



The Kruckeberg Botanic Garden at Richmond Beach is dedicated to fostering and providing educational, cultural and aesthetic enrichment for all who visit: gardeners, amateur and professional horticulturalists, and young students of the plant world — in all, people of all walks of life.

“In the end we will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand, we will understand what we are taught.”

-- Baba Dioum Fenegal

Questions, ideas, suggestions?
Please contact KBGF at
(206) 542-4777
20312 15th Ave. NW · Shoreline, WA 98177
www.kruckeberg.org

Newsletter produced by Susan Will

Art by Mareen Kruckeberg: *Cyclamen coum*
from the Caucasus Mountains blooms mid-winter
regardless of weather.

Meetings

At the general membership meeting June 21, the following members were elected to fill three vacant seats on the Board of Directors: Wendy Kay, Bonnie Storm, and Laura Zybas. Biographical information on all Directors is posted on our web site, www.kruckeberg.org. This will be the second term for Wendy and Bonnie, the first for Laura. Their term of office will be three years. In June, the Board decided to expand from eight to nine members. Board members may serve no more than two consecutive terms.

At the meeting Art Kruckeberg took us on a guided tour of the various vegetative zones of Washington state, from the coast to the dry side, from sea level to alpine meadows, and everything in between. He showed slides of representative plants and entertained us with anecdotes as only Art can do. A good time was had by all! The next general membership meeting is planned for January, and we hope to see you then.

Regular Board meetings are normally scheduled on the third Tuesday of each month; members are welcome to attend. Call 206-542-4777 or email kgbf@kruckeberg.org to ask for more information.

Mareen's Corner

From time to time we'll look for a chance to talk with Mareen about plants and gardening, and we'll share her thoughts here. For openers, here are a few thoughts on weeding.

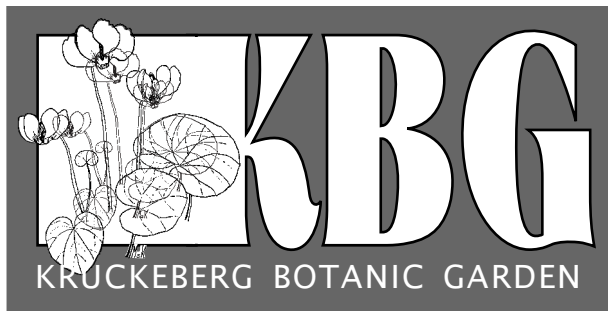
“Weed before they go to seed,” is Mareen's basic advice for gardeners doing battle with unwelcome plants. A plant like Herb Robert gives the gardener plenty of warning with its lacy foliage and bright pink flowers, as does the yellow poppy (*Meconopsis cambrica*) with its showy yellow flowers. Since they bloom about the same time in mid-spring, Mareen recommends targeting them together. Her approach with Herb Robert is to get it out roots and all, which is easy. The poppy, however, has a long tap root which requires use of a tool to extract, so Mareen concentrates instead on removing flowers and seed pods to minimize propagation. The yellow dandelion and its relatives comprise another deep-rooted group, but if you can keep those plants from going to seed you've won a good part of the battle.

Geum macrophyllum (large-leaved avens) is another culprit that can be pulled out roots and all. Geum is that familiar plant with bright yellow petals and hairy stems up to one meter tall. It comes into bloom in early summer, later than Herb Robert and the yellow poppy. The little “pop weeds” also go to seed in early summer, and you'll be ahead of the game if you can pull them before their seed barrage begins. And this year, for the first time, Mareen's garden has been invaded vetch, that twining member of the pea family with oblong leaves and purplish flowers. This one seems relatively easy to pull, roots and all.

So as long as there are gardens there will be weeds, most of them familiar and a few of them new, but don't despair: Take a break from your weeding to stand up, look around, admire your chosen plants and take heart!

Garden Tours

Tours of the Garden, arranged by the cities of Shoreline and Edmonds, continue this summer. The next tour is scheduled for 10 am on Saturday, July 14. Call the Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 206-546-5041 to sign up. The fee is \$20 per person, of



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KBGF Board
Michael Broili, president
Al Brookes, vice president
Kathie Morino, treasurer
Bonnie Storm, secretary
Robert Ferguson
Randall Hitchin
Wendy K. Kay
Matt Loper
Laura Zybas

Ex officio members
Art and Mareen Kruckeberg

which the City forwards \$15 to KBGF. Tours also are scheduled for September 15 (Edmonds Parks & Rec, 425-771-0230) and September 22 (Shoreline, 206-546-5041).

