

ArborNotes

President's Report

As roads, ponds and plantings move to completion, new ideas are coming forth for 1987. The excitement of a university community is never-ending. We have talented, creative people with more ideas than money to implement projects. Ann Girand, a senior in Art and Architecture, is developing ideas concerning the old barn for her fourth year thesis in Interior Design. Another idea that came from brainstorming would be lighted paths from the Nez Perce entrance to the Johnson cut-off road which would extend the hours of use and enjoyment in the arboretum. It doesn't cost anything to come up with new ideas, so please take time and send us your thoughts. We don't want to miss any great ideas!

Dean Vettrus

Committee Report

Plans for springtime activities of the Shattuck Arboretum are well formulated and some activities already underway. Most of the plant material at the site wintered well and the few casualties are being replaced. Material for the Idaho State Garden Clubs' lilac section has been ordered and planting should start in early April. Lilliam Pethel has spearheaded this activity and her efforts are being rewarded.

The Arboretum now has a tractor with accompanying flail, blade and sickle mower thanks to the untiring efforts of Dean Vettrus. The mower was surplus property in need of repair. Dean spent several evenings and Saturdays at the Arboretum barn rebuilding this vital piece of equipment.

We are hopeful of obtaining fill dirt for the Palouse River Road entrance at the Arboretum in order to raise the road level immediately inside the site and south of the barn. The extension of the split rail fence to the west and the installation of the

gate, to include a turnaround, are dependent on first raising the road.

Activity on the perennial garden, under Marlene Johnston's direction, will begin as soon as the soil is dry enough to proceed. As in the past, weed control will be an important, albeit not a glamorous, part of the project.

Clean-up in and around the barn took a giant leap forward last year. Much still remains to be done, some of it during the coming spring and summer. Our short term plans include repairing the cupola, replacing broken or missing siding on the building and painting the entire structure. The barn is a valuable, sturdy structure worthy of preservation. Steps such as those outlined above will help to preserve it until remodeling into the office/information center can take place.

The Shattuck Arboretum Faculty Committee encourages your comments, criticisms, participation and financial support. Financial support is received through the Arboretum Associates.

Walter J. Kochan

Field Project

The Arboretum served as a field project site last summer for a group of students in Maynard Fosberg's soil classification class. Four pits were dug and information on the soils was gathered for classification.

Annual Meeting

Please join us at the Shattuck Arboretum annual meeting on April 21st, 1987, at 7:30 p.m., in the Alumni Center at Blake Street and Nez Perce Ave. All members and interested people are welcome to attend.

Take Note!

Make your tax deductible contribution to the Arboretum Associates and participate in the fun and excitement of seeing our Arboretum grow and bloom.

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Two New Ponds

The Arboretum is sporting two new ponds this year thanks to the efforts of the Moscow Rotary. This project lays the groundwork for development of the marshland as well as inviting birds and other wildlife to the Arboretum.

The area is suitable for a research project to track the development of aquatic flora and fauna in the pond environment.

Land Cultivated

About 15 acres north of the barn have been put into cultivation to control weeds and improve the soil until the area can be made into a display garden.

Notes from the Underground

The arboretum perennial garden is beginning to show signs of spring with the emergence of the many bulbs and ground covers planted last year. This spring promises to be a busy one as we still have a weed problem. Last year this problem was worked on by several campus groups; a large crew has a noticeable impact in a short time. The members of Tau Beta Pi have already volunteered to do a repeat in early April. We sincerely hope other living groups or organizations will volunteer a few hours this spring.

Last fall a group from the Delta Tau Delta fraternity helped transplant about 50 dormant peony roots from the UI Plant Science farm. They are currently being cared for by members of the physical plant in a holding area.

The perennial garden is scheduled to have a sod path put down this spring, which will make it easier for visitors to walk through the garden and enjoy the flowers.

The 2nd Iris Sale was again very successful and another is planned for this summer. Last year's sale was given a generous boost by the Latah County Board of Realtors who contributed \$200 toward the purchase of iris for the sale.

Marlene Johnston

Plantings

Constitutional Lilac Grove

A Constitutional Grove of 28 to 30 highly recommended, quality varieties of French Lilac hybrids (*Syringa vulgaris*) is scheduled for planting in the European Section of the new Shattuck Arboretum in early April. From the recommended varieties highly favored by the Secretary of the International Lilac Society (Walter W. Oakes), the specimens will include single and double flowered forms in a wide array of colors (white, yellowish, violet, lilac, pink to pinkish, magenta, purple and blue to bluish).

Funding for the plants came from contributions of the 26 federated garden clubs that are part of the Idaho State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. These 26 member clubs have contributed \$320.60 as part of their "World Garden Program."

For the Lilac Grove, there will be a ceremonial planting at the Arboretum site on Wednesday, April 22, 1987 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. as part of the 1987 annual convention of the Idaho State Federation of Garden Clubs in Moscow. State President Mrs. Randall (Louisa) Cone and Pacific Regional Director Mrs. Tom (Lillian) Pethtel will do the honors.

Plant Selection Computer Program

Pete Jacobsen, UI senior in Engineering and Computer Science, is completing a personal computer program that will file textbook information for selection of arboretum plants. His program will record information on hardiness, native origin, and height/growth forms of hundreds of woody plants documented in reference sources such as Alfred Rehder's *Manual of Cultivated Trees and Shrubs*. The program will also file potential sources of plants for the arboretum.

Eugene and JoAnn Thompson Grove

The Thompson grove of Northwestern conifers, started in the spring of 1985, will near completion this spring as 300-400 Western Red Cedar and Tamarack seedlings are planted. Already planted are trees of Ponderosa Pine, Douglas-fir, Engelmann Spruce, Grand Fir, and Lodgepole Pine.

Richard Naskali

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