



FRIENDS OF
Hendricks Park

NEWS FROM THE

Park Bench

EUGENE'S FIRST PARK


FALL 2015

A Busy Year in the Forest

There has been a lot of activity in the forest this year. Volunteers made good headway against ivy along the connector from the saddle to the Ribbon Trail, and Oregon Woods, Inc. re-treated just under 1.5 acres between the Oak Knoll and Fairmount. Volunteers and, via a special grant from a Friend, Walama Restoration, made a sweep through the Pileated Trail area of the park, removing secondary

invasives. Many observers remarked that the understory natives looked great last spring: as good as—just maybe!—before the ivy took over. English blackberry is responding beautifully to control efforts underway since 2013. This August's work may have knocked it back from the central part of the forest.


A couple of worry notes, unfortunately. Shining geranium has so far spared the forest, despite overgrowing grassy areas of the park right up to forest margins (hard by the rock restroom, for example). That said, more spot infestations were found this year—and removed—than in any previous year. And dreaded false brome (rampant in places such as Dorris Ranch) has been found and treated in two separate locations in our forest.

Oak Knoll restoration proceeds apace: this fall, after natives have gone to bed for the year, the city will create snags for wildlife habitat. Check it out! And please feel invited to any Saturday morning work party—check the FoHP web site or POS volunteer activities for dates—and give your inner weeder a chance to thrive. 

A Much Needed Improvement

Some readers may remember the “giant steps”—those steep stone stairs that cut up the hill near Summit Avenue and emerged at the trail near Ted Trombert's bench. Over the years, the rocks tilted and became uneven, and the stairs, always a bit on the steep side, were intimidating and quite treacherous.

This summer, Northwest Youth Corps replaced the rock steps with an artfully designed trail with a switchback. The new trail, which incorporates rock removed from the steps, provides a far more user-friendly grade and allows staff and volunteers easier access to a large, steep bed that previously was challenging to maintain.

This work was paid for out of the city's capital improvement funds earmarked this year for the Rhododendron Garden. Trail improvements are one item on park staff's wish list for these funds, which also includes replacing rotting benches and addressing irrigation issues. 







Volunteer Spotlight: Paula and Ted Hewitt

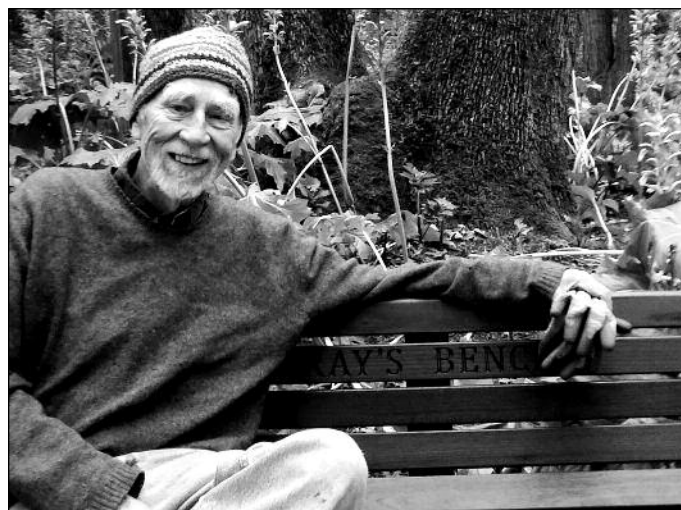
When Paula and Ted Hewitt agreed in early 2014 to serve on the Rhododendron Garden Committee, they wasted no time looking for ways to help out. Most recently, Paula volunteered to monitor levels of azalea lace bug infestation at regular intervals before, during and after this season's treatment with organic pesticides. Ted took a huge role in this spring's restoration of the overgrown rock garden by skillfully pruning its rhododendrons, collaborating with staff on selecting plants for removal, acquiring (and donating) new plants and supervising their placement.

The Hewitts, who met in California, moved to Eugene in 1973 and raised three daughters. Until their retirement, Paula was a nurse and Ted a math teacher. They like Eugene, but are grateful for the time they spent in Frankfurt, Germany, where Ted taught at the International School. Both Hewitts— Paula first, then Ted—are enthusiastic and skilled gardeners who have a beautiful shade garden in Eugene's South Hills. Ted has a special interest in rhododendrons, fuchsias and dwarf conifers. He enjoys propagating rhododendrons and now shares Paula's greenhouse.

