



# ECHHO NEWSLETTER

April 2009

A little madness in the spring  
Is wholesome even for the king.

*Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)*  
No. 1333

Give me the splendid silent sun  
With all his beams full-dazzling.

*Walt Whitman (1819-1892)*  
Leaves of Grass

O! how this spring of love resembleth  
The uncertain glory of an April day!

*William Shakespeare (1564-1616)*  
The Two Gentlemen of Verona

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**Anita Thielmann and Art Price** are avid naturalists (and also our volunteer custodians extraordinaire). They are two people whose love of the natural world is inspiring. You can't come away from a conversation with Anita and Art without wanting to go out and take a closer look at your surroundings. They have the gift of paying attention to things that passersby often miss. For instance, their favorite day hikes at Old Fort Townsend and Anderson Lake offer a treasure trove of plant life to appreciate. Art and Anita know when to look for the chocolate lily and the calypso orchid or fairy slipper (right about now). They know that the Indian plum has bright green leaves, which smell like cucumber when crushed. At Olympic National Park, Art and Anita have seen a rare violet that few people know about. Every summer they go back to Mount Rainier and the Columbia River gorge, where Anita takes photographs while Art identifies the flora and fauna, noting the fascinating survival skills of life forms living in varied and challenging environments. Art's specialties include mushrooms and marine invertebrates, which are displayed in a home photo gallery. As they often research their findings on the spot, other lucky hikers sometimes join in on the trail and have a "learning experience". Anita is a bird lover and looks forward to returning to Utah this summer to revisit favorite natural areas, including the spectacular and less-visited Capitol Reef National Park, where Art found a rare species of cactus on a previous trip. Clearly, this dedicated team has a true partnership of shared interests plus an impressive store of knowledge about the natural world they love. We thank them for sharing it with us.



**Hood Canal Bridge Closure (May 1 – June 15):** It's almost here. We expect that many of our clients will postpone appointments until after the bridge reopens. For essential ride requests, however, we will coordinate each situation as efficiently as possible. Drivers will not be taking the long way around. There will be special ferries and buses in place. In some cases, drivers may be asked to accompany clients onto the ferries and/or buses, in order to assist them in getting to and from their destinations. Many thanks in advance to our dedicated drivers from the ECHHO staff, especially during this time.

## Volunteer Birthdays

2	Lee Clark	12	Jim Posey	27	Lane Smith
4	John Jamison	15	Maggie Kilmer	29	David Kaldahl
12	Bruce Marston				

<b>Total Volunteer Hours for March</b>	<b>331.0</b>	<b>88 Pieces of Medical Equipment Loaned</b>
Transportation to Medical Appointments	239.0	<b>112 People Served</b>
Chores and Errands	58.5	<b>4214 Miles Driven</b>
Social Support/Visits	33.5	

Thanks to all our volunteers and supporters who make this service to the community possible. Do you have an idea, poem, photo, etc. for the newsletter? We welcome your creative contributions.  
The ECHHO Staff