

## POLLEN DUST

continued...

### 5) "Mosaic-blotched"

- Japanese Dogwood
- Persian Ironwood



### 6) "Camouflage-pattern"

- Lacebark Pine
- Chinese Zelkova
- Plane Tree & Sycamore



### 7) "Snake-bark"

- Striped Bark Maple
- Chinese Maple (Many Oriental species & relatives of the Maple clan)



#### Bark:

*"The layer of tissue lying outside the vascular cambium in the stem of a tree or woody plant, consisting of phloem, cortex and periderm; the corky outer layer of this."*  
— OED

*"Hiding place and habitat of many insects and fungi; and lichens; many beneficial, some deleterious, a few lethal to the tree."*  
— MK

*Bark as an "Aging measurement", my associate and friend, Richard Cook mentions the "reverse growth rings" in bark — as the tree grows, its outside living cambium becomes an additional lignified annual ring of bark — and part of the "protecting skin".* — MK

## Webster Arboretum Association, Inc. Statement of Financial Income and Expense

January through December 2020

Ordinary Income/Expense	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>	
Membership Dues	1,892.00
Donations	3,949.00
Program Income	2,646.00
Investments	—
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,487.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Plants, Maintenance, Supplies	6,183.00
Printing, Postage, Shipping	814.00
Other types of expenses	2,431.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>9,428.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(941.00)</b>

### IMPORTANT REMINDER!

TO THOSE WHO



**WALK/RUN THEIR DOGS AT THE ARBORETUM. PLEASE JUST TUCK A PLASTIC BAG IN YOUR POCKET AND CLEAN UP AFTER "BOWSER". THE BLUE BAG THAT ENCOMPASSES THE DAILY PAPER, IF YOU GET ONE, MAKES A HANDY RECEPTACLE. THIS THOUGHTFUL GESTURE MAKES WALKING MORE PLEASANT AND LESS HAZARDOUS FOR ALL THE NICE PEOPLE WHO COME TO ENJOY OUR LOVELY ARBORETUM, ESPECIALLY OUR CHILDREN WHO SOMETIMES DON'T WATCH WHERE THEY WALK. PLEASE TAKE IT WITH YOU!**

## WEBSTER ARBORETUM ASSOCIATION, INC.

Present board members of the Webster Arboretum Association, Inc. are:

Carole Huther, *Chairperson*

Liz Marr, *Treasurer*

Alana Miller, *Vice Chairperson*

Sandy Borkhuis, *Secretary*

*Members:* Cathy Blakey, George Riehle, Patsy Moran, Donna Shayder, Judy Mutrie

*Honorary Board Members:* Stephanie Lux, Carroll Manning, and Bud Saylor

The board meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 PM.

## THE WEBSTER ARBORETUM ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

**Co-editors:** Marian Welter and Jo Thomson.

**Contributors:** Beverly Gibson, Carole Huther, Cindy Garfield Kindle, Michael Kopicki, Donna Shayder and Marian Welter.

**Photos by:** Beverly Gibson, Cindy Garfield Kindlead and Sue Huther.

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[www.websterarboretum.org](http://www.websterarboretum.org)

• JOIN US AT THE ARBORETUM • FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! •

Webster Arboretum Association, Inc.

• ANNUAL MEETING • 6:30PM Tuesday, April 27, 2021 •

**Speaker:** Carole Huther, "Owls, Everything you ever wanted to know!"

At the Webster Arboretum, Curry Building, 1700 Schlegel Road

**DON'T MISS! 20TH ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE!**

**SATURDAY, MAY 8th • 8 AM - 12 NOON**

**New Vendors and The Old Standbys!**

**Remember to Pre-order Geraniums & Save Money!**



THE WEBSTER SESQUICENTENNIAL ARBORETUM

# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 31 ♦ ISSUE 1 ♦ SPRING 2021

## ARBORETUM POLLEN DUST

by Michael Kopicki

### "Notes on Bark"

*Tree bark in the made and natural landscapes, as a design element & interesting visual.*

*Here are a few choice examples:*

Various geometric shapes and the vertical presence of trees are the most prominent aspect as we walk through forest and field, but the tone, color and texture of their bark is equally important as aesthetic component.

Following is a brief catalogue of some characteristic "bark types" with a few examples taken from nature and nursery illustrating these different impressions and effects.

