



FREEBORN RESERVE

Annual News Update

THE RESERVE

The Freeborn Reserve, an outdoor learning center, hosts the NW's only native botanical garden, Pilchuck Glass School Artists' Legacy & Auction Centerpiece collections, and a unique living history farm.

FREEBORN COLLEGE SEMINARY

Rev. Dr. Mark Brocker, President of the International Bonhoeffer Society, Editor(s) of the 17 volume "Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Works," Fortress Press, and adjunct professor at Pacific Lutheran Seminary in Berkeley began our efforts to recreate the Confessing Church's Seminary at Finkenwalde, October 2016.

FREEBORN COLLEGE

As promised, instruction began August 21 with 2 students enrolled. **The goal is to become the successor** to the closed Lutheran Bible Institute of Seattle (renamed Trinity Lutheran College of Everett). Fall Quarter classes include:

BONHOEFFER BOTANICAL GARDENS

The Gardens' 16 rainy-day kiosk teaching stations are designed for 4 minutes visits with 2 minutes walks to the next kiosk. In 2 hours an initially dispersed bus load of students can be introduced to subjects not found on national tests (i.e., no longer taught): native plant types, local glass art, our area's history or the Holocaust.

LIVING HISTORY - THE SPANISH

Almost 100 old family descendents tell of the Spanish mines sites found up the Skagit River, a dozen of the exploration team that fought its way along the Bryant-Stanwood Road in ~1789. We have yet to see a written record.



RUSSIAN TRAPPER CABIN

Two miles down the English Grade Road running north from Exit 215 (a railroad grade 100 years ago), remnants of a fallen down, 3' high log house (with bottom logs being eaten away by rot, buildings becoming shorter each year) stood until the 1930s.



Russian trappers covered the Pacific Coast, all the way to San Francisco where Fort Ross was built in 1822 (a fort to service a large trapping community) and to the west (few know that a Russian fort existed in Hawaii). A plaque at the Peace Arch in Blaine (above) commemorates the 1819 pact between England and the U.S. (only 7 years after the War of 1812) where English and American trappers were given rights and directions to "trap all fur bearing animals to extinction." This trapping had two goals: the first was to eliminate all reason for the Russians to be on the Pacific's West Coast (being that there were no furs left to take). It took but 48 years until Seward's Folly and the U.S. peacefully buying Alaska. In 1935 a Russian trapper's skull was found with a single small caliber hole; this Russian trapper was part of the total population of southern Alaska Russians who were ethnically cleansed after the U.S. purchase. Many of these Russians moved to the Fort Ross area, others moved to Oregon (where their Orthodox Church exists in Woodburn), others scattered themselves up and down the West Coast; they could live in the "New Land," but not in Alaska. Ethnic cleansing is not just a European story.

X

After 50 ye(e.)

CHANGE

Multiply your age times a factor to = 150. 150 years ago the NW was covered with trees 300' tall and 16' in diameter (wide). It is not that we "chopped" them down we chopped all of them down!



REPOSITORY OF VALUES

When a generation ignores history, it fails to understand lessons and values learned. Please support us in this reserve effort of creating legacies for a native garden, museum collections, and a history farm.

DISJUNCT POPULATIONS - THE HUNT FOR RED CURRANTS

Red currants (*trieste*), not "red flowering currants" (*sanguineum*), are rarely found. Pioneers began the logging of 100% of the 1,000+ year old big trees (drive north from Medford to BC, east or west 1 hour in either direction, you will find no tree older than 150 years). The 1890s' debris littered the ground and forest fires then raged, evidenced by blackened stumps still existing in western WA. Plants that took time to reseed disappeared or were left in "disjunct populations," especially in areas of focused plant agriculture and forestry (Douglas Firs). This UW Burke map reports only 4 WA



counties where *ribes tristis* are found, although you may find them at the south end of Camano Island and the top of Bellevue's Cougar Mountain, the latter the site where berries were collected and propagated at Krugeberg Gardens for the one plant found in Bonhoeffer Botanical Gardens.

