

ARBORNOTES

A Newsletter of the Arboretum Associates

February 2022



UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
ARBORETUM
& BOTANICAL GARDEN

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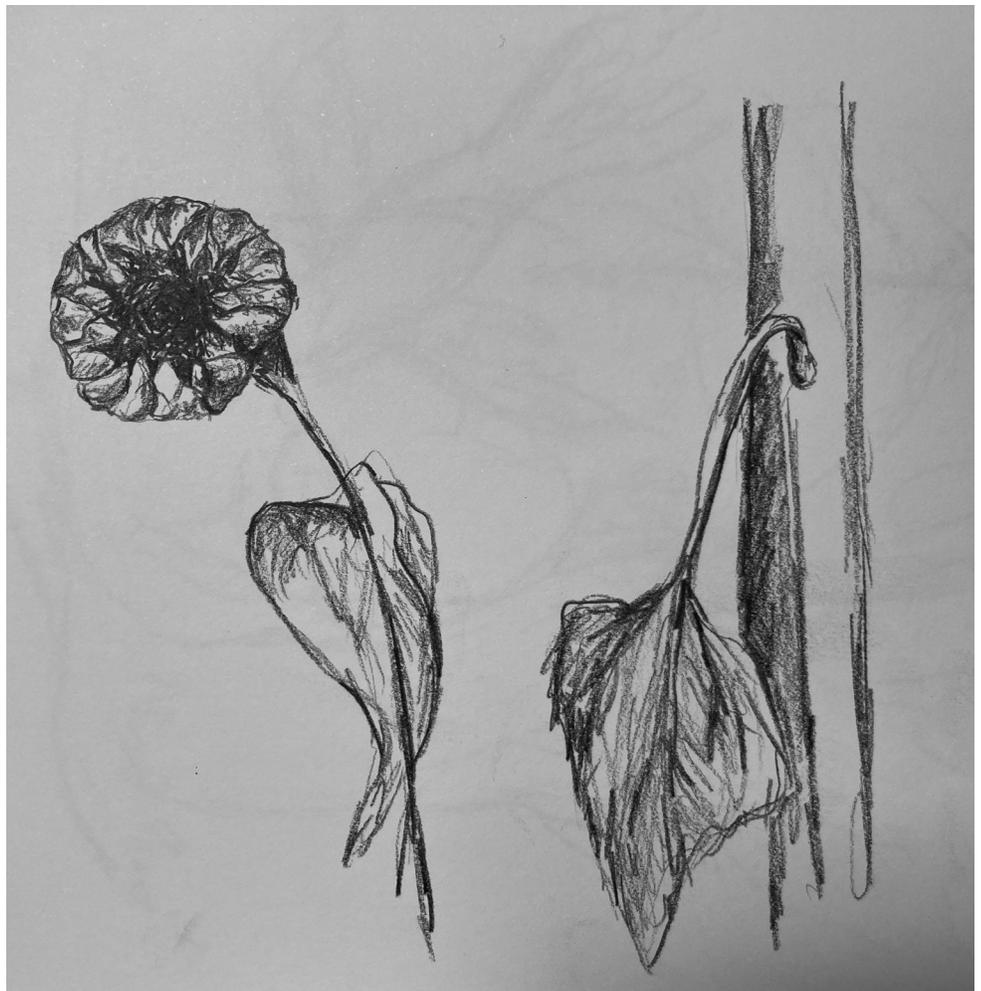
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Sketching in The Arboretum

The Palouse Women Artists Drawing and Mark Making Circle met at the Arboretum for sketching twice in 2021. This group meets twice a month for an hour in the early evening to draw/sketch/watercolor or just make marks on paper. It is a time set aside for art and these women all want to sharpen their drawing skills. When the weather is nice, they meet outdoors and when the weather is not nice, they meet indoors. Some of their outdoor locations have included Moscow Cemetery, McConnell Mansion, PCEI and of course the Arboretum. Their inside locations have included churches, members' studios and local businesses. They met at the Arboretum in July and again the beginning of October. People set up their chairs wherever they want and draw whatever they want. There is no assignment, no



Come Grow With Us

ArborNotes

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the Arboretum Associates
University of Idaho
Arboretum and Botanical Garden

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University of Idaho
875 Perimeter Drive MS 3143
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President
Katherine Clancy