#### 1) "Shaggy, exfoliating"

- Chinese Cherry
- Yellow Birch
- Shagbark Hickory
- Paperbark Maple



#### 2) "Warty, ridged, fissured"

- Hackberry
- American Persimmon



#### 3) "Smooth skinned"

- Serviceberry
- Yellowwood
- Sweet Birch
- Bee Bee Tree
- Paw Paw
- Beech



#### 4) "Rope-like, vertical grooves/ropes"

- Black Walnut
- Native White Ash



(continued on back)

## Bird Watching at the Arboretum!

by: Cindy Garfield Kindle



On a rare sunny, snowy day, Bev Gibson and I snowshoed around the Arboretum and checked out the birds. There were plenty of our winter "regulars" like this sweet Black-capped Chickadee. Our winter resident birds all have strategies to survive the cold. For chickadees this includes stashing food in the fall (and they remember where it is!), and roosting (sleeping) in tree cavities at night. Even our dead trees are important



to birds! After I looked at my photos, I could see that this Chickadee grabbed an insect pupa out of this tangle.

I was happy to hear this handsome Song Sparrow chipping in the weeds along the rim of the very frozen pond. This is a bird that generally moves south for the winter, but they are pretty hardy, and occasionally you can find them toughing it out here. He will survive on weed seeds that stick up out of the snow; leaving weeds tall for the winter benefits many native birds.



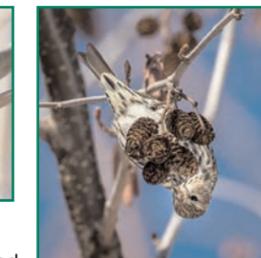
Our most exciting find was a flock of Pine Siskins. These small, nomadic birds move south from Canada in the winters when their food supply is in short supply. Some years, like this year,



flocks of them will move through here. Other years we will have none.

Fortunately, they too are a tough bird and seemed content acrobatically feeding on the alders that grow wild along the creek near the parking lot.

Last, but never least, we were treated by a flyover of the whitest Red-tailed Hawk I have ever seen. What a beautiful, majestic bird against that blue sky. **It was a great day to be outside!**



## Volunteerism at the Arboretum

by Donna Shayder

2020 was a year none of us will ever forget. The United Way's Day of Caring, which annually has provided an average of 100 enthusiastic volunteers from a number of businesses and organizations, was cancelled. Our summer "Wednesday Gardening" with volunteers was also put on hold as we did not want to put our volunteers at risk.

However, the Arboretum came through the pandemic looking beautiful. Some Master Gardener volunteers approached us, wanting to offer their services. We welcomed them and using safety measures and social distancing we made use of their talents. Much was accomplished by their many hours of service.

The Webster garden club volunteers worked hard to maintain their gardens and to keep them looking beautiful.

With the vaccine becoming available, we are hopeful that 2021 will be different. However, we will not ask for volunteers until we know everyone will be safe.

• JOIN US AT THE ARBORETUM • FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! •

• ANNUAL MEETING • 6:30PM Tuesday, April 27, 2021 •

## “SPICE GIRL” Spring in the Herb Garden

For so many years we have featured photographs of the herb garden in mid to late summer when the herbal flowers fairly call out to you with their vibrant colors and lush foliage. In spring, when most of the later-blooming plants are still mounds of green, there are scattered clusters of herbs in full bloom. It is about time the demure spring herbs have their chance to shine.



If you scan this May photograph you will notice that the garden looks sparse and less multi-dimensional than in the summer months because most of the early-flowering plants stay close to the ground. Starting at the Medicinal bed (in front of the arboretum sign), the first flowers to draw your eyes will be the bright yellow *Primula veris* or cowslip, a native of Europe and Asia and naturalized in the US and Canada. Then, proceeding around the beds in a clockwise direction, the Culinary bed to the right contains *Allium schoenoprasum* or chives with their blue-green foliage and soft pink flowers. The leaves and flowers are edible. Almost invisible in front of the chives are the thyme plants hugging the rocks for heat.

In the right foreground in the Fragrance bed there is purple *Nepeta mussinii* or catmint, hardly “demure” since it spreads prolifically and lasts until fall if sheared after each bloom cycle. It is related to catnip but its fragrance does not attract cats. Moving left to the middle of the Dye Bed there is stunning blue *Anchusa officinalis* or Alkanet, an old-fashioned herb that yields a red dye from its roots.

The next bed to the left is the Native American bed with *Hierochloe odorata* or sweetgrass growing along the rock edge in front of the *wild hydrangea* (not yet in bloom). The flowers of sweetgrass are in small olive-green and white clusters on single stems. The blades, braided for use in ceremonies and basketmaking have a vanilla scent when dried. In the center of the garden is the small, round Sacred bed full of the blue, pink and white flowers of *Pulmonaria sacharinum* or Bethlehem Sage.