VISIT BONHOEFFER GARDENS

Visitors enter under WA Revised Codes - RCW 4.24.200/4.24.210, allowing public recreational use: nature study and viewing or enjoying scenic or scientific sites and waterways on private land.

THE MEANING OF LIFE

If you wish to struggle with others with "freeborn minds" over the reason why humans still grace this earth, please join us for:

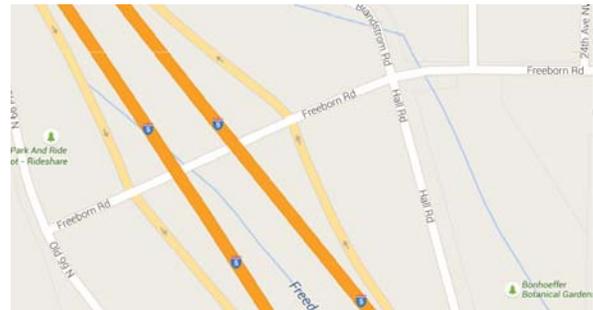
- Worship
- 10 AM Sundays
- Music
- 5 PM Tuesdays
- Latin Club
- 3 PM Wednesdays
- Barbecue & Prayer
- 5:30 PM Saturdays



We are now a community church in name: Freeborn Church; Martin Luder also changed his name (old Greek "freedom's" elutherius). Saturday services are for those of us who are Seahawk fans (to allow for the 10 AM Eastern games).

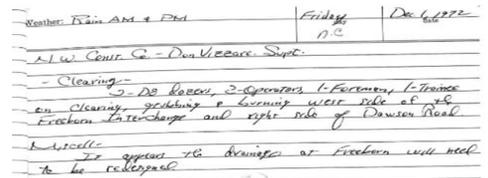
WHY?

Review any map of the area around I-5's Exit 215 - the Gardens' stream system is displayed as shown below:



Water runs north here and there is a stream reported running through the proposed herbarium coffee shop and in the middle of the I-5 on top of a tall hill - almost comically plotted.

The Gardens' waters contain the abandoned (west fork) of Freeborn Church Creek (hence the name "Church Creek") rerouted to circumvent Exit 215 in 1973 in a last minute decision based on cost cutting and deception. If you believe your government does not lie to you from time to time



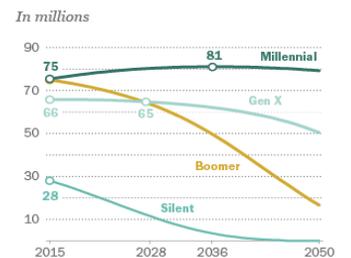
look at official maps. No other stream in western Washington is so misleadingly recorded (to be continued in October's News Update).

WORLD NOTES

History tends to repeat itself, especially when generations forgo lessons learned by ancestors. Like Rome 2,000 years ago, the US has more of its physical currency in the pockets of citizens/locations other than the domestic country; today the US \$ is the default international currency. Like Rome, we station troops in garrisons world-wide (800 military bases in more than 70 countries and territories abroad. Britain, France and Russia, by contrast, have about 30 foreign bases in a combined 83 countries).

Unlike Rome we rarely ask them to pay for this "protection." Yet we build walls like Hadrian's, Cordoba, Aurelian, etc. when the Romans long ago found this approach unworkable. The Romans quit building walls when the place of birth no longer became the only criteria for citizenship. In a democracy, the young decide elections and the future course of countries; it is best to have them well educated, especially in history. And for the old, it'd good to know how to communicate with the young, 400 million who use Instagram. Do you know what it is? The struggle here is for the value system practiced by Americans: a) that of Christian civilization (Winston Churchill's phrase) or b) today's media's ever changing "secular neutrality?"

