

## Nurturing Bloedel From the Ground Up

### A GROUNDS RESTORATION PROJECT REPORT

Employees, contractors, volunteers and student interns have continued work on three important restoration projects to help protect and improve the grounds and structures of the Reserve. Here are some highlights on our latest endeavors:

#### Waterfall Overlook

Crews are still hard at work on this project, which was initiated earlier this year by a generous \$20,000 grant from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust and has continued thanks to \$12,500 in additional funding from the Juniper Foundation. The combined funds have enabled us to bring in skilled laborers and purchase new plant materials for the space.

In the past several months, workers have devoted time and effort to reinvigorating the Waterfall Overlook – removing invasive species, trimming overgrown vegetation, thinning out the tree canopy, opening views from various sides, improving paths and trails, building ground-level planting terraces and restoring the vitality of the space.



According to Director of Horticulture Andy Navage, nearly everything that his team has removed from the site has been repurposed. “The limbs from the trees we took out are being converted to mulch, and we’re using the logs for the planting terraces on both sides of the stream below the waterfall,” he said. “We always want to use our waste products efficiently.”

Navage is also excited about the new plant materials the grants have helped purchase. “We’ll put in a bunch of different species of rhododendrons, primarily from the Himalayas, along with scheffleras, broad-leaved evergreen magnolias, lots of ferns and some hardy gingers,” he explained. “Best of all, this gives us the opportunity to use some additional plant materials that I’ve been holding in the nursery forever!”

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*“Those proposals that get funded by the Trust are the ones that the trustees feel will have a positive impact on furthering ornamental horticulture. The Bloedel Reserve was sufficiently compelling in their case that they were doing something important in this regard so the trustees chose to support this project.”*

TOM DANIEL | Grants Director  
The Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust

*continues on page 3*



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Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

After a lively summer, we now welcome autumn and its many colors to the Bloedel Reserve. Summer was a time for restoration and imagination. Thanks to substantial grants and other community support, both the Waterfall Overlook and the Japanese Guest House and Gardens are undergoing significant renovations (pg. 1 & 3). We were lucky to have an excellent class of interns this year. They helped us on these significant projects and completed their own, a new seating area (pg. 7). Be sure to visit in the coming months to see the Waterfall Valley transformed and to experience the structural and aesthetic upgrades to the Japanese Guest House. In 2013, our Horticulture Staff will be devoting much of their time to restoring the Japanese Garden.

Looking forward much further, say the next 15 to 20 years, we are excited to have begun the Master Planning process in earnest. After a year of Board and Staff research and planning, we selected Jones & Jones as our Master Plan consultants (pg. 4). The firm has a tremendous reputation nationally and internationally, as well as a local presence on Bainbridge Island. Johnpaul Jones, founding partner and project lead, is a long-time resident and active community member. We will spend the remainder of the year actively engaged in the process, and we anticipate wrapping things up early in the new year. In the meantime, I warmly welcome your input and ideas about the Reserve’s future.

Autumn is a fantastic season to visit the Bloedel Reserve for a walk, or to attend one of several special programs in October and November. October 13<sup>th</sup> marks the opening of *The Owl & the Woodpecker* multimedia photo exhibit by Paul Bannick, on loan from the Burke Museum, as well as the much anticipated return of the Super Squash Scavenger Hunt (both on pg. 5). Also, check our website for details about three October lectures focused on our feathered friends.

Winter is a time for special family traditions at the Reserve. On November 24<sup>th</sup>, we invite Tingstad and Rumbel back for a traditional holiday concert. On November 25<sup>th</sup>, Dwight Shappell, creator of the Holiday Village, will give a talk that offers you a behind-the-scenes view on the history and construction of the Village (both on pg. 6). The third annual Holiday Village and Model Train Display opens on December 1<sup>st</sup>. This year we will also feature an antique doll display. The Visitor Center will once again be decorated in magnificent, natural splendor, and your family can warm up inside by enjoying hot chocolate or apple cider as you experience the special display.

I would like to extend a sincere “Thank you!” to our Volunteers, Staff, Trustees, and to you, our members and friends, for all that you do to support the Bloedel Reserve. I hope to see you around the grounds this autumn and winter.

