By providing a unique garden of great beauty, we encourage people to think about the fragility of our natural world and the important role plants play in our lives and the environment.
Director’s Comment

“If not now, when?”

As Quarryhill begins its thirtieth year, we have a lot to be proud of. The living collection of unique, rare, and endangered plants continues to thrive and has received international recognition for its significance. Our education program for 4th and 5th graders from throughout Sonoma County now reaches almost 1,500 students a year. The Jiang Entian Heritage Rose Garden has matured into a notable floral and historical display. We continue to provide plant material to botanic gardens, universities, and researchers, worldwide. All of this and so much more has only been possible due to the dedication of the staff, board of directors, volunteers, supporters, and the initial inspiration and patronage of Quarryhill founder Jane Davenport Jansen.

As I wander the garden thinking about what might happen in the next few decades, I am reminded of the saying “if not now, when” by Jewish scholar and religious leader Hillel the Elder (c. 60 BC-10 AD). It has been used by countless others, including President Obama, and is a phrase I use often. It is a statement that is charged with import and attacks our indolence and our proclivity to procrastinate. But the statement can mean many things. Scholars apparently argue to this day about what Hillel the Elder actually meant. To me, it means let’s get to the things that are really important, that really matter. And what can be more important than taking time for yourself, to ponder what has happened, to reflect on what gives meaning to your life, to consider what you might do next or differently, and, perhaps most importantly, to settle into and enjoy the present moment. A frequent response from those near death, when asked what they would have done differently, is that they wished they had spent more time with family and friends, or taken more time for themselves enjoying nature or a garden.

Many of us spend much of our lives thinking about the past in an overly nostalgic or regretful way, or thinking about the future in an overly hopeful or fearful way. In reality, there is only now. For me, two of the best places to become aware of the present moment are in wild nature and in a garden like Quarryhill.

To immerse ourselves in a garden restores us, even heals us, and helps us understand and deal with the cares of our far too busy lives. And so, I invite all of you to find the time for a walk in the garden with a friend or loved one, or simply alone, and I would say to you, “if not now, when?”

“The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.”

Chinese Proverb

Expedition to Shaanxi

My spring scouting trip to Shaanxi was very successful and quite interesting for me, as I had not spent much time in that area before. We were working south of Xi’an in the Qin Ling Shan. It was far richer than I had expected and exceedingly beautiful, which surprised me, being so close to Xi’an.

I was hosted by Dr. Wang Yaling from the Xi’an Botanical Garden. She sent Dr. Bai Guoqing, who has been studying Dipteronia and Acer, to travel with me as a guide.

We spent a few days in and around Huang Hua Lin, at about 5,000 feet elevation. Here, there were several Acer, Cornus, Alangium, Eupeilea, Spiraea, Lindera, Juglans, Rhus, Deutzia, Celtis, Carpinus, Quercus, and much more. The Cornus kousa and the Deutzia albida made spectacular white splashes on the mountainsides.

We then traveled on to an area near Ning Shan, at about 6,200 feet elevation. Here, there was much the same flora, with at least five species of Acer, along with Staphylea, Rodgersia, Kerria, Deutzia, Tsuga, Quercus, and Sorbus.

We then went on to the Fo Ping Nature Reserve near Liang Feng Ya, at about 5,500 feet elevation. This is the furthest north panda reserve and was difficult to get permission to enter. There are said to be 67 pandas living within the reserve. It was equally rich and quite beautiful with Tilia, Cercidiphyllum, Decaisnea, Buddleja, Davidia, Juglans, Carpinus, Salix, and Quercus.

I returned to Shaanxi in October and was again hosted by Dr. Wang Yaling. Dr. Bai Guoqing was unable to accompany me due to a scheduling conflict. This was very unfortunate, as he was very familiar with the goals of the fieldwork. On top of this, it was a very poor seed year with the result that there were very few useful collections. It also rained considerably, making fieldwork in the steep mountains difficult and at times dangerous. It may be worth it to consider a return to this area at some future date.

- Bill McNamara, Executive Director
Quarryhill Shares Plant Material

During 2016, Quarryhill continued to fulfill its mission by contributing plant material for scientific research as well as promoting widespread cultivation of its collection through the sharing of seeds and specimens to scientists and gardens at home and abroad.