Ted and Paula are members of the Eugene Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society (ARS) and have useful ties to the community of rhododendron growers and enthusiasts. Ted is a past president of the chapter, and he now maintains its website and publishes its monthly newsletter. Paula currently serves as ARS District 4 (Oregon) secretary. 

Ray's Bench

At the request of FoHP, Hendricks Park surprised Ray Scofield with his own bench this September, in appreciation of someone who has done extraordinary service as a 'Tuesday morning regular' for nearly 13 years. The Friends paid to have one of the slats of an existing bench engraved simply with "Ray's Bench." The slats were removed, refinished and replaced by another long-time volunteer, Larry Liedtke. The bench, made of the Brazilian hard wood ipe (pronounced e-pay), is near the main lawn overlooking the bear's breeches and white bleeding hearts in the Rhododendron garden. 



By The Numbers

Volunteer statistics for 2015, as of 9/15

Forest:

Number of volunteer hours = 801

Area of ivy removed = 18000 sq. ft. (about 0.4 of an acre)


Length of trail weeded = 1565 feet

Rhododendron Garden:

Number of volunteer hours = 1111

Weeds removed = 141 cubic yards

Mulch applied = 90 cubic yards

The combined total of these volunteer hours is 1,912. The latest estimated national value of volunteer time (from the website independentsector.org) is \$23.07 per hour. At that rate, those volunteer hours are worth over \$44,000. 

Still Bugged

To no one's surprise, azalea lace bug (ALB; see Park Bench, Spring 2014 for a description) continued to plague the Rhododendron Garden this year. But we are fighting back. As reported in our last newsletter, the city contracted with Glass Tree Care to spray all the rhododendrons in Hendricks Park this season. The company applied a dormant oil spray in February in an attempt to smother eggs. Four applications of Safer brand insecticidal soap followed, the first on April 15 and the last on Sept 11. The city and Friends of Hendricks Park shared the cost of treatment. At this point, we are beginning to assess the results.

Paula Hewitt, a member of the Rhododendron Garden Committee, generously volunteered to monitor ALB activity on selected plants at 2-week intervals throughout the season. In fact, she went above and beyond by throwing in at least three extra inspections when conditions seemed to warrant them.

Eleven locations (covering 14 plants) were initially selected for monitoring by visual inspection. They included plants of various sizes and leaf types, some infested last year,


others not. In addition to Paula's monitoring, staff and volunteers made casual observations of other plants throughout the season.

Monitoring is not complete, but here are some general observations.

Overall, the garden looks much better this year than last, with lower levels of infestation on most, though not all, rhododendrons and azaleas.

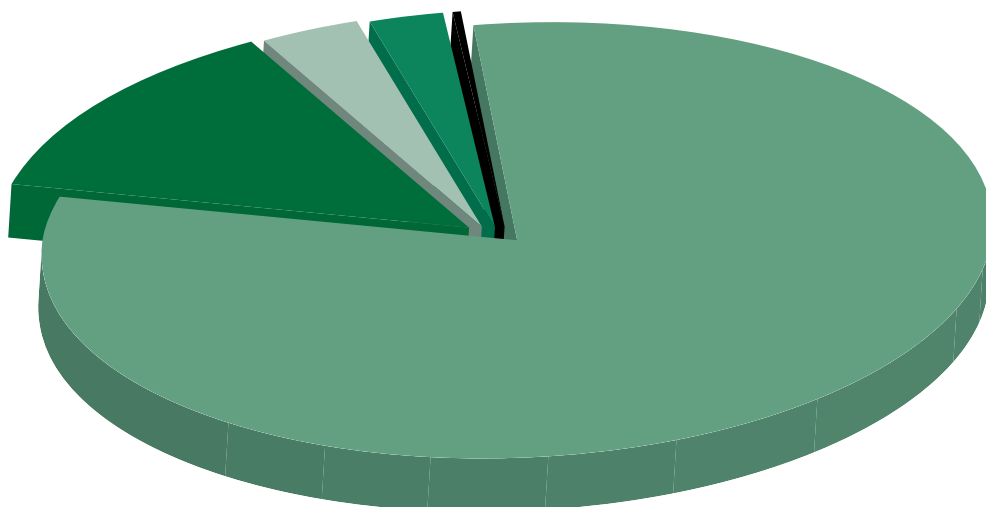
Plants that were free of ALB last year remained so this season. Several are plants with indumentum (a furry coat on the underside of the leaves), suggesting that such plants may be resistant to ALB.

