



# The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

**Join the Fun and  
Invite your Friends**

## Holiday Luncheon & Auction

**HO! HO! HO!**

Thursday, December 6th

10:30 am Silent Auction and Social  
12 Noon Lunch



**Sunset Club**



Valet Parking  
Carpools Encouraged

Support SGC's efforts to raise funds for  
Community Projects!

**RSVP (YES or NO)** for the Luncheon  
by **November 26th** to Carol Eland

If you have not done so, make your reservations  
immediately, as we are nearly sold out.

All checks and reservations should be sent &  
made payable to

**The Seattle Garden Club**

c/o Carol Eland

1225 Shenandoah Drive E.

Seattle, WA 98112

206-324-5414 or [caroleland@msn.com](mailto:caroleland@msn.com)

For guests and members not subscribing to the  
Hostess Fund, the luncheon cost is \$40.

## Events at a Glance

11/29

**Board Meeting**, Sunset Club, 10 am  
**PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE**

12/1

**Work Party**, East Montlake Park, 10 am - 1 pm  
Volunteers needed to supervise. Contact Sue  
Blethen: [sueblethen@hotmail.com](mailto:sueblethen@hotmail.com), 206-930-0129

12/6

**Holiday Luncheon & Auction**, Sunset Club, as  
noted above.



**FOR MORE SGC INFORMATION  
AND A CALENDAR OF EVENTS,  
CLICK ON OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.seattlegardenclub.org](http://www.seattlegardenclub.org)**



## Are You an Angel?



If you are unable to attend our  
Holiday Luncheon and Auction, but would like  
to contribute to our major fundraiser ...

**you can be an Angel!**

If you are attending, but would like  
to make a contribution in addition to your  
luncheon fee ...

**you can be an Angel!**

Choose to be an Angel for  
\$100 or more!

Send checks to Carol Eland



## From the President

With the turning of the seasons our days are shorter and darker. The leaves are mostly off the trees and the flowers are gone. I even saw some frost on my neighbor's roof this morning. As gardeners, however, we know that there is much activity taking place underground, as roots are taking in nourishment from the soil.

In the life of our club, the year is well underway and busy. We had a wonderful kickoff talk by Provisional Barbara Leathart Peterson, introducing this year's Horticulture theme: Trees.

Fittingly, the meeting was held in the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center in a room that felt like our very own tree house. Marianne Kitchell and Catherine Allan gave us a brief presentation on their trip to Austin, Texas, for the Shirley Meneice Conference. November's General Meeting was an illuminating talk by Keith Lazelle, nature photographer. Many thanks to the photography committee and meeting hostesses for a delightful morning.

December 6 will find most of us at the Sunset Club with members and guests enjoying the Annual Holiday Auction and Luncheon. There are many exciting experiences and gift ideas to fill your calendar and gift list. This year we will be sharing some pictures of our recent Community Projects to remind attendees of the good work we do in the Seattle area.

On a personal note, I am going to have fusion surgery on my back December 17<sup>th</sup>. The recovery is rather long, so you won't be seeing me during January. I hope to be the new and improved Laurie by early February. President Elect Cathy Parker and the rest of the Board are incredibly supportive and capable, so the Club is in good hands.

Enjoy the season.

## A Little Historical Perspective Garden Club of America



As I write this, many beloved gardens on the East Coast are coping with extensive damage from Sandy. Indeed, our headquarters are still operating on a limited basis, and it is not known how severe the impact was to the gardens in Central Park where the Centennial Celebration is set for this May.

So it is fitting to turn back 100 years or so when the infant GCA grappled with another disaster. As William Seale recalls in his recent book about us: the new organization had been carefully thought out, the name officiated and the mission of "... stimulat(ing) knowledge and love of gardening ..." established. By 1915 two annual meetings, complete with tours of old homes and beautiful gardens, had occurred. A third annual meeting was planned, but never held. Europe was grappling with what would become known as The Great War.