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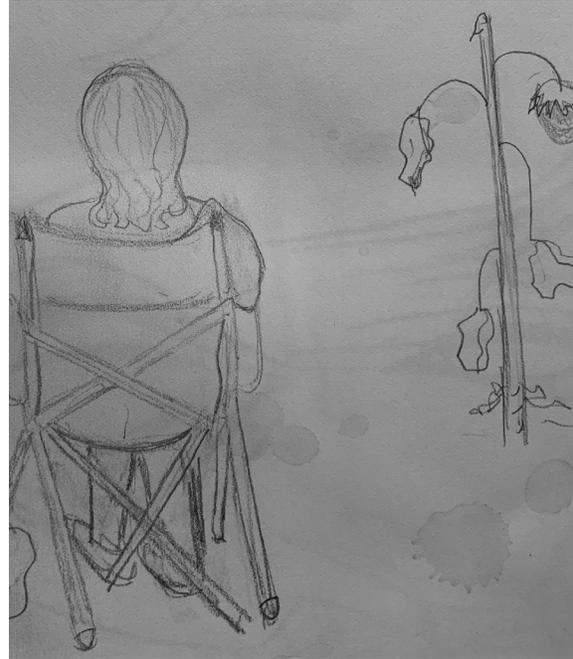
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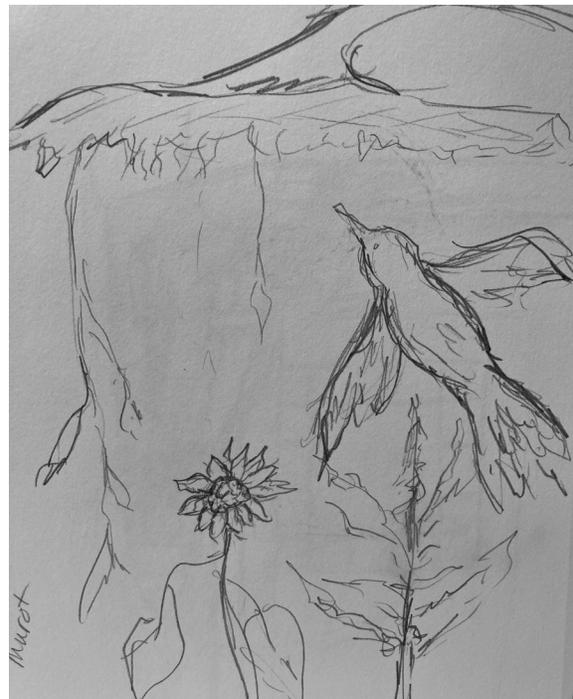
Arboretum Horticulturist
Paul Warnick
875 Perimeter Drive MS 2281
Moscow, ID 83844-2281
Phone: (208) 885-5978
arboretum@uidaho.edu

FEBRUARY 2022



specific thing they all draw. The sunflower garden at its ending was the site chosen in October. Across the street the heavy equipment was moving dirt for the new housing development. Here are some of the sketches that were produced that day. This group is most appreciative of having the Arboretum as part of our community.

Katherine Clancy



Arboretum Barn through the Years



October 2020



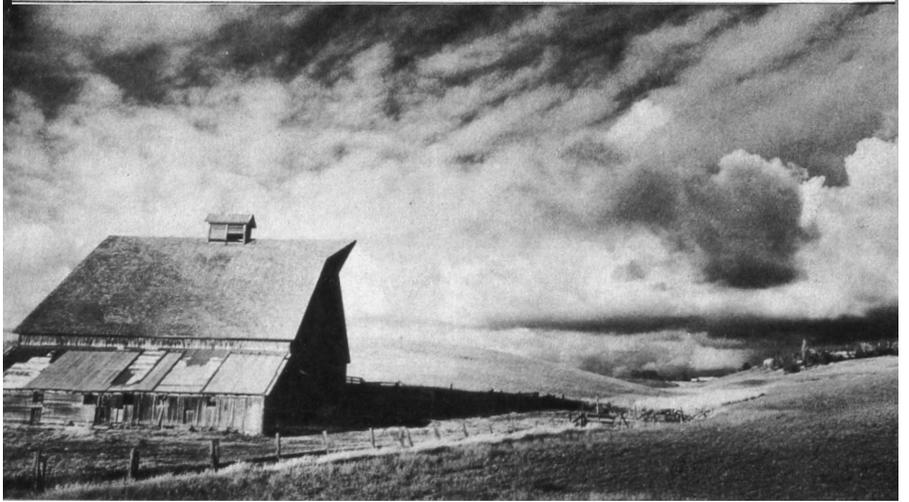
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June 1928



November 1977



August 2006



Present Day

Message from the President

In these difficult times I want to thank all of you who continued to support the UI Arboretum during 2021. It was another challenging year. Once again, we had to cancel our Annual Meeting and the spring plant sale. We were able to hold the summer concert. And it was a fabulous event. Musicians from the U of I and the great community expertly led by Daniel Bukvich entertained a record number of attendees. It was a beautiful evening and all of us appreciated the opportunity to be in the Arboretum enjoying the lovely music. Kenton Bird assisted with publicity, as he so graciously does every year and the poster Bill Bowler created for the event was absolutely perfect.