A marked reduction in ALB numbers was observed when plants were monitored soon after a soap application, but an increase was observed 2–4 weeks later.

It seems reasonable to conclude that the spray program may have reduced ALB numbers but did not eliminate the bug. With this fall's prolonged mild, dry weather and the spray program at an end, it will be interesting to see how long ALB remains active and how much damage it does. 

Where the money goes: Almost 94 % of our spending goes to projects and education.

Project Expenditures	81.01%
Education Committee	12.91%
Volunteer Committee	3.33%
Corporate & Administrative Expense	2.67%
Membership Committee	0.08%
Total	\$22,113.55



Expense Summary January 1–September 20, 2015

An Update on the POS Trail Plan

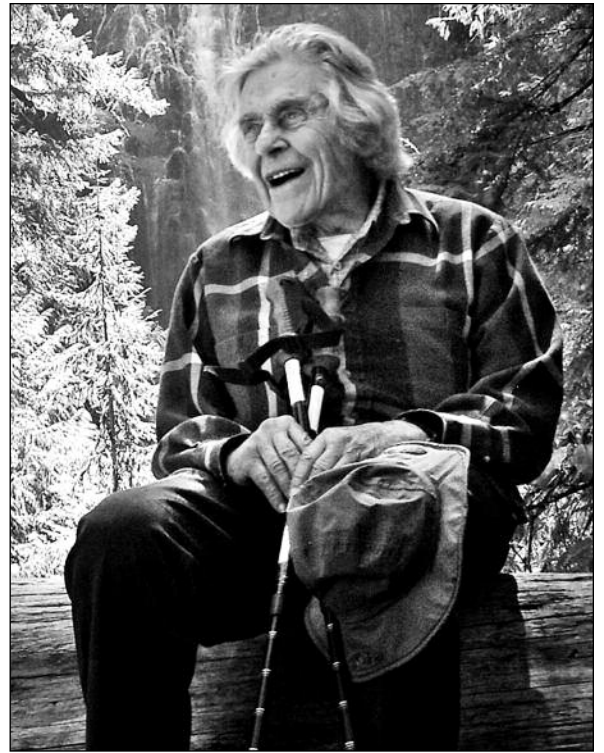
Parks and Open Space (POS) completed a draft Eugene Trails Plan this summer. The plan is an ambitious document that seeks to accommodate multiple users on an expanding network of soft-surface trails throughout Eugene, especially in the South Hills. Please go to www.eugene-or.gov/trails to view the maps and discussion.

As far as Hendricks Park is concerned, there is no immediate change to the current management. Except for paved surfaces, all trails in Hendricks Park are pedestrian only. For the present, the Ribbon Trail remains open for walkers only, but the plan includes a proposal to study the Ribbon Trail corridor for shared use with bicycles. The trail as presently constructed is not suitable for both walkers and cyclists—either it would have to be rebuilt or an additional trail for cyclists would have to be constructed within the narrow Ribbon Trail corridor. The connecting trail to the Ribbon within Hendricks Park would also have to be changed to multiple use.

Last spring, Friends of Hendricks Park met with Phil Richardson, the POS lead for this project, and submitted a letter during the comment period. Our position strongly favors maintaining the current walker-only management within Hendricks Park and along the Ribbon Trail. We believe that both safety and a quality walking experiences in the woods are best served by not opening up these trails to bikes. The Trails Plan proposes extensive expansion of trails open to bicyclists, making the preservation of some close-in walker-only trails even more important. When the time comes for the proposed shared use corridor study, members and neighbors will have ample opportunity to weigh in.



Our Mission: To provide stewardship for Hendricks Park through education, restoration and community support.



Marriner Orum

Marriner Orum, a longtime volunteer in Hendricks Park Forest, passed away July 16 at age 97. He was a trusted ivy-puller for years before Friends of Hendricks Park came into being. He also pioneered the Ribbon Trail, looking for the shortest route between Hendricks Park and Spencer Butte over private land. Using his skills as a forester, he marked the way with ribbons before leading a group of hikers along the route each December.

After retiring from the US Forest Service, Marriner volunteered for many organizations, dedicating “half his time to social causes and half to trips and activities.” He is survived by his two sons, including Paul Orum, who has taken Marriner’s place in the forest in recent years, relentlessly liberating trees from ivy.