Projected population by generation



Note: Millennials refers to the population ages 18 to 34 as of 2015.
Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of U.S. Census Bureau population projections released December 2014 and 2015 population estimates



MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

You are invited to walk the Gardens at any time, whether a member or not. Our goal is to never charge for admission to either the Gardens or the Living History Farm. Revenues will derive from donations, preschool and college tuitions, special programs and events, and coffee shop and native plant sales (should the County allow). Membership fees are set at rates to cover the costs of:

Benefits:

- Membership card allowing free admission to planned Special Events: 12 Days of Christmas Walk, 14 Easter Steps (planned)
- 10% discount at the planned herbarium coffee shop ("Sophie's") and Bonhoeffer Botanical Gardens' native plant store
- Member-only exhibition previews
- An annual subscription to this quarterly newsletter
- Priority for Special Programs (Extension 2)
- Admittance at any time

We offer a variety of different ways for individuals, families, students, seniors, and/or organizations to support the Freeborn Reserve.

Individual: \$50	or other Tax	if desired, applied specifically to:
Dual: \$65	<u>Deductible Levels</u>	___ PLC- garden & farm projects
Family: \$75	Steward \$150	___ FC - cemetery - holocaust memorial
Student: \$25	Patron \$300	___ PLC - purchase of camp - campus
Senior: \$30 (dual \$45)	Benefactor \$600	___ PLC - rebooting a Bible college

Your Name: _____ Organization (if any): _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ email: _____

Credit Card Type: _____ Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Made out to: **PLC-Freeborn Reserve** PO Box 280 ♦ Stanwood, Washington 98292 USA ♦ tel (877) 875-0215 ♦ info@plc215.org
501(c)3 not-for-profit organization(s)

The Freeborn Reserve is a joint venture of the Pilchuck (Stanwood Camano) Learning Center, a WA State nonprofit, UBI 602180466, IRS TEE 47-0849914 and Freeborn (Lutheran) Church, UBI 602180532, IRS TEE 91-1228093

SUNDAY SCHOOL ON WEEKDAYS PRESCHOOL

Since 2002, our Pilchuck Learning Center Preschool has had waiting lists for 3 year old (2 days a week) and 4 year old's (3 days a week) early education classes. Next Summer we plan to renovate and expand the preschool (and attendance). We are already expanding enrollment in anticipation (using temporary church and garden space) stressing Nature & the outdoors; if interested, please call the Preschool (Extension 1) regarding the September 2016 schedule.



A New East Stanwood?

Stanwood's seaport is no more and the "train has left the station" regarding Washington city boundaries, yet as the State's New Orleans, it is the largest city to sit below sea level. The new transportation river is the I-5, new septic systems/fields have to be built, and the 300th NW to the Stanwood Bryant road has municipal water (Tatoosh). 2 out of 3 cups of Stanwood's water comes from Church Creek (i.e., Stanwood has little water growth potential, a fish stream suffers, and its septic ponds sit below projected future high water marks). The City could offer to trade all city boundaries below sea level for new land to the East. It costs nothing to ask ...

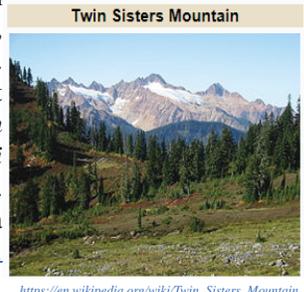
HAS ANYONE EVER CONSIDERED?



IN MEMORIA

Long time activist botanist and UW Professor Art Kruckeberg passed away last year at the age of 96. For 60's alumni, we smile at the thought of this dashing young man (then in the early 40s) who taught flower children and loved life, plants, and mysteries.

We think of Art trekking Mount Baker and Twin Sisters, the latter's slopes in the summer show brown from a distance, pure dunite rarely seen thrust to the surface from the earth's deep mantle. As a rock it is mainly olivine, magnesium iron silicate, holding no phosphorus, with a metals mix toxic to most life. Art loved the 3 ferns that toughed it out there: *Aspidotis densa*, *Adiantum aleuticum*, and *Poystichum lemmonii* (found at the Gardens' Kiosk 1, 6, 10). See WA Native Plant Society's Sara Gage's more fitting tribute: www.wnps.org/blog/. Good by Art, we loved you.