We lost some board members and since we could not have an Annual Meeting, some new board members were appointed. They are Harriet Hughes, Yvonne Barkley, Julie Miller and Erik Anderson. We are so glad to have them on the Board.

We don't really have a good way to count visitors to the Arboretum, but there seemed to be record numbers in the last year, since it is a place where folks feel safe to walk outside. The Arboretum was used again for the city Plein Air painting demonstration as well as a destination for a local artists group.

Paul Warnick and his crew deserve accolades for the tremendous job they do keeping the Arboretum looking so beautiful year-round. This year we had an unusually hot summer, and the crew were challenged to use less water than they do in a normal summer.

We hope to have all our usual events in 2022 but we have learned that plans may get changed as COVID continues and changes. We hope you will join us for these events and will enjoy the beauty of the Arboretum throughout the year.

*Katherine Clancy, President
Arboretum Associates Board*

Calendar of Upcoming Events

APRIL 12, 2022

Arboretum Associates Annual Meeting

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Join us for appetizers and a no-host bar followed by a brief business meeting and a presentation by Paul Warnick, Arboretum Horticulturist

1912 Center Great Room, 412 E. 3rd Street, Moscow

MAY 21, 2022

Arboretum Associates Annual Plant Sale!

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Palouse Ice Rink, Latah County Fairgrounds

JULY 11, 2022

21st Annual "Summer Breezes and Sweet Sounds" Concert

7:00 p.m. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs

Free Concert in the Arboretum



Ariel view of Arboretum | CA 1987-88

Arboretum Associates Donor Roll

Thank you to the many generous donors who supported the University of Idaho Arboretum and Botanical Garden from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. A total of \$65,746.07 was received from membership gifts, gifts for endowments that support the Arboretum, and gifts to support specific Arboretum projects. Your support makes a difference.

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Gifts to Arboretum Endowments

David & Carlotta Boyd
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Report from the Horticulturist

Last year I was writing about the challenges of working with limited (or no) staffing through the pandemic shut down. This year, amazingly I have actually had the luxury of having more help than usual. Vern Dorendorf, a long time campus groundskeeper came out of early retirement to work half time for me this summer, Richard Crookston, a UI graduate in Plant Science, started working for me full time in the spring and has continued through the fall months, and two students, Andrew Davies and Aineka Carlson worked through the summer and helped out with mowing after classes resumed in the fall. An exciting new development is that Lucy Falcy, spouse of a new faculty member in the College of Natural Resources, and experienced nursery grower from the Willamette Valley has just started a part-time position, with the potential long term goal of taking over my position when I retire in the next few years. I think it is safe to say that because of the excellent crew (along with some help from mother nature...) the Arboretum looks the best it has ever looked.

As the Arboretum continues to grow and mature, it seems that we spend more and more time on routine maintenance and less time on new developments. However, I do feel strongly that new developments are critical to the survival of the Arboretum and we continue to work towards adding to the collections and improving the site. The project that I hope will have the most impact on the public is beginning to improve the entry to the Arboretum from the Golf Course parking lot. There have been some spaces designated for Arboretum parking in the Golf Course lot for years, but they have not been

publicized and the entry from the lot was a narrow, awkward foot path over a tall broken curb. We replaced the curb with an accessible curb cut and widened and leveled the entry, moved the bike rack and the garbage can, and replaced some tired turf with new pathways over to the existing Hosta Walk path. Future plans include improved signage and re-locating the existing gate further down the road.

A new planting project has been expanding the collection of Asian Witch Hazels. Asian Witch Hazels are mid-sized flowering shrubs that are not widely planted, I think because they flower so early. They are essentially the first showy woody plant to flower in late winter, early spring, often showing color in late January here in Moscow. That means that they are all done flowering by March or April when most of us are thinking about what to plant. The colors range from clear yellow to fire engine red with lots of oranges and blends. Many of the cultivars are also noted



New Witch Hazels | 9/3/21



Excavating new curb cut at the golf course entry | 6/3/21



White Pine removal | 6/2/21

for bright fall colors. There are now 15 Asian Witch Hazels in the collection, most of them around the pergola on the west side, but we also planted 2 over on the east slope to see if that exposure makes any difference in their growth. John and Connie Horgan funded this collection in memory of Connie's mother, Marjorie Stohs. John and Connie are now second generation Arboretum supporters, John's parents, Charles and Ruth, funded a bench and a grove and Connie's father, Larry, was honored with a memorial tree.

We added another bench over in the north west corner of the Shattuck Arboretum this summer in memory of

Kathleen Moore. A large contingent of a youth group from her church volunteered to build a new trail to access the bench. Fortunately, the record breaking heat we experienced early this summer broke just in time for the evening work project. It now provides a nice view out to Moscow Mountain along with access to an underused part of campus.

