BONHOEFFER BOTANICAL GARDENS

@ Exit 215's **Freeborn Reserve**

"The ultimate question for a responsible person to ask is … how the coming generation is to live."

18 December 2017

«Member»
«Address»
«city», «state» «zip»

Holiday Greetings to 2017 Members

Thank you for being a member of Bonhoeffer Gardens in 2017.

This past year we have driven 1,000s of miles, and walked many more, to find but 3 "chestnut-like" native trees left in the State. Pioneers talk of the Golden Chinquapin, "*so fragile to pollution, growing so slowly and often where they log and spray, Christmas green in the winter (evergreen) and so easy for collectors to identify, golden undersides that florists love; they used to be here and there, now they are gone.*"

Onalaska

Hood Canal

Bellingham

3 of 4 native western chestnuts found north of the Columbia; we've killed all others.
See the 4th **Golden Chinquapin** at I-5's Exit 215 Bonhoeffer Gardens; admission is free.

See: www.plc215.org.

In all our trips we found but 3! #'s 5 & 6 (if you know of an understory SW slope) might be where you plant them! You should find 2 seedlings we've propagated (from their Labor Day collected chestnuts gathered a year past).

Peter's Cross (he asked to be crucified upside down) is flanked by 100s of signs for plants that are said to still exist in the NW, but as yet we have not found them in the wild or in nursery propagation. (The Gardens do not transplant native plants, but rather we propagate or purchase them from nurseries.) We now have ~420 established species with a goal to double that number. With our location at the convergence of 3 climate zones, there is no garden on the West Coast anything close to Bonhoeffer Botanical Gardens' collection. And we would very much appreciate your continued support; our target plant species next year is the Red Currant (not the Red Flowering Currant) … Ribes trieste and/or the Pacific Yew, that like the Chinquapin, was once common here.

Have a nice Holiday Season and please see that these 2 seedlings are in the ground/dirt before their roots dry! We hope to have over 200 locations planted soon (or 204 in total) and reestablish this species in our area.

Sincerely,

David J. Thomsen, PhD, ASA
FC & PLC President

The Gardens and Reserve are part of the **Pilchuck** (Stanwood Camano) **Learning Center**, a WA State nonprofit, UBI 602180466, IRS TEE 47-0849914, WA State REG# 28409 ("PLC")

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