



## There's Still Time to Buy Our Bulbs



Our hugely popular annual bulb sale is humming! There are a dwindling number of days left for our online sale. Sale closes end-of-day August 16 so there's still time to add some plants this fall that will burst forth in color next spring. Our bulbs are shipped directly from Holland and are of the highest quality. Order now, pick up your bulbs at convenient locations in mid-October, a perfect time to plant your new bulbs.

*Thanks to Bank of the San Juans for sponsoring our 2022 Bulb Sale  
and supporting public gardens!*

**[Go to Bulb Sale](#)**

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## Second Big Planting Day for the Literary Garden and More

To simply say our new Literary Garden (LG) at the Durango Public Library is popular would be an understatement. “Amazing,” is probably the most often used term people share with us. It’s also amazing how our member volunteers have really put their backs into installing the plants in this garden. On May 18, we had 30 volunteers planting 450 plants—in some very tough soil. Then, on July 23, as many as 25 volunteers showed up to plant an additional 250 plants. Much needed monsoonal rains are helping our plants get established.



*Over 700 plants were installed in the Literary Garden this summer*

Two other new features have been added to the LG, including a Navajo-inspired ramada or shelter in the Indigenous Garden. The chaha’oh, or shade structure, is built with juniper posts collected and cut on Cedar Mesa, near Mexican Hat, Utah. Ponderosa pines form the beams and the aspen latillas add the shade when Coyote willow is cut and laid across the beams. Hollis Hassenstein, curator for the LG’s Indigenous garden says, “the chaha’oh completely ties the Indigenous bed into its setting. I think Eric (Atene) and Charlene (Valentine), assisted by their daughter, Summer Rain, are so humble and generous in allowing us to be a part of this construction.”



*Eric Atene builds Navajo shade structure in the Indigenous section of our Literary Garden.*

With the donated labor of Timber Age Systems we have also installed a much needed new garden shed for the LG on August 3. Timber Age, a new Durango company, built the shed with its cross-laminated timber (CLT) technology. Over the next month or so we will also be installing a “living” or green roof and commission a botanic theme to be painted on the door.



*New Literary Garden Shed installed. Annette LeMaire checks out the interior.*

[Learn more and donate to the Literary Gardens](#)

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## **Kew Rock Garden Presentation Draws 130**

Interest in rock gardening is soaring in our region. Recently Durango Botanic Gardens, the Mountain Studies Institute, and Colorado Native Plant Society, along with financial support from the **Bank of the San Juans**, hosted Thomas Freeth, curator of the rock gardens at London's Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Kew is home to the largest living plant collection on Earth. Freeth's presentation on the historical development of the rock gardens at Kew was attended by 130 at the Durango Recreation Center, predominantly by Durango Botanic Garden members.

Freeth's presentation went heavily into archival material to tell the story of one of the world's oldest and most well-known rock gardens.



*Around 130 attended the rock garden presentation*

[Join Durango Botanic Gardens](#)

## Planting a New Crevice Garden at Fort Lewis College



From Kew and one of the oldest rock gardens in the world, we go to our local Fort Lewis College where one of the world's newest rock gardens is being installed. DBG and other organization volunteers pitched in on August 1 to help plant many of the nearly 1500 plants that will adorn the new crevice garden at Fort Lewis College behind the Admissions Building.

Over 150 tons of stone, including Bakers Bridge and Eolus granite, and 150 tons of soil, gravel, road base, and expanded shale went into construction of what is most likely the largest crevice garden in the region.

A crevice garden is a modified rock garden that mimics the gaps in natural rock formations to create crevices in which plants can grow. The stones in a crevice garden are stacked vertically on edge one behind the other instead of horizontally. The spacing creates crevices, and plants grow between the stones. Most, like the college crevice garden also feature bare-root planting... **see Lisa Bourey demonstrate bare-root planting in video at end of this newsletter.**



*DBG volunteers pitched in to plant hundreds of plants in the new crevice gardens.*

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## Military Reunion Selects DBG for Tour

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of their service on the USS Edward in Vietnam, the veterans and their partners gathered in Durango recently. They included a tour of the Durango Botanic Gardens touring the new Literary Garden and other features of the gardens. Many were garden enthusiasts and asked questions about the various flowers and plants abundant in southwest Colorado.



*USS Edwards reunion group*

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## Next Bake Sale Slated for August 19

A successful bake sale was conducted by recent docent graduates, Jane Conrad and Teresa Cole, raising over \$600. The next bake sale will take place Friday, August 19, beginning at 9:00am at the library, same time and in conjunction with the Friends of the Library's book sale. Anyone who wishes to provide baked items should contact Teresa Cole at [ttkc4704@yahoo.com](mailto:ttkc4704@yahoo.com)

*Jane Conrad with taster-in-chief and bake sale assistant, Max Landrum, Margaret Cozine's grandson.*



## Join us for our next Great Garden Series event:

### Gardening for Pollinators

Brooke Safford, Blooming Landscape Design



Find out the whys and how of designing and planting a garden that is a haven for pollinators

Wednesday, August 10, 4:00pm

Durango Public Library

FREE ADMISSION



## WITH LISA BOUREY BARE ROOT PLANTING

DURANGO  
BOTANIC  
GARDENS 

*Click to watch the video*

## [Become a Member... We Need You](#)

### [Donate](#)

**NOTE:** Our physical location is 1900 E. Third Avenue, at the Durango Public Library. The gardens are located to the north and east of the library, along the Animas River Trail.

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