



HERONSWOOD

Summer in Bloom at Heronswood®

*In advance of the Summer Plant Sale & Garden Open,
get a sneak peek at the plants that should top your "must-see"
list*

By Lee Neff

For many a gardener, strolling the trails in Heronswood's® woodland can quickly lead to frustration. We might recognize the huge native conifers of the overstory, but what are these other trees, and this remarkable variety of shrubs, vines, perennials and small treasures, such as this imposing jack-in-the-pulpit or that unusual trillium, that turn up no matter which way we turn?

Far better to wander the Garden's paths several times a year and to focus on the plants that are in their prime while we are there. Then every visit will add to our knowledge of another group of stunning plants. We will understand what each plant contributes to the fabric of its location, why it was chosen, what makes it extraordinary, and whether we should put it on our "look-for-this-plant" lists.

To get us started, this article is the first of three to



focus on plants that are at their peak of beauty and interest this summer. First, a tree named ***Acer campestre*** 'Pulverulenta.' This spectacular, variegated maple is located in a bright but shaded spot in the woodland, where its highly streaked and spotted white, tri-lobed leaves shine throughout the summer. In full sun, its leaves become brown and crispy. This unusual selection of the so-called hedge maple can become, very slowly, a 25-foot tree with a rounded crown. Native to Europe and North Africa, *A. campestre* 'Pulverulenta' is hardy to zone 5.

Head to woodland at Heronswood to take a peek at *Acer campestre* 'Pulverulenta'.



Itea illicifolia is a summer blossoming evergreen shrub from China.

A beautiful shrub to next enjoy is ***Itea illicifolia***, a summer blossoming evergreen shrub from China, which has been growing in the woodland for nearly 30 years. Called the Holly-leaf Itea for its lustrous, spiny-looking leaves, *I. illicifolia*'s foliage is actually much softer than holly and will not prick the most inquisitive finger. And in July and August, its 8" drooping catkins of sweetly fragrant, light green flowers make the walk to visit it a memorable experience! Although the English often grow this Itea against a warm wall, it is perfectly hardy in the Maritime Northwest and can be grown as a free-standing specimen of about 8'x 8'.



Actinidia polygama can be easily spotted by its leaves, which look like they've been dipped in white paint.

One of the most fragrant plants at Heronswood is a Kiwi Vine named ***Actinidia polygama***. The deciduous foliage of this species looks as if it has been dipped in white paint, or even more imaginatively, in white chocolate. In early summer, the large, white flowers, mostly hidden within the leaves, share a delightful perfume that can be detected from yards away. The seed from which the plant growing at Heronswood was grown was collected by Dan Hinkley in South Korea in 1993. The fruit, in attractive shades of orange when ripe, is not edible. But that doesn't keep cats from admiring the handsome foliage with the same sort of fervor they usually reserve for catnip. Evidently, there is a compound in the leaves that produces this strong feline attraction.



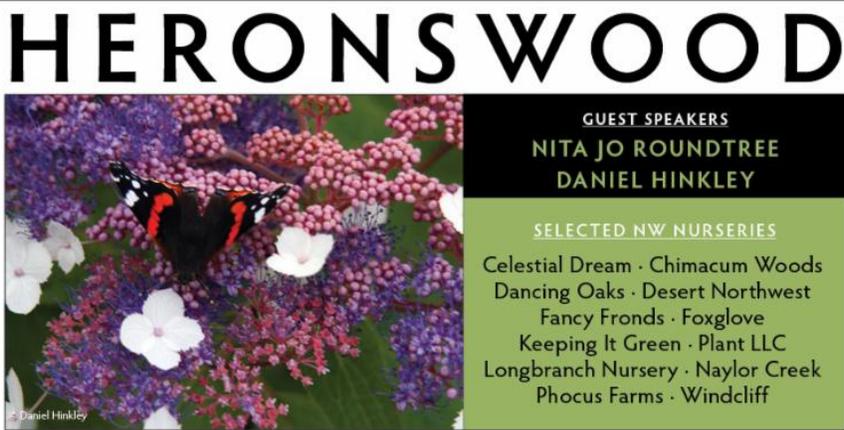
Actaea biternata (aka *Cimicifuga biternata*) just beginning to bloom at Heronswood.

Finally, please take a glimpse of a lovely woodland perennial again collected by Dan Hinkley in South Korea, this time in 1997: ***Actaea biternata*** (aka *Cimicifuga biternata*). The foliage of this species is large and texturally bold with a glossy leaf surface. In mid to late July, from clumps of this handsome foliage, racemes of pure white flowers arise on three-foot stems and put on a lengthy, sensational show. Those of you who are familiar with the red, fleshy berries of our Puget Sound native species, *Actea rubra*, may find the dry, brownish capsules of *A. biternata* far less interesting, but the spectacular bloom period of *A. biternata* and its comfort growing in shade or part shade make it particularly garden-worthy.