As usual, this year included requests of plants and seeds to supplement inventories of living collections at gardens and other botanical institutions, including UC Davis, which received a variety of about 250 young Quarryhill seedlings and rooted cuttings, and the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, receiving stem and rhizome cutting material. Garden origin seedlings of Quarryhill’s rare flowering tree, *Emmenopterys henryi*, were also distributed, for the purpose of providing auction items for Powell Gardens in Kansas City.

An Index Seminum is a list of seeds from a botanical institution that are available, usually at no cost, to other institutions and individuals interested in obtaining seed to supplement inventory, perform scientific research, or simply add interest and variety to a collection. Over the years, Quarryhill has received numerous wild-origin accessions from Indices Seminum offered by gardens and institutions such as Chiba University, Kyoto University, Ofuna Botanical Garden and Toyama Botanic Gardens in Japan, Chollipo Arboretum and Jeju Botanical Garden in South Korea, Beijing Botanical Garden and Shanghai Botanic Garden in China, the Taiwan Forestry Research Institute, and the Magnolia Society International.

Quarryhill has also been a provider of Index Seminum seed offerings to various institutions, including last year’s many offerings to the Cal Hort Society, with which Quarryhill has enjoyed a long-term cooperative relationship of sharing plant material over many years.

Researchers, worldwide, continue to receive Quarryhill plant material for DNA extractions and morphological analysis used in systematics research (the study of taxonomic relationships), among other areas of study, including a request for *Dichroa febrifuga* seed for molecular studies being conducted at the University of Zagreb, Croatia.

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*Dichroa febrifuga*

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Education Update

Quarryhill’s education program enjoyed another year of success in 2016. In this program, the garden becomes the classroom while trained volunteer docents teach introductory plant science to fourth and fifth grade students. Over 1,200 students from Sonoma and Napa Counties visited the garden this past year, and five new volunteers joined the ranks of our education docents after our annual docent training. Our volunteers learn about the plant life cycle, the role of plants in our daily lives, and the conservation efforts of Quarryhill so that they can educate our visiting students on these subjects. Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers and generous donors, without whom this program would not be possible.

Appreciation Due

We are fortunate to have a diverse group of volunteers comprised of nursery workers, education and tour docents, flower phenology trackers, photographers, office and mailing assistants, event facilitators, cart drivers who provide garden access for those in need, dead-headers of the floral kind, board members, and much more. We are constantly reminded of how our day-to-day successes are due, in large part, to this dedicated group. Thank you all for helping us make 2016 one of our most successful years yet. You are an inspiration to us!

QUARRYHILL’S VOLUNTEERS

Tireless Supporters, We Thank You Profoundly!

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Philip Wilkinson
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Pat Young
Cliff Zyskowski

5th Grade School Field Trip
Making a Difference

With the help of volunteers, staff, board members, and the unbelievable contributions of our amazing sponsors and donors, our 4th annual Wild Collections, Expeditions for Education fundraiser was an overwhelming success!

The funds raised at this very special event go toward improving and expanding Quarry-hill’s youth science education program, as well as advancing the knowledge of our staff and education docents on the subject of environmental education, so that we may further improve the methods used in this program.

While supporting a great cause is reason enough to attend, it is looking like 2017 is going to include exciting new features sure to promise yet another great, must-attend party! There will be surprises at every turn. One of the secrets, we will let you in on... our keynote speaker is Paul Meyer, the F. Otto Haas Executive Director of the Morris Arboretum at the University of Pennsylvania. Many people who attended last year said it was one of the best fundraisers they went to all year, so don’t miss out!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE 5th ANNUAL WILD COLLECTIONS, EXPEDITIONS FOR EDUCATION FUNDRAISER SATURDAY, MAY 20TH TO BUY YOUR TICKETS, CALL (707) 996-3166 or visit www.quarryhillbg.org

Staff Education

APGA Annual Conference

Jennifer Kesser, Quarryhill’s Office Manager, attended the recent annual conference of the American Public Garden Association. This year, it was held in Miami, Florida from June 6th through June 10th with the theme Changing Perspectives: Planting for the Future. The conference included visits to four private estates, including Robert Fuchs’ home and garden, The Kampong, the John C. Gifford Arboretum, and Dr. David Fairchild’s 7-acre home site on Biscayne Bay that features many tropical fruit trees that he introduced, including many cultivars of mango, avocado, and lychee. There was also a visit to the Vizcaya Museum, the “nation’s best formal European-inspired garden” which Jennifer said was “over-the-top beautiful!”
How Our Funds Are Used:

It costs more than $3,000 per day to maintain the 62-acre property and execute our programs.

