

Creating a garden of unity and reconciliation

# Japanese Garden Society of Salt Spring Island

Box 657, Ganges PO

Salt Spring Island BC V8K 2W3

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[www:saltspringjapanesegarden.com](http://www.saltspringjapanesegarden.com)

Spring Issue 2013

# NEWSLETTER

## Join us for the Blossom Picnic in the Heiwa Garden Saturday April 13th 11:00 ~ 3:00

In a celebration of spring, the Japanese Garden Society will hold a Blossom Picnic on Saturday April 13th from 11:00 to 3:00. It is one of the many events being held during the island-wide festival 'Salt Spring Blooms' starting from Easter weekend (March 29th - April 1st) to Earth Day weekend (April 21st - 22nd). Please join us for music, poetry readings, martial art demonstrations, a plant sale, Japanese homestyle sushi lunches, Saori weaving and many more activities.

**Peter Levitt, Shirley Graham, Terry Ann Carter, Elehna de Sousa** will share poems and stories on the theme of blossom; **Raffi** will join us for a sing-along 'Haru ga Kita', **Alan Moberg** will sing some of his tunes; **Iroko** will inspire your inner rhythms with African beats; there will be **karate** and **aikido** demos to watch; **Terri Bibby** will set up a loom for a Saori weaving; and **Shinobu Murata** will write your name in beautiful calligraphy with sumi ink and brush. Bring family and friends to this fun gathering! Check out the program timetable on page three.

## Invitation to a Haiku Writing Workshop on Sunday April 14th

### The Way of Haiku - Haiku Composition with Terry Ann Carter

1:00 ~ 4:00 at the Library Program Room Cost: \$30 (\$25 students and low-income participants)

Award-winning haiku poet Terry Ann Carter will help you navigate the fascinating world of haiku. Originating in Japan as a concise form of poetry some hundreds of years ago, haiku has been embraced in the West to express beauty and emotion using simple words and phrases.

In this workshop, you'll learn how to craft haiku and make an artful prayer flag with paper and natural materials on which you'll write your own poem. Limited to 20 participants.

For more about Terry Ann Carter, go to: <http://www.terryanncarter.com>

*spring moon --  
what can you teach me  
about staying young?*

*the small birthmark  
above her lip --  
cherry blossom*

As an optional treat, a bowl of Japanese macha tea with a bite-size sweet will be prepared for you for a cost of \$5. Please pay in advance with your registration if you would like this refreshment.

To secure your spot, please email JGS at [info@saltspringjapanesegarden.com](mailto:info@saltspringjapanesegarden.com) or phone 250-653-9778 (Rumi) then send a cheque with your name, phone number, email address and whether or not you would like the refreshments to the Japanese Garden Society: Box 657, Ganges P.O., Salt Spring Island, V8K 2W3.

# The story behind the Heiwa Garden - profile of volunteers

With this issue of our newsletter, we want to introduce some of our many volunteers, and decided to begin with the very first ones; Mearnie Summers and Caffyn Kelly.

Almost ten years ago, Mearnie and Caffyn heard a presentation by Rose Murakami about her family's experiences during the pre-war period, the internment camp, and the post-war hardship. Inspired by her story, Caffyn and Mearnie decided that some way needed to be found to acknowledge this dark history, to educate those who did not live here at that time about what happened, and to find reconciliation and healing if possible.



A garden to create unity and reconciliation became the focus of their lives. They organized meetings, signed up supporters, raised funds, searched for a location for the garden, met with countless public officials, wrote grant applications, and all of the hundreds of tasks needed to get this project off the ground.

It's been four years now since we officially opened Heiwa Garden in May 2009. Trees and flowers have matured. Benches donated by our generous supporters are gratefully appreciated by those walking through the Garden.

This year at our annual meeting, Caffyn and Mearnie told us they would like to step back from the intensity of being Board members, but they continue to offer us their support when needed.