Tours may be scheduled directly by calling Mareen Kruckeberg at 206-546-1281. These tours normally are offered for groups of 6 to 15 persons by appointment. The fee is \$15 per person (fee waived for students). Tours normally start at 10 am and last about two hours. Parking is limited, and carpooling is recommended whenever possible.

Classes

A propagation-by-cuttings class will be offered at the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden on Saturday, August 4th. The class will start at 10 am and should be finished about noon. The fee will be \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members. The cuttings will be taken from woody plants at the garden and started in a nursery flat that you'll take home. Please bring pruners and a sharp knife or single-edge razor blade. Space is limited, so sign-up will be first come, first served. Members will be given priority. If you're interested, please call 206-542-4777 or email kgbf@kruckeberg.org.

Volunteer Help

Our Sunday afternoon work parties will continue through October. Many thanks to those who lent a hand since the last newsletter: Rowland Adeniyi, Gretchen and Al Brookes, Claudia Frahm, Barbara Hilty, Frankye Jones, Wendy Kay, Enid Kruckeberg, Mareen and Art Kruckeberg, Helen McCall, Kathie Morino, Jeremiah Ralston, Janet Standridge, Bonnie Storm, Vicky Tyree and Bors Vesterby.

The dates for the remainder of this season are August 5, September 9, and October 14. Please mark your calendar and join us if you can. Start time is noon, and we usually work until 4 or 5 p.m. We need your help, even for an hour or two, whenever your schedule permits. If you have questions, please contact either of the following: Frankye Jones (206-546-5325, brockfrankye@earthlink.net) or Bonnie Storm (206-352-7088 or 206542-4777, bstorm@kruckeberg.org).

We know that Sunday afternoon volunteering doesn't work well for some folks. Therefore we're announcing our "Adopt a Bed" program. We invite you to choose a bed of plants in the garden as your area of responsibility, your personal "preserve." You may visit the garden at your convenience, any day of the week, to work on weeding, mulching, watering, and whatever is needed. The first step in the Adopt-a-Bed process will be to consult with Mareen (206-546-1281). We hope this alternative will appeal to many of you.

Reminder: We're forming a committee to develop a docent program. Public tours of the Garden are important to the Foundation, and we need to build a cadre of interested and knowledgeable volunteers to conduct those tours. We need help if we are to get this program up and running. Please consider giving some of your time.

We would also welcome your help with administrative work. We're looking for a tax advisor, a newsletter coordinator, a publicity coordinator, and an education coordinator. There's also work to be done in computer database management, grant applications, and membership growth.

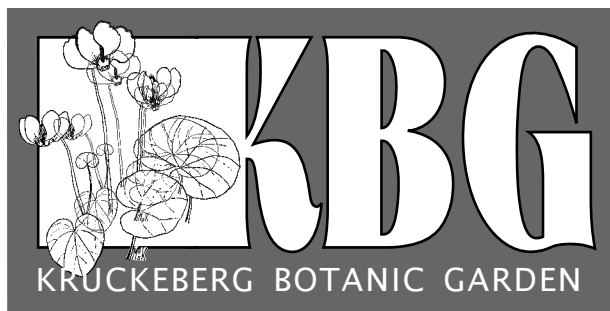
If you have an interest in any of these areas, please call us at 206-542-4777 or send email to kgbf@kruckeberg.org.

Mark Your Calendar

August 5	Garden cleanup work party
September 9	Garden cleanup work party
October 7	Garden cleanup work party

Call 206-546-1281
for tour reservations

Please pass this newsletter
on to a friend!



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KBGF Wish List

Besides cash donations, KBGF welcomes donations of needed items. Our wish list currently includes:

- **A computer more capable than a 486 or Macintosh Performa**
- **A Mac-compatible external hard drive (sealed or removable cartridge)**

KBGF T-shirts

Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Foundation T-shirts are available for \$15. They come in various sizes, and you can choose the new color combination (green on taupe) or the original (cream on green). Place an order or inquire by calling 206-542-4777 or emailing kgbf@kruckeberg.org.

Web Site

We want to remind you of our web site, www.kruckeberg.org. Worldlink Internet Services is donating domain-name hosting for KBGF. Worldlink offers the following discounts to KBGF members:

Dialup Internet Access at \$15/month

DSL at 15% off

All other Worldlink services at 10% off

Worldlink is a local company with over 5,000 subscribers, and we have been pleased with their support and positive attitude. Visit www.w-link.net or call 1-888-361-4638 for more information.

Membership Renewal

We continue to mail this newsletter to a growing list of friends (now more than 70) whose membership has expired, and to many others who have not yet joined. Look in the lower right corner of the mailing label for the expiration date of your membership. Please send renewal donations to Kathie Morino, 958 Walnut St., Edmonds 98020. Your donation is tax-deductible.