Most sincerely,

Edward Moydell

Edward Moydell

Executive Director



PHOTO CREDITS FALL ISSUE 2012: Paul Bannick, Gary Bella, Richard Brown, Kate Gormley, Andy Navage, Paul Sanders, and Dottie Tison.

Nurturing Bloedel continued from page 1

Japanese Guest House

Improvements have helped breathe new life into this iconic Bloedel structure. Originally built in 1961 from a Paul Hayden Kirk design, the house was beginning to show its age. Thanks to a major grant from the City of Bainbridge Island Lodging Tax Fund, we have been able to restore elements of the building to help it retain its character and functionality.



Gary Bella creating the replacement shoji screen panels.

Bainbridge-based artisan Gary Bella, trained in traditional Japanese woodworking, has just completed work to replace the shoji screens’ interiors and the railings wrapping around the exterior deck.

For the shoji screens, Bella used plastic sheeting that incorporates a rice fiber in its weave. He re-installed this translucent material into the screens’ original grid frame. “The screens had never been replaced until now,” said Bella. “So I was hired to take out the ones that have been there since the house was installed. It was time,” he noted.

Bella’s second task was to reinforce a portion of the house’s deck railings, which were beginning to deteriorate. “I used Alaskan yellow cedar – the same material that Mr. Bloedel used originally,” he said. “It’s a wood that’s been used for centuries for totem poles, and it’s perfect for this building that combines Japanese and Native American architectural traditions.”

Japanese Garden

Adjacent to the Guest House, the Japanese Garden has also benefited from recent improvements. The Bloedel Reserve received grants from the Atsuhiko and Ina Goodwin Tateuchi Foundation, the Seattle Garden Club and the West Seattle Garden Club, the combined funds from which are assisting us in addressing

a variety of aesthetic and practical concerns in the garden.

“We’re channeling these grant dollars into consultation on design elements as well as dealing with some safety and circulation issues,” said Executive Director Ed Moydell. In some cases, Moydell explained, parts of the project will meet goals related to both form and

function. “Tree roots have begun to push up some of the pavers that line the garden. So we’ll move those and expose the roots of the trees, which look like art on their own,” he noted.

In addition, plantings around the pond will be restored and steps to the garden will be re-routed.



The Japanese Guest House now sports new railings, still made from Alaskan yellow cedar.

*“The purpose of the Foundation is to enhance the understanding between the U.S. and Japan, and one of the ways people in the U.S. understand the aesthetic in Japan is to experience all types of Japanese gardens. This project will help Bloedel enhance the important elements that a Japanese garden needs to exhibit. The late Mr. Tateuchi was particularly fond of taking long strolls through gardens, so the Foundation works to fulfill his legacy by selecting projects like this one.”*

DANIEL ASHER | Administrator | The Atsuhiko and Ina Goodwin Tateuchi Foundation

Looking to the Future

Grant support is allowing us to make some very exciting things happen throughout the property, and these three projects are just the latest examples. Still, the work of maintaining and improving this wonderful place is never-ending. For example, we need to raise an additional \$60,000 to complete the work at the Japanese Guest House and Garden. To learn more about how you and/or your organization can help further the mission of the Bloedel Reserve, please contact Community Engagement Director Sue Andresen at 206-842-7631 or sandresen@bloedelreserve.org.



## Master Plan Moves Forward

JONES & JONES SELECTED TO CHART FUTURE VISION FOR BLOEDEL

To help celebrate the Bloedel Reserve's upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a public garden, we are thrilled to announce the selection of a highly regarded local firm that will help usher the Reserve into its next quarter-century. In June, the Board of Trustees and Executive Director Ed Moydell entrusted Seattle-based architecture and landscape design firm Jones & Jones with developing a new master plan.

According to Moydell, Jones & Jones offered an ideal blend of industry experience and first-hand familiarity with Bloedel. "We asked for proposals from local firms because we really wanted to tie this work to a designer with an understanding of the Pacific Northwest – like the plant palette and the cultural connections," explained Moydell.

Board President Alice Shorett agreed, noting the firm's credentials. "We chose Jones & Jones from a list of incredible companies. They've planned and designed such impressive properties around the world and Founding Partner Johnpaul Jones has been a resident of Bainbridge Island for 47 years," Shorett said. "Johnpaul personally dedicated himself to this project and its success; he knows Bloedel and has a place for it in his heart."