GCA Members stood ready to assist. They put away their dreams for the young organization, cancelled annual meetings, and focused on aiding people abroad and later within our own country. The ladies rolled up their sleeves, met with the Secretary of Labor, joined forces with other groups such as Women's Farm & Garden, instructed others on growing and preserving food and planted vegetables in their own gardens. When the war ended 3 1/2 years later, the GCA Members would come back to their original objectives, to their lovely annual meetings and to publishing newsletters and amassing a library of books. But Garden Club of America had changed. It was stronger and braver. It took on such endeavors as the study of medicinal plants and beautifying the expanding highway system. The tragedy of the war had had an effect on the young organization. And perhaps after the devastation brought by Sandy is cleaned up and wonderful places rebuilt, GCA will alter and be even stronger.

*Carey Davis*

# SGC Holiday Luncheon and Auction

Thursday, December 6, 2012 - The Sunset Club

Check out these great experiences



## YOU MAY SIGN UP INDIVIDUALLY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- **December 14** Jump aboard the "Maximo," a 70' yacht for a **Holiday Cruise with the Christmas Ships**; hors d'oeuvres and refreshments; families welcome
- **January 10** **Game Night Dinner**, featuring Mexican Train and Mexican fare for a night of fun at the home of Christine Davis
- **March 8** Grab your pruning equipment for a **Hands on Pruning Day** with Catherine Allan, including lunch
- **April 4** Tour the incredible **Garden of Kathy Fries** (featured in an article by Valerie Easton) and enjoy a lovely luncheon
- **April 8** Take a **Boat trip from Anacortes to Vendovi Island**, owned by the San Juan Preservation Trust, for wildflower viewing and photography with noted naturalists Dean Dougherty and Kathleen Foley
- **May 9** A guided tour focused on **Nature Photography at Bloedel Reserve with Richard Brown**, Executive Director at Miller Botanical Garden Trust, including lunch in the Japanese House
- **May 19** Feed all your senses with a fabulous **Piano Concert at the Highland's Chapel & Dinner** at Phoebe Andrew's; couples encouraged
- **June 10** Ooh, la la! **Ciscoe Morris invites you to tour his own garden** followed by wine and hors d'oeuvres
- **June 18** Enjoy a **Whidbey Island Garden & Art day tour**; picnic lunch
- **June 19** **Board Cocktail Party** at the home of Diana Neely with wine and hors d'oeuvre buffet provided by your SGC Board members
- **June 24** Mary Jane Anderson invites you to put on your **Clam Digging** clothes and collect the most succulent clams you have ever tasted; lunch included
- **July 24** Join Suzy Titcomb at her Dabob Bay home for a day of fun, including **kayaking, clamming and crabbing**.
- **September 20** Go **Birding with Seattle Audubon Guide, Kevin Annerud**, at the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge; hosted lunch following
- **September 6, 7 & 8** Pack your bags to visit the fabulous **Methow Valley** where you will dine, hike and explore

Although dates are not yet confirmed, the following events will also be available for individual bidding. Watch for a member email with actual dates prior to our luncheon.

- Tour the **Chase Garden in Orting and Greg's Old Goat Farm** with Bill Noble and Greg Graves; including lunch
- **Cruise aboard the "Olympus,"** a beautifully restored 97' classic motor yacht; hors d'oeuvres and refreshments
- Attend a **KUOW "Green Days" broadcast**, including a station tour and lunch

## WHERE MAY I DROP OFF MY AUCTION ITEMS?

Judy Phillips  
1216 38th Avenue E., Seattle 98112  
206-325-3838

Catherine Allan  
7919 NE 28th St., Medina 98039  
425-454-1076

Or contact Suzette de Turenne, Ways and Means Chair, (206) 524-9042, [sdturenne@comcast.net](mailto:sdturenne@comcast.net)

