# Tsuru為Soars

Friends of the Gresham Japanese Garden Newsletter



## One Thing Leads to Another



e've increased our footprint just a little bit more with a beautifully crafted building sign thanks to volunteer extraordinaire, Chuck Page.

Page designed and built the new sign over the course of a month. Concrete was poured April 22nd. And now...the

space is screaming to be planted!
By constructing a retaining wall
and building new fencing 20 feet
back, the Kyoudou Center's entrance
garden doubled in size, creating a new
opportunity to showcase landscaping.
First on the list is boulders. Boulders
are the foundation of a landscape,
and should be the first (or in this case
second) element you place in your
landscape.

We are mimicking the boulders from the entrance garden by adding another grouping of basalt columns, and basalt boulders shaped like squares for seating. We hope to complete this section in the rain
green maple by the bridge
reflections

— Bill Peterson



New section being developed in the entrance garden.

by June. The large dirt pile isn't very appealing, despite the beautiful sign.

### Spring Pruning Hands-on Workshop, Onsite at Vanport International: Saturday, May 4th, 10am-4pm – \$100

**FRANCHESKA SNYDER, INSTRUCTOR:** Designed for the intermediate pruner looking to advance their knowledge through experiential learning. Students will prune a variety of plants and trees appropriately for the time of year. The workshop will be limited to 12 participants for an optimal experience. The location is at a Japanese garden at Vanport Manufacturing in Boring, Oregon. The Japanese garden was originally designed by Hoichi Kurisu.

#### Spring Maintenance on Pines Class: Saturday, May 18th, 12:00pm-2:00pm - \$45

**LAURA DUFALA, INSTRUCTOR:** Learn all about the why's and how's of cloud pruning and candling. Laura will candle, needle, and prune a few pines on Tsuru Island for show and tell. This workshop is in person. Bring your gloves. Laura may turn the class into a collaborative session.

#### Pruning Lace Leaf Maples for Character Class: Saturday, June 22nd, 12:30pm-2:30pm – \$45

**LINCOLN PROUD, INSTRUCTOR:** Many people care for lace leaf maples, often the popular Acer palmatum var. dissectum 'Crimson Queen.' In this pruning course, Lincoln Proud will focus on the fundamentals of pruning as it pertains to lace leaf maples. The class will begin with a short lecture in Gresham Japanese Garden's newly remodeled Kyoudou Center on basic botany and growth habits as it pertains to lace leaf maples. The lecture continues on Tsuru Island where you'll learn how pruning fundamentals are applied to various circumstances of lace leaf maples on Tsuru Island, and how to apply this information to your own trees.

#### Hands-on Pruning Workshop on a Mature Lace Leaf Maple, June 29th, 1pm-2:30pm – \$50

**FRANCHESKA SNYDER, INSTRUCTOR:** For the intermediate pruner. You will have the opportunity to prune beside one of the best pruners in Oregon, Francheska Snyder. On the property of Bateman Carroll in Gresham, OR sits an overgrown, unattended mature Acer palmatum weeping lace leaf maple. Limited to five students for an optimal pruning experience you will prune with Francheska, to transform this lace leaf back to a beautiful focal point on Powell Blvd.

GJG RECOMMENDS: Participate in Lincoln Proud's instructional class on pruning lace leaf maples on June 22nd at Tsuru Island.



**NEW CLASS IN JULY:** 'PRUNING FLOWERING SHRUBS'. Learn how to prune for flower production: roses, hydrangeas, rhododendrons, azaleas, and more.

**NEW INSTRUCTOR:** JONATHAN FAITH. Al's Garden and Home, Gresham Manager and a skilled pruner, especially flowers!

## **俳句**HAIKU CORNER

Spring dreaming awake Shaking off winter's slumber Flowers yawn at dawn.

- LeAura Alderson

.木々おのおの名乗り出たる木の芽哉

kigi ono-ono nanori idetaru ko no me kana

every tree with its calling card... spring buds

- Issa

#### Mother Cactus



what she is. Any clues? We'll be selling her babies at our plant sale May 10th and 11th.

## Hanging Baskets in MCP



Ten hanging flower baskets with sun annuals are staying protected in GJG's greenhouse while the temperatures turn a bit warmer. By Mother's Day they will be acclimated and ready to be hoisted onto the light posts in Main City Park!

This flower project is part of our spring curriculm for the Exploratory Program students.