The master plan will accommodate some of the new realities of the Reserve's evolution from a privately held property to a public garden, including its dramatic rise in daily visitors.



"As we've transitioned into a more community-based institution and changed the visitation model, we've welcomed a lot more people," said Moydell. "We want to find ways to grow as an institution and provide more experiential opportunities here while still retaining the character of the place that people have come to appreciate."

According to C. David Hughbanks, member of the Board of Trustees and chair of the master plan committee, the goal was to take the Reserve's 2011 strategic plan and look at it through the master plan process. "We want to see what physical improvements and restorations need to take place to maintain the gardens and its structures as a way to serve the public," said Hughbanks. "That includes everything from the entrance to the Visitor Center to the formal landscapes – even the ongoing maintenance of the second-growth forest."

For his part, Johnpaul Jones looks at the assignment as a way to bring his work home. "I love Bloedel. I've been going there with my family ever since it opened. Now my kids are grown and they take their kids there, so it's a place we all

appreciate very much on Bainbridge Island," he said.

Sometimes when he's on the property, Jones observes first-time visitors delighting in all that the Reserve offers to those previously unfamiliar with the local landscape. "Since this is where we live, we see this native vegetation all the time," he noted. "But people come from all around the world just to see the kinds of things that are everywhere at Bloedel. We want to create a plan that will help protect that feeling of freshness and beauty and all that goes with it."

Between now and when the plan is complete in early January, Jones & Jones will focus on a three-step process:

- 1. Understand the Reserve's vision and places by touring the grounds, discussing goals with key team members, identifying areas on the property that are ripe for improvement and synthesizing findings.**
- 2. Begin layout and design alternatives, focusing on solutions for access, circulation, infrastructure, facilities, activity areas and trails.**
- 3. Design diagrams for project areas, including the gatehouse entry, maintenance facility, sheep shed and Visitor Center.**

Watch for additional reports in future issues of this newsletter regarding the plan and its implementation. We look forward to sharing these strategies and hearing the community's input as we chart out a very exciting new phase for the Bloedel Reserve.



**PAUL BANNICK  
EXHIBIT COMES  
TO BLOEDEL**

## Honoring the Owl and the Woodpecker

OCTOBER 13 – NOVEMBER 30

The Bloedel Reserve is proud to be the latest stop for a traveling exhibit that's right up our ... trees. *The Owl and the Woodpecker in Washington*

is a collection of images by award-winning local photographer, artist and conservationist Paul Bannick. The shots are accompanied by informative text panels and inspirational sounds of bird calls and drumming recorded by audio-naturalist Martyn Stewart. Together, the exhibit offers a multi-media mini-seminar celebrating two species that make their homes here in the Pacific Northwest – including right here in Bloedel's own branches.

The show is a Washington-specific twist on



The Northern Pygmy Owl, by Paul Bannick

Bannick's popular book, *The Owl and the Woodpecker: Encounters with North America's Most Iconic Birds*. It comes to the Reserve from its most recent run at the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture on the UW campus. (The Burke Museum also organized the traveling exhibit, in cooperation with Paul Bannick and Braided River, a partner of The Mountaineers Books.)

We encourage guests to visit the exhibit to learn all about these quirky and fascinating birds, then take a stroll through Bloedel in search of them. Visitors of all ages will enjoy the show, whether they are experienced birders or first-time tree peepers.

*The Owl and the Woodpecker in Washington* will be on display in the Visitor Center between October 13 and November 30. Several of Paul Bannick's books are also available for purchase in the gift shop.

## Awash in Squash!

OCTOBER 13 –  
NOVEMBER 30

**SUPER  
SQUASH  
SCAVENGER  
HUNT**

Why is it called a squash if you can't squash it? That's just one of the many questions kids might ponder as they search for hidden autumn treasures during Bloedel Reserve's second annual Super Squash Scavenger Hunt.