We are both fortunate and thankful for the foresight and legacy of founder Jane Davenport Jansen, but endowment income covers only a fraction of what is needed to properly care for our unique Sonoma Valley treasure.

We need the support of members and donors to continue our work wild-collceting seeds, conserving endangered plants, supporting scientific research, and educating adults and children on the importance of plants and their habitats to the earth and its humans.

INCOME:

- Donations & Gifts: 15%
- Dividends & Interest: 11%
- Events & Rentals: 23%
- Memberships: 5%
- Grants: 14%
- Vineyard Sales: 8%
- Visitor Fees: 9%
- Gift Shop/Plant Sales: 10%
- Science: 12%
- Elementary Education: 15%
- Conservation: 17%
- Fundraising: 8%
- Tours, Public Programs: 10%
- Administration: 7%
- Field Exploration: 17%

EXPENSES:

Consider the Legacy You’ll Leave

It doesn’t take great wealth or a large estate to positively influence the future of the organizations in which you believe and have faith. Legacy giving is effective and beneficial at all levels.

If Quarryhill is important to you because of its beauty, its serenity, and the work it does in preserving plants, slowing the loss of biodiversity, and educating the conservationists of the future, please consider leaving a legacy gift to the garden in your will or trust.

Supporters who make planned or legacy gifts become members of the Magnolia Circle, Quarryhill’s legacy society that honors those who help ensure the garden’s continued survival. Call (707) 996-3166 for more information.

Tribute & Memorial Gifts

Engraved bricks and pavers in the Chinese Heritage Rose Garden, benches in the Woodland Garden, and certain trees in the gardens are all features that can be used to recognize someone important to you with a memorial or tribute.

Call (707) 996-3166 or visit our website at www.quarryhillbg.org
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We sincerely thank all donors and contributors, with special thanks to the following major donors who contributed $500 or more during 2016:

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Executive Director Bill McNamara was a featured speaker twice in China during 2016. The first occasion was in May at the joint conference of the 2016 World Federation of Rose Societies Regional Convention and the 14th World Heritage Rose Conference, in Beijing. Bill’s presentation was about searching for and finding *Rosa chinensis* var. *spontanea* and *Rosa odorata* var. *gigantea*. These wild roses are considered to be two of the most important ancestors of modern roses. The second presentation was in October at the 1st Hailuogou International Mountain Forum in Moxi, a small town in western Sichuan. His presentation there was about the rare and endangered *Acer pentaphyllum*, found only in western Sichuan along the Yalong River.

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**Star Volunteer**

Each year, the Sonoma Valley Fund holds an event to honor volunteers at Sonoma Valley non-profits by presenting them with a Star Award for their volunteer service. In past years, Quarryhill volunteers Gaius Robinson, Marilyn Smith, Steven Hightower, Rosemary McCreary, Pat Edelstein, Lori Ross, Jefra Parlett, Thora Graves, and Steve Corey have been honored. In 2016, Quarryhill was proud to honor volunteers Philip & Julia Wilkinson and Ina Welker. All three have been dedicated and reliable volunteers and are consistently available to help out in many areas, such as leading docent tours for both adults and children, assisting with our many events, and taking an active role in the training of new volunteers. In their words:

Ina - “As a recent transplant from Arizona, becoming involved at the garden has brought me friendship, purpose, and the magic of nature, all with the added bonus of experiencing it through the eyes of a child.”

Julia – “Quarryhill Botanical Garden is a peaceful and nurturing garden where I can share my love of nature and plants with school children and adults, as well as increase my own knowledge of plants and their importance in our lives.”

Philip – “Quarryhill lets me help in a small way in its mission to propagate and preserve some of the threatened flora of the world, threatened through no fault of their own.”

The board of directors and staff cannot thank them enough for all that they do for Quarryhill.

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**ADVANCING THE CONSERVATION, STUDY, AND CULTIVATION OF THE FLORA OF ASIA**

FOR MORE INFO, CALL (707) 996-3166 OR VISIT WWW.QUARRYHILLBG.ORG

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