



*Peonies*  
VII

"It is the memory that enables  
a person to gather roses in  
January."  
~ Unknown



"You will never change your  
life until you change  
something you do daily. The  
secret of your success is found  
in your daily routine."

~John C. Maxwell



"We are what we pretend to  
be, so we must be careful  
what we pretend to be. "

~Kurt Vonnegut

## Walking with purpose....

As I get older my approach to the daily tasks in my life has changed dramatically. I spent years focused on my lists, the making of lists, figuring out the quickest way to hammer through the tasks on the lists and rewarding myself as soon as I achieved a bullet point on the list. I discovered I was able to achieve a lot but I was rarely present during the process. I found that being so task oriented I was missing the bigger picture and connections that give purpose to the daily minutiae. I was treating my life as a dress rehearsal and I was either mired in the past or anticipating the outcome of my endless lists of tasks. Trudging through life can be a self-imposed chore or a walk with purpose. Today I choose to walk with purpose. I have found that it is the daily minutiae that makes up the fabric of our lives and the more mindful I am of each moment the more insights and richer my experience.



## January Fun Facts....

Lucky foods for the New Year:  
In the South, collard greens and cornbread bring on the money if eaten in bulk on New Year's Day. Black eyed peas should also be on the menu! The Danish go for Kale and the Germans consume sauerkraut. In Spain eat twelve grapes before the last stroke of midnight to give insight to the coming year. Thirteen if you're Peruvian. Other auspicious foods include fish, pork, legumes and cakes. But stay away from Lobster which moves backwards and can cause setbacks or Chickens which are thought to cause regrets. Or any winged fowl which could cause your "good luck" to fly away.

## What's Growing on...

### News & Noteworthy

Jeff and I are super excited to go visit his family in Florida for the holidays. We haven't been there since 2008.



January 22 through 24, 2015, is the Washington State Landscaping (WALP) and Nursery Association (WSNLA) collaborative Annual Northwest Green Industry Conference will be held at the Hotel Murano in Tacoma, WA. It is very well attended.