For seven weeks beginning October 13, our younger visitors are invited to scour our grounds in search of weird and wild variations of this seasonal garden goodie. A collection of squash, gourd and pumpkin varieties will be tucked away in funny places throughout the property, sometimes camouflaged by their surroundings, so hunters will have to look carefully in order to spot all of them. Kids receive a Scavenger Hunt map when they arrive at the Reserve, then mark down the locations of the hidden squashes that they find. If they discover the whole lot, they'll receive a special prize at the end of their visit.



Andy Navage, Bloedel's director of horticulture and chief squash stasher, says there's a fine art to planning the scavenger hunt. His secret weapon, he reports, is his reliance on special experts he consults for just this purpose. "Last year, I developed a system that worked quite well so I'll implement the same strategy this year," he explains. "I'll watch for a young visitor to arrive at the Reserve, then ask the kid (with his or her parent's permission, of course) if they might be able to help me. Then we go around and find great hiding places and come up with crazy ways to disguise the squash once they're in place. In my experience, kids have a totally different perspective on things that help make activities like this so much more fun."

Scavenger Hunt maps will be available at the entrance October 13 through November 30.

The Reserve extends its deep gratitude to Town & Country Market for sponsorship of the Super Squash Scavenger Hunt and the Paul Bannick Owl and Woodpecker exhibit.

**TOWN & COUNTRY  
MARKET**



## Join us for Fun, Education and Weirdness

### SPOOKY CREATURES WALK

SATURDAY  
EVENING,  
OCTOBER 27

SEE TICKET INFORMATION BELOW

Gear up for Halloween by getting up close and personal with some strange, wonderful and occasionally creepy critters. The Bloedel Reserve and the West Sound Wildlife Shelter are teaming up for a Spooky Creatures Walk to be held one evening only on Saturday, October 27.

Groups will be led by Shelter naturalists through the Reserve, where a variety of curious creatures – accompanied by their trained handlers – will be stationed. Learn all about these amazing animals and the stories of how they came to live at the Shelter.

Here are just a few of the educational ambassadors you'll meet (in addition to some surprise guest creatures you'll have to see to believe):

**Orion.** This great horned owl was born in Texas in 2006 with a disability that prevented him from flying straight. He's sometimes referred to by the nickname "Corkscrew."

**Athena.** A barred owl, Athena was brought to West Sound Wildlife Shelter in 2007 after she was hit by a car on Highway 3.



Athena. Photo: Dottie Tison

**Lorcan.** Standing only five inches tall, this pygmy owl's name means "little fierce one." She may be small, but she's mighty tough.

**Ed and Ebenezer.** Flirtatious and entertaining, these caged black crows put on a great show, especially when children are present.

Tickets for the Spooky Creature Walk are \$10 for ages 14 and up. Children 13 and under are admitted free. Limited tickets available, tours depart between 7:00 & 8:00 PM. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.westsoundwildlife.org](http://www.westsoundwildlife.org), or call 206.855.9057.

## The Holiday Season Twinkles at Bloedel Reserve

Seeing the grounds and historic structures of the Bloedel Reserve when they're all dressed up in their winter finery is fast becoming a holiday tradition among families throughout the West Sound. Whether cloaked in white by a recent snowfall or glistening from the drops of a frosty rain, Bloedel looks grand during the final weeks of the calendar year. Children in particular are captivated by the sights and sounds – and tastes – of the season when Bloedel lights up to celebrate the holidays.

Don't miss the full schedule of activities and events we have planned for this year:

### Tingstad and Rumbel Concert November 24

4:30 p.m. | [Visitor Center](#) | [Tickets available online](#)

If it's December at Bloedel, then it must be time for another sold-out Tingstad and Rumbel concert. We're thrilled to welcome our favorite holiday musicians back to the Reserve for a command performance on our grounds. Sway to the sounds of this Grammy Award-winning duo best known for its smash hit album, "The Gift." Get your tickets early because they will not last.

### Dwight Shappell Lecture November 25

4:30 p.m. | [Visitor Center](#) | [Tickets available online](#)

Hear the behind-the-scenes stories of how Dwight Shappell envisioned and created the masterpiece structures that make up the Holiday Village. Mr. Shappell will explain how his grandmother's gift of a small garden and a modest collection of plants inspired him as a young boy, effectively planting the seeds of his life-long passion for horticulture education. He will also explain the intricate details of the most recent addition to the display: a model of his grandparents' hand-hewn square-cut log home in Iowa where he spent many summers as a child.