As happens every year, there were challenges as well as new developments. Weeds, dry spots and excessive plant growth in the ponds are constant battles. This year,



Kathleen Moore bench Shattuck Arboretum | 7/7/21



Youth group volunteers building trail Shattuck Arboretum | 7/1/21

irrigation was an even bigger issue than usual. Right in the middle of the epic heat wave the equipment that chlorinates the re-claimed water we use for irrigation died. Normally, that could be overcome temporarily by manually adding chlorine to the system. Unfortunately, at the same time our chlorinator broke down, there was a major shortage of chlorine throughout the whole west coast, mostly caused by electrical issues at a chlorine manufacturing plant in Longview, Washington. The Arboretum, the golf course and campus as a whole were told that we had only a couple of weeks of chlorine on hand if we continued to use the same amount of water, and at that point they had not been able to locate a replacement for the equipment. We were all told to try to conserve as much water as possible in hopes of extending the deadline. So, for about three weeks during the hottest days of the summer we were reducing water wherever we could, when in a normal year we would have been increasing the times and days. Fortunately, they were able to locate some more chlorine and the necessary new equipment before they ran out completely. So, we mostly only ended up with brown grass for most of the summer, along with scorched Hosta leaves, both of which are not permanent damage.

The other highly visible issue has been the losses of mature Western White Pines on the west slope. We have been gradually removing White Pines for years now, and it appears to be some kind of root rot, although there is not a confirmed pathogen yet. It does not appear to be White Pine Blister Rust. We have removed 6 trees this summer and several more are looking stressed. A local mill is salvaging the logs and milling them into 1x6" boards.

Overall, I believe it has been a successful year in the Arboretum, and I am grateful to my crew for all of their help this year. I am also extremely grateful to all of our loyal donors. Everything in the Arboretum has been provided by donors as a gift to the University of Idaho, and I think that makes the Arboretum an even more valuable and amazing space. Thank you for your continued support, both financial and verbal support is always appreciated!

P.S. As an update to last year's ArborNotes, last month I was in Twin Falls, Idaho and visited the Orton Botanical Garden (an amazing privately owned garden, worth a visit anytime you are in the area), and I was able to confirm the identity of the 'mystery' Yucca in the Xeriscape Garden.

There were several *Yucca elata* (among the 27 different species in the Orton Garden) that matched up perfectly with ours.

<https://ortonbotanicalgarden.com/>

Paul Warnick
11-12-20



From Nez Perce Drive | CA 1987-88



Asian Witch Hazel | 9/28/21



White Pine removal | 9/9/21

Summer Concert Returns to the Arboretum

After a year off because of Covid-19, the 20th annual “Summer Breezes and Sweet Sounds Concert” was held July 12, 2021, and drew the largest crowd in the concert’s history. People sat wherever they could put a chair or blanket and it almost looked like people were hanging from the tree tops! The concert is sponsored by Arboretum Associates and the UI Lionel Hampton School of Music and is conducted by University of Idaho Distinguished Professor, Daniel Bukvich, an internationally known composer and conductor and Director of the UI Jazz Choir. Every summer, Bukvich produces an eclectic chamber program performed by local and visiting musicians who include UI and WSU faculty, emeriti, students and community members.

The concert started with emotional and stirring music: “American Fanfare” (1989) by John Wasson; They Gave all (2010) by A. Wolfe and Quidditch Fanfare (2001) by Jon Williams played by the Palouse Brass with conductor Danh Pham.

Arboretum Rock 2021! (Bukvich) was a fast, unique and fun piece performed by the Arboretum Percussion Ensemble followed by a number of pieces including several traditional Klezmer tunes; bluegrass tunes; classical pieces, and original music composed by a number of students and Moscow residents. There were also several by Dan Bukvich

performed by the Arboretum Percussion Ensemble and Chamber Choir.

The audience was treated to beautiful cello pieces by UI faculty member, Miranda Wilson, playing J.S. Bach and professor emeritus, William Wharton, playing Chaconne by Tomaso Vitali.

Arboretum groundskeepers, Aineka Carlson, ukelele/ vocals and Richard Crookston, bass/vocals played and sang, “Wake Me” by the popular contemporary Americana group, Mandolin Orange.

“. . . a masked ball of unusual magnificence” (2021) (Bukvich) was a chilling adaptation of “The Masque of the Red Death” by Edgar Allen Poe with narration by David Billingsley, music by the Arboretum Chamber Players and Singers and conducted by Mark Thiele. It was an evocative piece made especially poignant with the experience of Covid-19 in our lives and throughout the world. I was interested to learn that the piece had been chosen for the 2021 concert before the pandemic broke out.

There was truly a wonderful community spirit in the air as we listened to the music in the beautiful environs of the Arboretum. Many thanks to Paul Warnick, Arboretum Horticulturist, and his staff for transporting people to and from the concert site. We look forward to seeing you at the 21st annual concert to be held on Monday, July 11, 2022.

Kris Roby





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