com>

This site has plant, seed and rose exchanges as well as many garden forums where gardeners exchange ideas, plants and experiences.

http://members.tripod.com/~Hatch_L/nosdex.html

A HUGE index of genera with links to sources which carry specific cultivars. (Tip: start at the *New Plant page*.)

<http://www.backyardgardener.com/tm.html>

Specific seed germination information for a long list of plants from the out of print Thompson & Morgan Successful Seed Raising guide.

<http://www.rochestergardening.com/links/index.html>

This website has perhaps the largest list of links to garden- and plant-related web pages throughout the internet. The list consists of pages organized by subject categories. The categories assist in quickly finding web resources for the topic you are searching. As of August 1999, the main list has 35 pages with over 2000 links.

<http://www.burpee.com>

More useful information on raising plants from seed as well as general gardening help. You may sign up to receive the bi-weekly Burpee/National Gardening Association news e-mail.

<http://home.sol.no/~asles/sowing.htm>

Another large list of month-by-month sowing times and methods.

<http://homepage.eircom.net/~merlyn/seedsaving.html#section3>

Has links to various seed exchanges, garden and plant-related webpages.

THE LANGUAGE OF IRISES

OR HOW TO SPEAK "IRIS"

In the late 1800's when Van Gogh painted his irises there wasn't the diversity of cultivars we so enjoy today. Neither was there a large variety of terms necessary to describe irises. So, while Van Gogh daubed with paint to create his irises, today's "iris artists" are the hybridizers who daub with pollen to create their new cultivars. In Van Gogh's day about the only terms necessary to describe iris flowers were "standard" (the three petals that stood up) and "fall" (the three petals that fell down). Not so today. With thousands upon thousands of named cultivars registered with the American Iris Society, many more descriptive terms are needed.

Here is a brief guide to some of the terminology used to describe today's bearded irises.



THE PLANT

RHIZOME - the fleshy, underground stem. Many people incorrectly refer to as the 'bulb'.

FAN - the fan-like arrangement of leaves that grow from the rhizome.

INCREASES - baby rhizomes and fans which branch from the main rhizome.

BLOOMSTALK - the flower-bearing stem which emerges from the center of a mature fan,.

THE BLOSSOM

STANDARDS - the three erect upper petals

FALLS - the three lower petals (technically 'sepals').

HAFTS - the top part of the falls near the center; sometimes referred to as the shoulder.

STYLES - the three small, petal-like, upright structures within the standard.

BEARDS - the fuzzy, caterpillar-like arrangement of "hairs", on each fall, leading into the center of the bloom.

DOMES - standards having a ball-shaped look rather than upright and open.

SUBSTANCE - describes the thickness of the petals.

TEXTURE - the sheen of the petals (satiny, silky, velvety),

RUFFLING - the wavy edge of the petals.

LACE - a very finely notched, crinkled edge of a petal.

FLARE - having falls stand out horizontally from the center of the flower, rather than arching down.

FLUTING - large ruffles which close.

FRILL - petals having small waves

THE COLOR AND TYPE

SELF - a bloom with both standards and falls the same solid color with the beard either matching the petals or having a contrasting color.

BITONE - the standards and falls are different shades of the same color. Usually the standards are lighter than the falls.

NEGLECTA - a blue or violet bitone.

BICOLOR - having standards of one solid color and falls of a different solid color.

AMOENA - (pronounced a-MEE-na) a bicolor having white or tinted white standards and colored falls.

REVERSE AMOENA - a bicolor with the standard having the darker color and the falls being white (or light).

VARIEGATA - (pronounced vair-eh-GAH-ta) is a bicolor with yellow or near-yellow standards and darker falls, usually brownish red or violet, solid colored or varied.

PLICATA - (pronounced plick-AH-ta) a bloom having a light background color with dark dots, stipples, peppering or veins, gradually increasing toward the edges of the petals.

BLEND - the combination of two or more colors flowing together.

BAND - a contrasting, solid color border around the edge of the petal.

WIRE-EDGE - a minute rim of color around the edges of the petals

STITCHING - as if one had button-hole stitched around the edges of the petals.

REBLOOMER - an iris that blooms in the spring and again later in the summer or fall.

TERMS UNIQUE TO SPACE AGE IRISES

HORN - the pointy extension of the beard which turns upward and separates from the falls

SPOON - the bit of petal at the end of the horn that holds it away from the fall.

FLOUNCE - a larger, ruffled, petal-like attachment extending from the beard



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