### Holiday Village December 1 – 31 [Visitor Center](#)

Back by popular demand, Bloedel presents this miniature village filled with European- and American-inspired model homes hand-made by long-time Bainbridge Island resident Dwight Shappell. For the third year running, Mr. Shappell's spectacular structural works of art will be arranged as a small community, complete with trains that travel in and out of the scene. Look for the exquisite details in each model, including upholstered furniture and working lights. See if you can identify some of the sources of the repurposed building materials (recycled from everything from fruit crates to the remodeled altar of a Bainbridge church sanctuary). This is an island treasure that shouldn't be missed.



### Antique Doll Display December 1 – 31



[Visitor Center](#)

Doll lovers and history buffs alike will marvel over this impressive collection of hundreds of antique dolls, all originally manufactured between 1880 and 1959. On public display for the first time ever thanks to the generosity of owner and island resident Dee DuMont, the collection contains an assortment of valuable European-made dolls, many of which are displayed in their original clothing. There's even a prized French Jumeau bisque doll from approximately 1890. The dolls will be surrounded by antique child-size and dollhouse furniture, all distributed throughout the library in the Visitor Center.

ADD THESE  
FESTIVE  
ACTIVITIES TO  
YOUR FAMILY  
CALENDAR

## Teen Spirit Always Welcome at Bloedel

### SUMMER INTERNS MAKE THEIR MARK WITH HARD WORK AND DEDICATION

Youthful energy is nothing new on the grounds of Bloedel. We're lucky to have a constant stream of young visitors exploring and playing under the watchful eyes of the adults who bring them. This past summer, however, we also had a crop of teenagers who came to the Reserve to work. And work they did!

Four local high schoolers devoted the vast majority of the summer to Bloedel as part of our student internship program, now in its third year. These dedicated young naturalists were chosen from a pool of more than 25 applicants to spend their time off from school assisting in a variety of projects and getting a mini-education in horticulture.

Created in partnership with the North Kitsap Success Foundation, a youth mentoring foundation, the Bloedel Reserve student internship program offers young people 36 hours of weekly hands-on experience, four hours of formal horticultural education and a variety of life skills development. In addition to learning about plants and environmentalism, the interns heard from local community leaders about such topics as goal setting and career planning.

Bloedel's student internship program is made possible by community support. Our members gave generously through the Seattle Foundation's one-day "Give Big" campaign, and a contribution by the Bainbridge Community Foundation helped defray some of the program's costs.

### Our 2012 student interns were:

**Laura Hager:** Laura came to Bloedel with a solid interest in botany and biology, which was enhanced by the internship experience. In addition to meeting great people and working in a beautiful setting, she liked learning about plant propagation using cuttings. Laura is a senior at Bainbridge High School.

**Sarah Berry-Maraist:** A junior at North Kitsap High School, Sarah pursued the internship knowing it would be a great learning experience. She particularly enjoyed the people she worked with, the challenge of managing a full-time job and figuring out "how to get the lines absolutely straight when mowing lawns."

**Gytano Foster-Lehr:** Gytano has developed a keen interest in botany over the last few years, so he sought out the internship to gain experience working on Bloedel's grounds maintenance crew. He is a junior this year at Chimacum High School.

**Rebecca Skotheim:** The granddaughter of Bloedel Trustee Emeritus Robert Skotheim, "Becca" aspires to be a biology teacher. Especially interested in botany, she relished the opportunity to "learn from people who know about plants and have been working with them for a long time." Becca is a senior at Bainbridge High School.

Serving as "intern mentor" was Taylor Gawlik, a veteran Bloedel student intern who currently attends Seattle University. Taylor worked side-by-side with the four students on the grounds all summer, while also volunteering part-time in the administrative offices. As such, she has seen the operation from all angles, which is wisdom she applies to her academic studies in arts management. "It was interesting to see the difference between the office and the grounds; learning about the challenges on both sides," she reported. "I really like working here; I like the people,



Bloedel's 2012 student interns spent 36 hours each week working on the grounds.

I like being outside, I like learning about the environmental stuff. It's so interesting," she added.