A neighbor of the park for more than 50 years, Marriner remembered seeing hundreds of trilliums bloom in the forest each spring, before the ivy took over. Now, partly through Marriner’s efforts, we all can enjoy the reemergence of trilliums each spring.



New and Renewing Friends of Hendricks Park

On behalf of the FoHP Board, thank you to the many people who contribute financially to our organization.
Your donation allows us to fulfill our mission with Hendricks Park.

Donors from 3/18/2015 to 10/15/15

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Fred & Sandra Austin
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Thanks to all our contributors, and we regret any omissions or errors.

PayPal is Now Available

If you would like to join FoHP, renew your membership and/or make an additional contribution, you can use PayPal on our website (www.friendsofhendrickspark.org).



Go to the "Join Us" webpage, where you'll find two ways to donate to FoHP using PayPal. We have suggested amounts for Membership Dues, but any amount is greatly appreciated. Simply contribute the amount that fits you. For the "Additional Contributions" donation, when you get to the "Checkout" page, click on "Please indicate the area of contribution." That way, you can designate a category (if any) for your extra contribution.

Of course, you don't have to use PayPal. A check in the mail works also. Thanks for all the donations you make to Friends of Hendricks Park. The great work we do is supported by your generosity!

— David Moon, Treasurer

Memorial Contributions

Fred & Sandra Austin - *In Memory of Marriner Orum*
David & Jean Campbell - *In Memory of Jerry & Mary Blakely*
Daniel & Valerie Close - *In Memory of Marriner Orum*
Ken Molly - *In Memory of Marriner Orum*
Charles Casey & Laurie Reid - *In Memory of Carolyn M. Reid*
Reid Family (Amy Reid Koch, John Reid & Richard W. Reid) - *In Memory of Carolyn M. Reid*

Yes! I want to become a member of Friends of Hendricks Park

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

- ☐ Senior/student/limited income \$20
- ☐ Individual \$30
- ☐ Family/household \$45
- ☐ Sponsor/business \$100
- ☐ Sustaining \$250
- ☐ Guarantor \$500
- ☐ Benefactor \$1,000
- ☐ Other amount \$_____

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS \$_____

- ☐ Forest restoration (i.e., ivy removal)
- ☐ Native Plant Garden
- ☐ Rhododendron Garden
- ☐ Unrestricted gift
- ☐ Memorial/commemorative gifts

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$_____

Make checks payable to Friends of Hendricks Park

Yes! I want to volunteer

- ☐ Work parties
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Standing committees



Friends of Hendricks Park

P.O. Box 3784, Eugene OR 97403-0784

PERSONAL INFORMATION

name _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

telephone _____

e-mail _____

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.
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Friends of Hendricks Park
P.O. Box 3784
Eugene, OR 97403-0784

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Hendricks Park**

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Volunteer Opportunities

Save the dates!

- **Rhododendron Garden Work Parties, every Tuesday, March through November, 9 a.m. – 12 noon.** Work parties resume March 1. Park in the lot at the top of the garden, at 1800 Skyline Blvd. Meet at the office, below the (closed) restrooms.
- **Friends of Hendricks Park Forest Work parties, 9 a.m. – 12 noon,** rain or shine. Meet at F.M. Wilkins Picnic Shelter, 2200 Summit Ave. Upcoming dates: November 14, December 12, 2015; January 9, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 4, 2016.

Special Event Forest Work Parties

- **Make a Difference Day:** Saturday, October 24, 2015, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- **MLK Day of Service:** Monday, January 18, 2016, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- **OCCU Presidents' Day:** Monday, February 15, 2016, TBA

- **UO Earth Day:** Saturday, April 23, 2016, TBA

For updates on forest stewardship opportunities, please contact Mieko at Mieko.e.Aoki@ci.eugene.or.us or 541-510-4636.

2016 Hendricks Park Tours

April 17, 7 a.m.	John Sullivan	Birding
April 24, 1 p.m.	Sasha White	Native plants
May 15, 1 p.m.	Jack Olsen	Rhododendrons
June 5, 7 a.m.	Mieko Aoki	Birding
June 26, 1 p.m.	Alby Thoumsin	Forest ecology
TBA	Scott Maguffin	Geology (soils, etc.)
November 6, 10 a.m.	Bruce Newhouse/ Peg Boulay	Mushrooms