## Conservation Condensations

### No Backburner for "Nature"

United States Poet Laureate (2010-2011) W.S. Merwin, who established the Merwin Conservancy on the Island of Maui, describes:

*I have been asked fairly often how I came to care about living things that are not human -- for all that is commonly referred to as 'Nature.' This is a suggestion, sometimes, that a sympathy of that kind is somehow eccentric. Such use of the word 'Nature' seems to refer to something apart from 'us.'*



We women of the Seattle Garden Club take our "Nature" seriously -- in our back gardens as well as in our state and nation. We care about our air and our waters, our plants and our world. Small steps make big steps. As winter approaches let's check our home energy use. Let's add compact-florescent bulbs, service our furnaces and lower our thermostats. Let's don a sweater or fleece layer instead. And continue our carpooling! Let's work to keep 'us' and 'nature' at one!

Holiday giving, GrandKid Tip: Lovely illustrated book, *Rachel Carson and her Book that Changed the World* by Laurie Lawlor. Ages 6-10. Fun to introduce young thinkers to the story of Carson's childhood curiosity leading to passionate environmental advocacy. See an eagle? Thank Rachel!

*Hotie Hard, Conservation Chair*

## East Montlake Park Report

### Supervisors and Helpers Needed for EMP

On **December 1, 10 am - 1 pm** at East Montlake Park, 30+ Sigma Chi volunteers will join 6 SGC supervising members to spread woodchips and eliminate invasive plants encroaching at East Montlake Park. The young men need our help to stay focused! But, they will do most of the work!

Later, weather permitting and at a time to be announced, we will not be planting our young, propagated evergreen starts at EMP, but will instead be repotting them into one-gallon containers at the Government Locks Greenhouse. Their small 4" pot roots would have had too difficult a time surviving in all those woodchips. I will wait for appropriate weather to announce this effort.

Be ready for an email announcement of work parties and then sign up! It is lots of fun and a great way to get to know native plants and your fellow garden club members better.

- Help supervise the Sigma Chis on December 1<sup>st</sup> OR
- Help "pot-up" the young plants into larger containers in January

Contact Sue Blethen to join the fun: [sueblethen@hotmail.com](mailto:sueblethen@hotmail.com) or 206-930-0129

*Sue Blethen*

## New Membership

### Proposals for Provisional Membership are due by December 15<sup>th</sup>

The Membership Proposal Form is available through the SGC website or from Hope Stroble. To avoid duplication, please contact Hope Stroble of your intentions. It is prudent to invite potential candidates to open meetings in the Fall as well as the Holiday Luncheon in December. This is an excellent way to acquaint candidates with Membership Committee members and Board members. The deadline for membership proposals is **December 15, 2012.**

*Hope Stroble*



## SGC Club Photography Show Registration Opens December 15th



Registration for the SGC Club Photography Show, "In Tune with Photography," will open to SGC members, including Provisionals, on December 15, 2012.

The show will be held April 18, 2013, at the Joint Meeting with Tacoma at The Seattle Tennis Club.

The complete schedule and rules are available on the SGC web site.

Classes are as follows:

### **Class 1 CLOSE TO YOU** (B Bacharach & H David)

A close-up of a flower or flower part.

### **Class 2 TAKE ME HOME, COUNTRY ROAD**

(B Danoff & J Denver)

A rural setting of any kind. Plant material required.

### **Class 3 RHAPSODY IN BLUE** (G Gershwin)

Plant material optional.

### **Class 4 MOONLIGHT SONATA** (Beethoven)

A photo in which light plays an important part. Plant material required.

### **Class 5 WINTER WONDERLAND** (F Bernard & R Smith)

Plant material required.

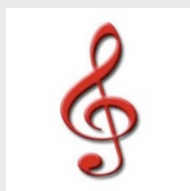
### **Class 6 ALL THAT JAZZ** (J Kander & F Ebb)

Manipulation - wherein the exhibited photograph is either a compilation of two or more photos, a multiple exposure or an HD (high definition) enhanced photo. Plant material required.