Each summer, the student interns are responsible for completing one group project in addition to carrying out their daily duties. This year, Taylor, Laura, Sarah, Gytano and Becca installed a bench and a seating area adjacent to the planting beds beneath the cedar trees that line the Mid Pond. They renovated the soil, constructed a pathway, put in the benches and surrounded the area with new plants.

Andy Navage, Bloedel's director of horticulture, oversaw the 2012 interns. "This was a fabulous, energetic group of kids," Navage reported. "They brought a mix of backgrounds, interests and personality traits and it was great to watch them grow and become friends over the course of the summer."

The highlight of the annual program, according to Navage, is nurturing the interns' curiosity about plants and nature. "There aren't a lot of enthusiastic young gardeners entering the field," he acknowledged. "So if we can help some high school kids further a career in horticulture, then mission accomplished."



# SPLENDOUR IN THE GRASS

## A MAGNIFICENT DAY IN THE GARDEN

### Sixth Annual Event Makes Fundraising History

Nearly 500 people gathered together under gloriously sunny skies on August 2<sup>nd</sup> to celebrate Bloedel Reserve at the sixth annual Garden Party. We saw old friends and met new ones, all united by a love of this wonderful place. More than 25 restaurants from the island, the peninsula and Seattle shared their delectable creations, which we toasted with drinks from ten vineyards as well as a local brewery. A live auction, raffle and paddle-raising added to the day's festivities.

Together, our generous patrons and guests helped raise \$230,000 – well exceeding our goals for the event.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our very capable Garden Party co-chairs, Suzanne Kelly and Hope Stroble; honorary chairs Johnpaul Jones, Marjorie Sheldon, George Little and David Lewis; and the dedicated team of Volunteers and Staff who worked tirelessly to pull the party together. In addition, we extend our sincere thanks to the in-kind contributions of our many food and beverage donors.

Most importantly, we acknowledge and appreciate the unbelievable support of all who attended the Garden Party and helped turn it into one of the most successful fundraisers in the history of the Reserve.

In addition, many thanks to our generous sponsors and event partners!

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THANK YOU  
FROM BLOEDEL RESERVE



## Visit Our Facebook Page



Facebook is a wonderful way for us to quickly communicate the very latest news about

The Reserve. Nearly every day we post information about what's in bloom, upcoming events, horticultural projects, and new programs. We share beautiful photos of the Reserve, so you will know what to look for if you are planning to visit soon. Facebook also is a great way to share The Reserve with your friends and family, and encourage them to visit.

Our Shop at Bloedel Reserve also has its own Facebook page where you can find news about new items and sales.

You can link to our Facebook page from our website, or simply Google "Bloedel Reserve Facebook."

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## THE BLOEDEL RESERVE

FALL/WINTER HOURS:  
10am–4pm, Tuesday - Sunday

ENTRY FEES:  
General Admission: \$13  
Seniors 65+ and Military \$9  
Age 13 - College \$5  
Children under 13 free

No appointments needed to visit.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS START AT \$60

OUR ANNUAL MEMBERS ENJOY THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS:

- Unlimited free visits with up to three guests
- Advanced notification and discounts on concerts and educational programs
- Program bulletins and newsletters
- 10% discount in our Shop

### HELP US BE GREEN!

Join our email list and get future newsletters and notices online. Use the Orange Button on our website home page.

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

Participant: One Call for All



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**OCT. 13 – NOV. 30**  
**The Owl and the Woodpecker**  
Multimedia Photography  
Exhibit by Paul Bannick

**Super Squash**  
**Scavenger Hunt**  
Especially for Children!

**SUN., OCT. 7**  
**LECTURE & BOOK SIGNING:**  
*Gifts of the Crow*  
Tickets available online

**SUN., OCT. 21**  
**LECTURE & BOOK SIGNING:**  
*The Owl and the Woodpecker*  
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**SAT., OCT. 27**  
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**SUN., NOV. 25**  
**LECTURE: Dwight Shappell,**  
*Creator of the Holiday Village*  
Tickets available online

**DEC. 1 - 31**  
**TWO FESTIVE EXHIBITS**  
**Holiday Village & Antique Doll Display**

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