Gift matching is a great way to get more bang for your buck. Bank of America, Key Bank, Boeing, Bon Marche, Safeco, Starbucks, Washington Mutual, Microsoft and many other organizations will match employee gifts to nonprofit organizations such as KBGF. Your payroll office will be able to tell you more.

Send Us Your Email Address

Of the 180 or so KBGF members, we have email addresses for about 100 people. Email is a quick and inexpensive way for us to inform you of happenings of interest. If you think we may not have your email address, please send a message to kgbf@kruckeberg.org. We invite friends of KBGF (nonmembers) to do the same; we have about 185 of you on our mailing list. All such personal information is kept strictly private.

Spring 2001 in the Garden

by A. R. and Maren S. Kruckeberg

(Note: Photos of the plants underlined are on the web site, www.kruckeberg.org)

Each of the 44 years of witnessing the garden's annual floral parade brings forth a new adventure. This spring has boldly given all who visit the garden a lavish promenade of the seasons — late winter and spring, and now into summer.

The one wet snowfall did some damage; evergreens are most susceptible to breakage with the weight of the snow. The terminal leader of our rare Taiwan spruce, *Picea morrisonicola*, required drastic surgery — decapitation.

Then on came the benign but largely rainless early- to mid-spring. Faithful as ever were the two early natives, Indian plum and hazelnut. Then with the sunny and rainless days, the parade of bloom cascaded down through the weeks of April and May. Rhododendrons bloomed like it was their last stay on earth. First was the tree-like *Rhododendron sutchuenense* in late March. Then the other rhodies burst out all over the garden. Several 50-year-old specimens of *R. schlippenbachii* ("Butterfly azalea") graced the upper garden with copious soft-pink flowers. Members of the Triflorum Series take pride of place: *R. augustinii* (purple) and *R. lutescens* (yellow). In the rock garden several members of the dwarf, compact Lapponicum Series, like *R. impeditum*, held sway for a good two weeks. Sunshine and the mid-spring "drought" only spurred on further delights.



JULY 2001

membership

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

email _____

Membership Categories

_____ \$1,000 Oak (Benefactor)

_____ \$500 Douglas Fir (Patron)

_____ \$250 Red Cedar (Sustaining)

_____ \$100 Dogwood (Club)

_____ \$50 Dawn Redwood (Contributing)

_____ \$35 Madrone (Regular)

_____ \$25 Vine Maple (Student/Senior)

Please make tx-deductible checks payable to
KBGF and mail to
Kathie Morino
958 Walnut
Edmonds, WA 98020

Please let us know how you heard about the
Garden:

Hummingbirds gorged themselves on the nectar of the red tubular flowers of the Chilean Fire Tree (*Embothrium coccineum*). Due to the efficient pollination efforts by the hummers, we get large amounts of seed from this Chilean wonder. The nursery now has a corner on the region's "market" of progeny of this striking tree.

Lavish bloom continues as spring turns toward early summer. Several of our big-leaved Empress trees (*Paulownia koreana*) have outdone themselves with their copious large, pink to purple, tubular (foxtlove-like) flowers.

California wild lilacs were also exuberant this year. Spotted here and there around the garden, their bluish to purple and lavender sprays of bloom decorated every bush. Species of the genus *Ceanothus* give the Puget Sound gardener many sizes and shapes of shrub, from the near prostrate *C. thyrsiflorus* var. *repens* to the tree-like *C. griseus*. We find that members of the California native flora do well in our area.

Now, in early- to mid-June, the lavish bloom continues. The gorgeous Atlas broom (*Cytisus battandieri*) is in full glory, with erect spikes of yellow pea flowers ... a far cry from its pestilential relative, Scotch broom! The several California slippery elms (species of *Fremontia*) are in prime flower just now. And soon to come, in a week or so, will be the remarkable white anemone-like blossoms of the rare bush anemone, *Carvertonia californica*.

The early June rains have restored the vibrant green world in the garden. There will follow an intermittent flowering all summer. The Korean or Japanese flowering dogwood (*Cornus kousa*) will persist in flower through June, white fading to soft pink, followed by clusters of soft reddish fruits. July will see a respite for flowering. Then in August the pride-of-place will be the South American *Eucryphia glutinosa*. This tall, semi-evergreen tree becomes richly clothed with large, soft-pink to white flowers, decorated with its many reddish pollen filaments.

During this acme of seasonal bloom, we have had the good services of garden volunteers. They delighted in the garden's floral displays, and the garden profited by their assault on the ever-present weeds. Their efforts are much appreciated ... the volunteers, not the weeds!

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