Heronswood Summer Plant Sale & Garden Open:

July 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

***Shop from great Pacific NW nurseries, learn how to spice up
your garden,
and experience the season's best garden display***



HERONSWOOD®

GUEST SPEAKERS
NITA JO ROUNDTREE
DANIEL HINKLEY

SELECTED NW NURSERIES
 Celestial Dream · Chimacum Woods
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 Fancy Fronds · Foxglove
 Keeping It Green · Plant LLC
 Longbranch Nursery · Naylor Creek
 Phocus Farms · Windcliff

PLANT SALE & GARDEN OPEN
 SUMMER · JULY 25th · 2015

HOURS: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 7530 NE 288th Kingston, WA 98346
PRESENTED BY THE PORT GAMBLE SK'LALLAM FOUNDATION

Heronswood's Summer Plant Sale & Garden Open is just around the corner on July 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Heronswood's Plant Sale & Garden Open events are known as the place to go to shop from some of the best Pacific Northwest nurseries, all under one sky. Featured vendors for the Summer 2015 sale include: [Celestial Dream](#), [Chimacum Woods](#), [Dancing Oaks](#), [Desert Northwest](#), [Fancy Fronds](#), Foxglove, [Friendly Natives](#), [Keeping It Green](#), Longbranch Nursery, [Naylor Creek](#), [Phocus Farms](#), [Plant LLC](#), and Windcliff, the private garden of Dan Hinkley and Robert Jones, Heronswood's co-founders.

One of the most popular draws of every Plant Sale are the free lectures, which often fill up just minutes after seats become available 30 minutes before the start time.

The lecture schedule for the Summer Plant Sale & Garden Open includes:

<u>Lecture Start</u>	<u>Tickets Available /Doors Open</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Lecture Title</u>
10:30 a.m.	10 a.m. / 10:15 a.m.	Dan Hinkley, <i>Co-founder Windcliff and Heronswood; Garden Director for Heronswood</i>	Spicing Up the Garden with Late Summer Color
Noon	11:30 a.m. / 11:45 a.m.	Nita-Jo Rountree, <i>Garden Designer, Educator</i>	Perfect Plant Combos for Every Garden
1:30 p.m.	1 p.m. / 1:15 p.m.	Dan Hinkley, <i>Co-founder Windcliff and Heronswood; Garden</i>	Great Hydrangeas and Hydrangea Relatives for the

Admission to the Plant Sale and all lectures is free of charge. Entrance to the garden for a self-guided tour is \$10.

If you aren't yet a Heronswood member, you can find out more information or sign up at the Spring Plant Sale & Garden Open. There are membership levels ranging from Senior or Student (\$30) and Individual (\$50) to Enthusiast (\$250) and Patron (\$1000). All levels of membership receive free admission to tour the garden during Garden Opens & Plant Sales.

Additional Plant Sale & Garden Opens in 2015 include the Fall event on September 19.

All proceeds go towards the restoration and maintenance of the garden.

Meet Shonna Sinclair:

Heronswood's New Volunteer Coordinator



Originally from New Jersey, Shonna comes to us from San Francisco, CA.

A lifelong plant and animal lover, she started out her horticultural career while volunteering at the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Presidio Native Plants Nursery. During this time, she returned to college to study Plant Nursery Management. She was a seasonal Nursery Assistant for the G.G.N.P.C. in the Presidio and then did her internship at Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek, CA. She was then hired as their first Nursery Assistant, where she instructed, managed, and worked side by side with their Volunteers.

In early 2014, Shonna and her husband moved to North Kitsap for his job. Shonna has been a Volunteer at both Heronswood and Bloedel Reserve.

"It is truly an honor to be employed by the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe's Foundation and to coordinate Volunteers for Heronswood Garden! Our Volunteers

are the heartbeat of the Garden. We couldn't function without them; they are invaluable," Shonna says.

Schedule a Tour at Heronswood!

If you're not able to make it to Heronswood's Spring Plant Sale & Garden Open, you haven't missed your chance to visit the garden!

Private tours can be scheduled for \$10 per person or a flat rate of \$100 for parties of less than 10. These tours are guided by Heronswood staff and box lunches can be arranged (for an additional fee) to be enjoyed in the garden.

You can schedule a [tour online](#) or by calling Steve at 360-297-9620.

Lots of opportunities to Weed, Walk, & Talk in 2015!

By popular demand, we're continuing our Weed, Walk, & Talk series in 2015 with monthly volunteer days on the second Wednesday and fourth Saturday.

Upcoming 2015 Weed, Walk, & Talk dates, include:

- Wednesday, August 12
- Saturday, August 22
- Wednesday, September 9
- Saturday, September 26
- Wednesday, October 14
- Saturday, October 31

Each day runs from 9 am to 3 pm. Please arrive as close to 9 am as is convenient for you.

More information about volunteer events can be found at Heronswoodgarden.org/Volunteer.

Are you a BECU member?
Nominate Heronswood Garden
for a BECU Community Benefit Award

If you're a Boeing Employees Credit Union member and a Heronswood Garden volunteer, Garden member, or donor, please consider nominating Heronswood Garden for a BECU Community Benefit Award. Contact Joan Garrow at 360-297-9623 or jgarrow@pgst.nsn.us by July 24th for more information.

We look forward to seeing you in the Garden!

7530 NE 288th St.; Kingston, WA 98346

HeronswoodGarden.org

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