Please note that Class 6, previously listed as "exhibition only," is now a judged class and open to all exhibitors.

### **Questions?**

**Contact Mary Turner,  
Photo Show Chair  
206.325.0270  
[mturner915@aol.com](mailto:mturner915@aol.com)**



## Pumpkin Patch Photography Outing October 2012



Happy SGC photographers Charlee Reed, Jane Harder, Sis Woodside, Debby Smith, Carolyn Kitchell, Mary Turner, Laurie Riley and Gayle Harris

### • • • • • **The Snow Man** • • • • •

- One must have a mind of winter
- To regard the frost and the boughs
- Of the pine-trees crusted with snow;
- 
- And have been cold a long time
- To behold the junipers shagged with ice,
- The spruces rough in the distant glitter
- 
- Of the January sun; and not to think
- Of any misery in the sound of the wind,
- In the sound of a few leaves,
- 
- Which is the sound of the land
- Full of the same wind
- That is blowing in the same bare place
- 
- For the listener, who listens in the snow,
- And, nothing himself, beholds
- Nothing that is not there and the nothing that is.
- 
- Wallace Stevens

# The Japanese Garden at The Bloedel Reserve

To continue the review of past Seattle Garden Club Community Projects, we are reporting on the Japanese Garden and Guesthouse at the Bloedel Reserve, Bainbridge Island.

Funds from the Seattle Garden Club were granted for restoration work in the Japanese Garden. However, the SGC grants of \$20,000 in 2009 and \$7,500 in 2012 have provided much more than just the funds needed for the plant material and labor. Support by the SGC and the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust inspired the Reserve to seek additional grants for the Japanese Guesthouse as well as its Garden.



Prior to those grants, the Reserve had not looked outside its own resources for support of much needed deferred maintenance. This is part of the transition to a welcoming, community-supported organization that is necessary for the Reserve's preservation.

Funds have also been secured from the City of Bainbridge Island Lodging Tax Fund, The Atushiko and Ina Goodwin Tateuchi Foundation and the West Seattle Garden Tour. A total of \$158,000 has been raised for The Japanese Garden and Guesthouse, and \$60,000 more is being sought for further interior improvements at the Guesthouse.

The Seattle Garden Club funds granted in 2009 have been used to create a seamless blending of the Japanese Garden and the forest behind. The trail in the Garden is now more wheelchair friendly and considerable work was done on the pond edge. The 2012 funds are being used to improve the "Bolax mound" and for more restorative work in the garden below the Guesthouse.

The additional funds have allowed a local artisan, Gary Bella, trained in traditional Japanese woodworking to replace the shoji screens' interiors and the railings wrapping around the exterior deck as well as some decking. Consultation is being provided by the Portland Japanese Garden staff, pavers will be rerouted around cedar tree roots, and the stone steps along the side of the deck will rerouted.

Be sure to visit the Bloedel Reserve in every season to enjoy the Garden and admire the positive impact of the support from the Seattle Garden Club.

*Carlyn Steiner and Barbara Anderson, Community Projects Committee*

## Gardener's Corner

### Thoughts for December

- Transplant trees and shrubs now and finish planting spring bulbs.
- Use dormant sprays of lime sulfur or copper fungicide on fruit trees and roses for general disease control.
- Clean leaves of indoor plants with damp cloth or sponge.
- Paperwhites: a research program at Cornell University regarding the control of foliar growth has resulted in the following process, demonstrating that the stems will be about one third shorter than normal when "doctored" with alcohol.
  - "Start bulbs in plain water. When roots have formed and the green shoot is 1 to 2 inches long, pour off water and replace with a solution of 4 to 6 percent alcohol, that works out to one part gin (or the like) to 7 parts water."
  - "Rubbing alcohol (either 70 or 100 percent isopropyl alcohol) can be substituted; just dilute it more. Keep beer and wine for yourself; their sugars damage plants."
- Enjoy the holidays!