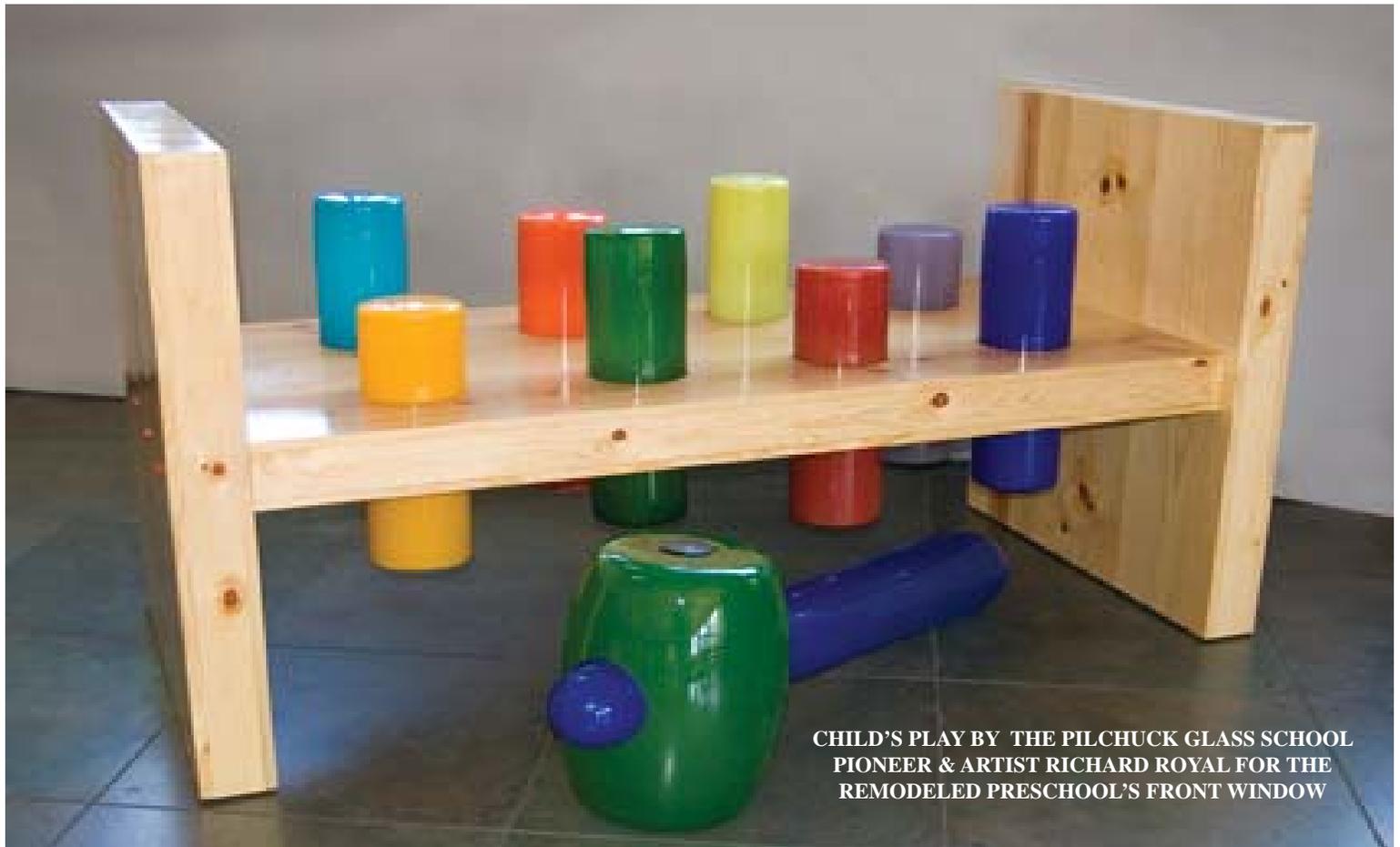


PILCHUCK STANWOOD CAMANO LEARNING CENTER

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CHILD'S PLAY BY THE PILCHUCK GLASS SCHOOL
PIONEER & ARTIST RICHARD ROYAL FOR THE
REMODELED PRESCHOOL'S FRONT WINDOW