Each year the seasons shift somewhat so start looking for these flowers in early May and throughout the month to see each one at its peak. *Visit early and often!*

— by Beverly Gibson, aka “Spice Girl” 2021

## — 2021 — ARBORETUM EVENTS

**ANNUAL MEETING**  
APRIL 27th Tuesday, 6:30 PM

**22nd Spring Plant Sale**  
MAY 8th Saturday, 8 AM-Noon

**The Whole Month of JULY**  
DAYLILIES IN BLOOM

**ANNUAL DAYLILY SALE**  
July 17th  
Saturday, 8 AM-Noon

**HOLIDAY SALE**  
December 4th  
Saturday, 9 AM-Noon

## ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 27, 2021



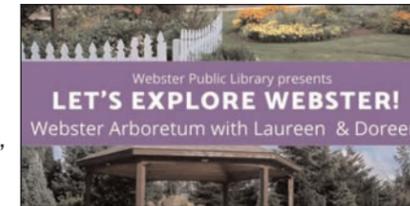
We hope you will join us for the Arboretum Annual Meeting that will be held at the Curry Building in the Arboretum. We will review the annual budget and elect new members. If you have a desire to serve on the on the board for a three year term, contact me, Carole Huther at [chuther165@gmail.com](mailto:chuther165@gmail.com).

After our brief business meeting a power point program on “*Owls, Everything You Ever Wanted To Know*” will be presented. Refreshments will be served. We hope you will put us on your calendar for April 27 at 6:30 p.m. and join us for an enjoyable evening.

## Watch Videos of the Webster Arboretum on YouTube!

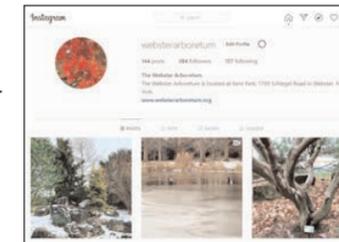
Two of the Webster Public Library staff, Doreen and Laureen, have been filming a video at the Webster Arboretum each month since May 2020.

The videos are part of a **LET'S EXPLORE WEBSTER!** series that the Adult Programming Committee at the library proposed since in-person programs weren't an option because of the COVID pandemic. The monthly videos are meant to capture the beauty that is ever changing at the Webster Arboretum as the months and seasons go by. The videos can be viewed on the Webster Public Library **YouTube channel** <https://www.youtube.com/user/WebsterPublicLibrary>



## Find the Webster Arboretum on Instagram!

If you'd enjoy seeing photos of the Webster Arboretum throughout the year follow **websterarboretum** on Instagram. If you don't have an Instagram app on your phone, go to your App Store and search for Instagram. Set up an account and follow the Webster Arboretum account along with other outdoor and nature locations in our community, throughout the United States and around the world!

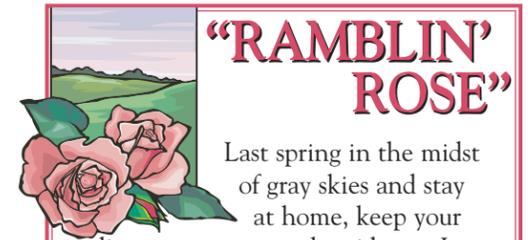


## Reading at the Arboretum by Sandy Borkhuis

Have you explored the children's maze at the Arboretum lately? Through the generosity of our members, the maze has recently been under reconstruction. Fresh new plantings of arborvitae have been installed to repair the maze walls and the paths have been graded and made smooth. So why wander in? There's something new to find as you make your way to the center. At the heart of the maze you will find a children's free lending library. On your next trip to the Arboretum, bring your little one and come borrow a book! Do you have a beloved children's book that needs a new home? When you bring that borrowed book back, bring that favorite children's book and leave it in the library for the next visitor. Improvements to the maze are not finished. The next addition will be seating installed for the ultimate enjoyment of the kids. What could be nicer than visiting the Arboretum on a warm sunny day and reading a good book? **Come and check it out!**



## Around the Arboretum... Photos by Sue Huther



Last spring in the midst of gray skies and stay at home, keep your distance, wear a mask guidance, I had a nasty case of the blues. It wasn't raining, so we decided to get some fresh air and went over to the Arboretum. There we found beautiful hellebores in bloom, buds swelling on the trees, and even some of that yellow green blush as trees begin to leaf out. And the bird migration was in full swing. It was just the reminder I needed that while the activities of my life may have been paused, the natural world persisted in its boundless growth!

All through spring, summer and fall, we kept wandering over to the Arb. It never disappoints! While there isn't any good way of taking attendance at the Arb, our observation throughout the year told us that more people than ever before had discovered the joys of visiting our hidden gem.

I expect our lives will slowly regain a sense of normalcy this year. I think the Arb has helped us all along the way. I feel a huge sense of gratitude to all the workers who help keep the Arboretum beautiful and well kept! Thank you all!

Stay safe and well. See you at the Arb!

— by Marian Welter, as “Rose”