*Janet Footh*



## Hort Starts

Winding down the fall season of our Horticulture Mondays felt like the last hurrah of autumn's best at the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center "Tree House." The golden light streaming through the floor-to-ceiling windows on one of our last sunlit days of autumn added the element of warmth and energy that we need at this time of year.

Marianne Kitchell, Diana Neely and I gave a brief overview of our Shirley Meneice Conference experience in October. This year the event was held in Austin, Texas, hosted by the Garden Clubs of Houston, San Antonio, Dallas and Beaumont. There is no GCA in Austin. However, the Lady Bird Wildflower Center is located outside of Austin, in conjunction with the University of Texas at Austin. Thus, several speakers were from the research department at the LBJ Wildflower Center. One scientist, Mark Simmons, spoke to us on the subject of "Regenerating the Urban Ecology" with green roofs, green walls, urban prairies and native lawns. Other speakers gave good tips on collecting seeds, native bees, sustainable sites, native plants, garden writing and roses and ferns. You name it, we heard it, from "what Granny did" to drought tolerant plants that take extreme conditions. Two days just doesn't cover everything inquiring minds want to know!

The heart of our November Hort meeting was hearing Barbara Leathart Peterson's talk on Native Trees in our corner of the world. She concentrated on the state tree, *Tsuga heterophylla*, as well as *Picea sitchensis*, *Alnus rubra* and *Cornus nuttallii*. She gave detailed information regarding their key characteristics and how to recognize them in their native habitat. She truly loved the research process and added interesting facts about trees from the beginning of time to the present. She was happy to have had this challenge both on the subject of trees as well as the use of Power Point in her presentation.

Following Barbara's talk on Native Trees, we enjoyed a warm and pleasant time walking the short loop to the slough from the "Tree House" meeting room, identifying native plants as part of a treasure hunt! Several winners took daffodil bulbs home as prizes for their conscientious efforts to notice familiar and not-so-familiar plants. Photographers enjoyed several photo opportunities as well.

Our next Hort meeting isn't until Monday January 7, 2013 at CUH. We'll look forward to hearing Roxanne Wiley and Sue Ashmun speak on Champion Trees and the Folklore of Trees. We'll be starting the New Year off rooted in history and local lore! Please come support our Provisionals in the New Year!

*Catherine Allan, Horticulture Chair*

## At the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center



Catherine Allan, BJ Anderson and Provisional Barbara Leathart Peterson keeping a sense of humor with Power Point



Jo Anne Rosen and Sis Woodside strolling the loop



Taking a break from photographing and identifying native plants for a group shot on a splendid fall day



## Looking Ahead

Our January newsletter will arrive the first week of the New Year. Please note these events.

- 1/7/13 **Provisional Meeting**, CUH Board Room, 9 am  
**Horticulture Meeting**, UWBH/CUH. 9:30 am Coffee, 10 am Program.  
Presentation by Provisionals Roxanne Wiley on Champion Trees and Susan Ashmun on Folklore of Trees  
**Community Projects Meeting**, CUH, following Hort Meeting
- 1/10/13 **Board Meeting**, Sunset Club, 10 am
- 1/17/13 **General Meeting**, UWBG/CUH. 9:30 am Coffee; 10 am Program.  
Emma Marris, environmental writer and author of *Rambunctious Gardens*. Guests Welcome!
- 1/8/13 **Membership Committee Meeting**, 10 am - Noon  
Meetings also on 1/15/22 and 1/22/13

## SGC Encourages us to Use Email

If you currently receive this newsletter via U.S. Mail and would like to receive it via email, please contact me. We are happy to reduce waste and expenses, in keeping with GCA policies. Thank you!

Jenny Wyatt, Communications Chair

[wyattjen@comcast.net](mailto:wyattjen@comcast.net)



### Seattle Garden Club

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