



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF VOLUNTEERISM 1965 - 2015

Branching Out

Lake Wilderness
Arboretum News

October 2015

Strategic Plan for Education & Outreach 2016 - 2019 Implementation V. 1.0

Over the last year, the LWAF Education and Conservation Committee has been working on an early childhood, K-12 and post-secondary education plan.

Our goal is to develop new programs and services to better address the emerging educational needs of the greater Maple Valley community. Beginning in 2016, we will measure data and monitor criteria to determine the most successful outcome for our kids.

Proposed Strategies:

-Enhance quality and deepen the impact of the Arboretum's existing school programs in support of Washington STEM, Common Core standards and Envirothon.

-Expand school-day, after school and summer educational experiences, leveraging partnerships with schools, youth development programs, scouts, environmental groups, home-schoolers, arts and community-based organizations.

-Explore ways to collaborate and deepen strategic partnerships with plant

societies, wildlife groups, college and university programs and others who teach about plants, landscapes, environmental stewardship and the history of our bio-region.

-Capitalize on bird sanctuary and wildlife aspects of the Arboretum through programming, promotion and partnerships with related organizations in South King County.

-Better meet the growing demand for adult education classes, workshops and events related to botanicals and gardening, along with other topics that impact gardening, such as bee-keeping.

-Develop guidelines for our existing special events (Hellebore Tea, Fuchsia Festival, Plant Sales, Flower shows, etc.), including how our desired purpose for fundraising connects to and supports continuing education as well as the Arboretum's mission.

*-prepared by LWAF Board
Member Ray Vefik*



*The stolen 'Shin Deshojo' Maple
donated in honor of the
Arboretum's 50th Anniversary
by the Late Bloomers Garden Club.*

United Way Day of Caring

The **Lake Wilderness Arboretum Foundation** gives thanks to the team of Microsoft employees who volunteered for the annual **United Way Day of Caring** event on Friday, September 18.

Microsoft volunteers lent a hand on garden projects led by Garden Manager **Susan Goodell** (pictured) along with several longtime volunteers and Board Members **Sarah Gilbert** and **Debbie Fuchs**.

This year's work party cleared a bed in the Woodland Garden that had been overrun with weeds.

"Now that the bed is cleared, we will chip it to help control the return of weeds and eventually plant some new low-growing plants, including **Epimediums** that were donated to the Arboretum recently," Susan says.



*Noel Paterson, President
Lake Wilderness Arboretum
Foundation*

Lake Wilderness Arboretum Foundation President's Letter

As the saying goes, time flies!

This has been a celebration year for the LWAF, the **50th Anniversary** of our organization. We enjoyed spectacular events this summer as a result, and the Arboretum looked gorgeous for our guests. As we move into Autumn, our trees are framing the gardens beautifully with explosions of color!

We've had so much help from our community, too -with over 70 people volunteering on **Maple Valley's**

Make a Difference Day October 24. We are so grateful for all of the help, and the work that we accomplished together really improved many areas of the Arboretum.

2016 looks to be another great year for us, as we continue to plan exciting education programs, improve the gardens and offer even more events and opportunities for our members and community of friends to enjoy this beautiful resource. I hope to see you soon at **Lake Wilderness Arboretum!**

-Noel



LAKE WILDERNESS ARBORETUM

22520 SE 248th in Maple Valley, WA

Open Daily from Dawn to Dusk
Entrance & Parking Free to the Public

Developed and maintained by volunteers for 50 years, the Arboretum's 42 acres showcase landscaped display gardens and a forest reserve, with walking trails for exploring throughout the year.

Free public tours on the third Saturday of each month from April to October. For more information on our docent program or Lake Wilderness Arboretum, please contact the Arboretum at info@lakewildernessarboretum.

Volunteer Days

Wednesdays & Thursdays
1st & 2nd Saturdays of Each Month
9 a.m. to Noon

Maple Valley Make A Difference Day
Saturday, October 24

Holiday Lights at the Lodge
Wednesday, December 2

Hellebore Tea 2016
Sunday, March 13



TO VOLUNTEER, DONATE OR BECOME A MEMBER

info@LakeWildernessArboretum.org

Visit LakeWildernessArboretum.org

Call 253-293-5103

Mail PO Box 72, Maple Valley, WA 98038

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Famous Botanical Book on Display at 50th Anniversary Fuchsia Festival

A 164-year-old copy of the book, *The Rhododendrons of Sikkim-Himalaya* by Joseph Dalton Hooker, M.D. was on display during the 4th annual **Fuchsia Festival** at Lake Wilderness Arboretum Friday, September 11.

On loan from the University of Washington Botanic Gardens **Elisabeth C. Miller Library** in honor of the Arboretum's 50th Anniversary Celebration, the book once belonged to **Dr. Frank Mossman** who, along with Mr. **Britt Smith**, amassed one of the largest collections of deciduous western azaleas (*Rhododendron occidentale*) in the world and is now the Arboretum's signature **Smith-Mossman Western Azalea Garden**.