Mearnie moved into Greenwoods earlier this year after experiencing a fall a couple years ago which affected her hearing in one ear and therefore her balance. But she loves visitors and welcomes everyone to stop by and see her. She enjoys chatting and would love to share a cup of coffee or tea with you. (Photo by Shari MacDonald)

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## A recipe from the global kitchen

### Daikon and Wakame Seaweed Salad

Ingredients: for 3 ~ 4 people

- 1/2 a medium-sized daikon radish, peeled and sliced into thin strips
- 1/2 cup of dehydrated wakame seaweed (substitute: a handful of blanched kale or nettle, or fresh mizuna leaves)
- 1/2 cucumber, cored and sliced into thin strips
- 1 stalk of celery, sliced into thin strips
- 1/4 purple onion, thinly sliced
- Roasted sesame seeds to garnish

For dressing:

- 4 tbsp rice vinegar
- 2 tbsp canola oil
- 2 tbsp roasted sesame oil
- 2 tsp soy sauce
- 2 tsp sugar

Preparation:

1. Soak dehydrated wakame in a cold water for 20 minutes until it has softened. Wash well under running water and dry it well with clean towel. Cut into 1 inch long pieces. You can buy dehydrated wakame at Nature Works on Salt Spring and Japanese foodstores like Fujiya in Victoria.
2. Mix daikon, cucumber, wakame seaweed, celery, and purple onion in a large bowl.
3. Mix all the ingredients for the dressing in a separate container. Just before serving, toss the salad together with the dressing, then sprinkle roasted sesame seeds.



## What's next...

The trees and shrubs in the Heiwa Garden are getting greener every day under the spring sun. The plants have become well established since we first planted in 2009. The black pine trees that were donated by Bonsai Master Tak Yamaura recently got new haircuts. They are more than thirty years old and Tak grew them from seed. His nursery, Japan Bonsai in White Rock, is the biggest bonsai nursery in North America. It's worth a visit if you like bonsai and are in the area. We would like to have him back soon so that he can show us how to prune the pines in the authentic Japanese style.



**Our next goal is to install a water feature in the garden.**

Our next project is to install a water feature. It will be a beautiful Japanese tea garden style stone basin surrounded by yakuishi - rocks with purposes; one is for kneeling down to get water, one is to place a lantern, one is for placing a dipper. The Blossom Picnic in the Heiwa Garden on April 13th and the Haiku Workshop on April 14th will help us build the water feature and maintain the garden for the future.

## Blossom Picnic Timetable Sat Apr 13 11:00 - 3:00

Japanese homestyle sushi lunches for sale:  
Inari Sushi \$4.50 Spring Chirashi Sushi \$6

**We are taking advance orders:**  
call 250-653-9778 (Rumi) or  
email: [info@saltspringjapanesegarden.com](mailto:info@saltspringjapanesegarden.com)

- 11:00 Opening
- 11:10 Aikido demo  
by Alan Wardroper & Brian Smallshaw
- 11:30 Brenda Guiled and Karate Kids demo
- 12:00 Raffi Sing-along "Haru ga Kita"
- 12:10 Haiku readings  
by SS Elementary students
- 12:30 Haiku Tales by Terry Ann Carter
- 1:00 Haiku reading by Elehna de Sousa
- 1:10 Poetry on Spring Blossoms  
by Peter Levitt and Shirley Graham
- 2:00 Alan Moberg; our Saltwater Cowboy!
- 2:20 African Drumming by Iroko

## Your support will help the Heiwa Garden grows with the community

The Japanese Garden Society of Salt Spring Island welcomes your support and participation. If you wish to be a member, volunteer, or make a donation, please fill out the form below and mail it to us. Please make cheques or money orders payable to the 'Japanese Garden Society'. We issue tax receipts.

Name(s) : \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ postal code

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Type of Membership/Donation

- \$10/year - individual
- \$15/year - household
- \$100/year - corporate
- \$1,000 - lifetime
- Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteers are needed for various tasks.  
Please let us know if you can help.

- Office work
- Information table at events
- Gardening
- Committees (Maintenance, Community Outreach & Fundraising)
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Newsletter (writing, editing)
- Others \_\_\_\_\_

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# We want to thank our many supporters.....

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Aki and Akiko Otsu  
Aki and Miki Kikuchi  
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Yvonne Wakabayashi

**And a big thank-you to any supporter we missed. We greatly appreciate everyone who has taken out a membership, bought a T-shirt, a book, made a donation, or simply stopped by the Garden to enjoy its beauty.**