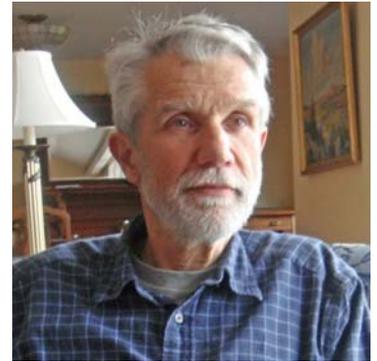


# *Ed Kushner – Preserving Nature and Beauty for Future Generations*

*Edited by Debbie Watson*

*From Computer Application Engineer to Conservation Volunteer, read about how Ed Kushner spends his time enhancing the beauty of the Rose City.*

Ed Kushner retired from Intel in 2003. He spent his entire Intel career as a computer application engineer on the Oregon site. He joined Intel in 1988 working on the Intel Scientific Computer which eventually became the Intel Supercomputer. After Intel decided to leave this business in the mid 90's, he worked as a formal verification (FV) engineer until he retired in 2003. For those not familiar with FV, it is a technology that is used to find bugs in the design of microprocessors.



Ed and his wife continue to live Portland. They are both proud of their children. Their son is in law school in California, while their daughter is working in Washington DC. Ed spends his time bicycling, gardening, travelling to Latin America and Europe and improving his Spanish.

Ed is big on volunteering, such as judging high school science fairs (including the Intel International Fair on two occasions), helping with fund-raising at Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) and participating as a member of control groups for various studies at the Oregon Health and Science University. The subject of today's article is Ed's volunteering with the Portland park's "Tuesday Morning Volunteers/Hoyt Arboretum".



The [Hoyt Arboretum](#) was founded in 1928 to conserve endangered species and educate the community. It encompasses 187 acres with 12 miles of trails. It has grown to more than 5,800 specimens from around the world, including more than 1,100 species.

Growing up in Portland, Ed enjoyed time spent in the arboretum, hiking the trails and viewing the collection with the changing seasons. He was inspired to volunteer about seven years ago when an ice storm inflicted severe damage to the collection. Since then, he has helped maintain Portland's 85 year-old arboretum.

On a typical Tuesday morning (8:00-12:00), approximately 10 volunteers, mostly retirees, show up and work under the direction of the staff at Hoyt Arboretum. The nature of the work varies depending on the time of the year. In the fall and winter, the group usually cleans up after storms and pruning events. In the spring they spread mulch under trees, while the summer is usually spent watering recent additions to the collection. Throughout the year trails are improved and invasive species are removed. Ed appreciates the teamwork and camaraderie reminiscent of his days at Intel.



*Ed (right) cleaning up debris at Hoyt Arboretum*

In addition to making the Arboretum more enjoyable for the public, his time results in financial support from Intel through the [Intel Involved Matching Grant Program](#). The funds go to the Hoyt Arboretum Friends, the non-profit that manages the park. Intel is a corporate sponsor of the Arboretum. In the fall of 2012 a very large group of Intel employees spent a day removing invasive species.

If you watch OPB's "Oregon Field Guide" – keep your eyes peeled for a segment on the Tuesday Volunteers using material that was filmed last fall.

Finally, if any of you Oregonians are interested in joining Ed's Tuesday Volunteer group, check out the process on the [volunteer](#) portion of the Hoyt Arboretum web site. Or, if you aren't enamored with the idea of so much manual labor, there are other opportunities such as greeter, data entry support person or tour guide. You are encouraged to contact Ed at [ejkushner@comcast.net](mailto:ejkushner@comcast.net) for a first hand account of the rewards of volunteering for this very worthy cause!