"Joseph Hooker is one of the botanists that published a classification of the Pacific *Rhododendron*, the Washington State flower," LAWF board

member **Bob Dunning** says. "He succeeded his father as the director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew in 1865, whereupon he engaged in the politics necessary to safeguard the future of the gardens. Smith and Mossman were part of an equally long tradition of plant exploration in the Pacific Northwest."

The Fuchsia Festival fundraiser also featured the arboretum's fuchsias, refreshments, hors d'oeuvres and music from the **Maple Valley Youth Symphony Orchestra**.



City Addresses Recent Thefts & Vandalism at the Arboretum

In response to recent thefts and vandalism at Lake Wilderness Arboretum, the City of Maple Valley has made several recommendations to address the problem of security for the property and surrounding area.

City Parks Director **Greg Brown** gave a presentation to the Lake Wilderness Arboretum Board of Directors (LWAF) about the master plan for Maple Valley parks, including Lake Wilderness Arboretum and offers a list of

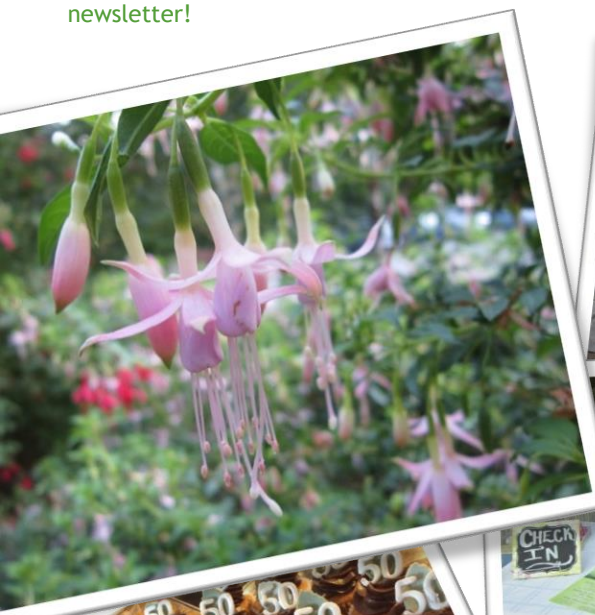
suggestions from both the police chief and the city detective:

- Increase patrols and police presence in the area
- Increase nighttime lighting throughout the grounds
- Improve sight lines to more remote locations by pruning vegetation
- Widen the service road behind the Arboretum nursery so patrol cars could drive through on patrol
- Install automatic gates, more cameras and monitoring signage
- Call 911 on a "non-emergency" basis if anything unusual is seen

In the months to follow, the LWAF will continue to discuss ways to implement more protection measures on Arboretum grounds, including the forest area, trails, the nursery, hoop house and storage buildings.

50th Anniversary Celebration

Pictures taken by Janet Muniz and Double Dee Cupcakes. Share your Arboretum pictures with us on our [Facebook page](#) - and we might highlight them in our newsletter!



Local Families Celebrate the Season First Community Harvest Festival

The first **Community Harvest Festival** took place at Lake Wilderness Arboretum on Saturday, September 26.

Children participated in nature play activities, digging, swinging, making mud pies, building forts and exploring the Tribal Life Trail with their parents.

Guests also had the chance to see the Arboretum's new children's area, a portion of the forest that is currently being developed alongside **Little Sparrows Forest School**.

Special attraction **Alleyoop!** shared folk stories in the meadow, and community partners volunteered their time introducing children to local animal friends. A few local vendors offered hand-crafted children's items and small batch canned goods, and caramel apples topped off the day.

Hosted by **Greenplay Cooperative**, a non-profit educational organization, the event was the organization's first fundraiser, with all registration donations benefiting the Family Scholarship Fund.

"Our Board of Directors, parents and friends of Little Sparrows are all excited to see such a huge turnout," Co-founder and President **Sarah Schumacher** says. "Connecting local families

to the nourishing beauty of the Arboretum, bringing young children and their families together to celebrate nature and the changing of seasons, is what we do best."

Sarah also sits on the Board of Directors of Lake Wilderness Arboretum.

FAMILY FUN ... AND GOATS!



On Saturday, June 20, six budding photographers attended a **Macro Photography Workshop** led by photographer and friend of the Arboretum **Sally Halvorsen**.

The six-hour workshop took place at the Arboretum in the Gazebo and included an introduction to the techniques of macro photography and a lecture by guest speaker **Art Chong** on purchasing used camera equipment. Perfect weather allowed for excellent photo opportunities of the flowers and plants.

"The workshop provided instruction on achieving my signature soft focus-dreamy feel in pictures, as well as how to achieve a sharp image," Sally says. "Art offered a lot of one-on-one help to the participants with their cameras."

Sally is known for taking stunning close-up photographic images of nature, and the teaching team received great feedback from the participants.

"Photography is art and everyone has to find what speaks to them. I wanted our photographers to find their own way in choosing what type of image they wanted to shoot."

Sally is planning to teach an advanced macro photography workshop and a series of workshops on garden photography at the Arboretum in the future.

Sally Halvorsen's Macro Photography Workshop



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Maple Valley, WA 98038