## Omotenashi in Public Settings (Cont'd from April's newsletter)

## by Sue Protz

ast month, I introduced readers to the concept of omotenashi, Japanese hospitality that offers the public (or individual guests) a comfortable and enjoyable experience. Omotenashi goes beyond responding to requests, but anticipating needs and providing service without expecting anything in return.

#### What is omotenashi like in Japan?

One definition comes from "omote," meaning "to carry or face publicly," and "nashi" meaning "without expectation." Another source breaks down the word related to the tea ceremony, where there is no front or back. The host does everything in front of the guest, including cleaning the utensils and preparing the tea, so nothing is hidden. The great tea master, Sen no Rikyu, taught that "ichigo ichie" meant "one experience, one moment in time." He felt that the tea ceremony should be conducted as if it were a once in a lifetime experience for the guest. Everything had to be the best for the guest, and the host prepared everything with the spirit of omotenashi.

In last month's article, I shared the example of how a crew cleans trains in between riders and, after new riders enter the train, the crew bows to them as a gesture of welcoming. At Japanese airports, the ground crew lines up on the tarmac and bows to passengers as planes depart.

When you go to Japan, you will experience omotenashi in various other ways. When the doors of a department store open in the morning, staff bows to greet you as you enter. If you are lost,



Taxi cab driver's hospitality.

whether in a department store or on the street, someone may take you to your destination rather than describing the route. When you enter a taxi in Japan, the door opens automatically and gently closes behind you. White seat covers, a driver in a black suit and tie who wears white gloves, all give a sense of cleanliness and care. You often see taxi drivers dusting their cars between fares.

Omotenashi transcends mere politeness and is deeply grounded in the idea of selflessness and mutual respect. This is a deeply ingrained Japanese dedication to delivering exceptional care for others by abandoning one's own self interest and expectations.

## How did this sense of omotenashi become ingrained in Japanese society?

Japanese children learn from a very young age that they are part of a group, not just individuals. They clean their classrooms and school hallways every day, working together on a common goal. This teaches them that public spaces are shared and everyone is responsible for maintaining and caring for them. They learn to respect their surroundings and not make a mess. The group maintains a sense of harmony about how they treat each other and the space they are in.

## How does this apply to the Gresham Japanese Garden?

As a "Westerner" and a dedicated volunteer, I am deeply moved by these acts of hospitality and constantly search for ways that the Friends of the Gresham Japanese Garden can exhibit omotenashi within our garden and our organization.

Now that our remodeled Kyoudou Center is open for rentals, our rental liaison volunteers have direct contact with those who rent our space, generally for joyous occasions like birthday celebrations or bridal showers. Our liaisons practice small gestures, like preparing the coffee maker in anticipation of it being needed. They may open the door a crack as a sign of



Japanese children cleaning their classroom

welcome. They may create an ikebana arrangement in the tokonoma to bring a sense of natural surprise into the area.

## Omotenashi transcends mere politeness and is deeply grounded in this idea of selflessness and mutual respect

We have experienced the spirit of omotenashi with our volunteers who have committed to keeping the Garden spaces pristine. Card, garden director, mentioned how proud he was that the volunteers are following a recent rule washing their tools before returning them to the tool room. We work well as a group, and for the good of others. We accept that duty and responsibility without expecting anything in return.

We have also experienced omotenashi from all the businesses whose selfless contributions and work have created the Kyoudou Center and other spaces. They have given of themselves beyond measure.

Starting in June, we look forward to practicing omotenashi through the Ambassador Program. We will greet our visitors, anticipate their needs, answer their questions, and make their visit an ichiego ichie experience of peacefulness and tranquility.

## **OMOTENASHI**



## Purchase a Tree BEFORE the Plant Sale

GJG has a some big and *heavy* trees that we really don't want to haul up to the museum. Tag early! We're holding a 'Preview Plant Sale' Saturday, May 4th, 9:30-11:30am.

Email info@greshamjapanesegarden.com for inquiries.

- Ginkgo biloba 'Maidenhair' Tree 20 gal. \$90.00
- Betula nigra River Birch 10 gal. \$130.00
- Acer palmatum Lace Leaf 'Viridis' 5' x 4' \$450.00
- Acer palmatum 'Sango Kaku' 20 gal. \$175.00
- Thuja plicata Western Red Cedar 20 gal. \$90.00
- Malus Robinson Crabapple 5 gal. \$100.00
- Fagus crenata Japanese Beech 50 gal. \$130.00
- And many more...