

February 2013



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America



February General Meeting

February 21, 2013

UWBG/CUH - 9:30 am Social, 10 am Meeting

Annual Business Meeting

Members Only



Come eat birthday cake to honor and celebrate The Garden Club of America's Centennial!

The program will begin with a presentation of the organization's interesting and rich history, given by Diana Neely. Eleanor Nolan will announce the list of current grant requests of the Community Projects Committee. To conclude, there will be a lively round table discussion centered around three topics.

In short, a rare opportunity not to be missed.

**WEAR YOUR ANNUAL MEETING SCARF. A PRIZE
WILL BE GIVEN FOR THE OLDEST SCARF!**

PLEASE RESPOND YES OR NO

Carol Eland, 206-324-5414 or
caroleland@msn.com

Events at a Glance

- 2/4/13 **Horticulture Meeting**, GVC
9:30 am Social, 10 am Program
As noted on this page
Fragrance Garden Committee
Immediately after the Hort Meeting
- 2/7/13 **Board Meeting**, Sunset Club, 10 am
- 2/14/13 **Happy Valentine's Day** 
- 2/15/13 **Floral Design Committee**, 10 am
Barbara Feasey's home
- 2/21/13 **Provisional Meeting**, UWBG/CUH
Board room, 9 am
General Meeting, UWBG/CUH
9:30 am Social, 10 am Program
As noted above

**FOR MORE SGC INFORMATION AND
A CALENDAR OF EVENTS,
CLICK ON OUR WEBSITE:
www.seattlegardenclub.org**

Hort Meeting

February 4, 2013

9:30 am Social, 10 am Program

**Graham Visitors Center,
Washington Park Arboretum**

PLEASE NOTE LOCATION

Presentations by Provisionals Susan Brickman on
Winter Tree Interest and Sarah Robinson on Winter
Tree Dormancy

Followed by a walk through
the Winter Garden in the
Arboretum. Dress warmly!





From the President

Another cold morning with ice in the bird bath and frost on the garden steps. It must be January in Seattle. Do I sense a lightening of the sky a few minutes earlier each morning, a bit more light in the afternoons? Yes, the earth has shifted and we are now on the upward swing, which brings our gardens back into view and birds on the wing after the long dormant season.

The SGC has been very busy in January with well attended and insightful Horticulture and General Meetings. Roxanne Wiley did a tremendous job with her talk on Champion Trees, and Emma Morris was captivating and thought provoking.

The Community Projects Committee has been working hard to bring the results of our community grant requests to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting on February 21st. At that meeting we will also be celebrating the 100th birthday of GCA and providing an opportunity for our membership to discuss the business of our club. Thank you to Cathy Parker and her committee for coordinating this important meeting. Please plan on attending with a timely RSVP so we will have a place for you at a table.

Note that the February Horticulture meeting on February 4 is being held at the Graham Visitors Center featuring Susan Brickman and Sarah Robinson speaking on Winter Trees and Dormancy, followed by a walk through the Winter Garden in the Arboretum.

If it's February in Seattle, it's time for the Northwest Flower and Garden Show. The opening party is Tuesday, February 19, featuring "Gardens Go Hollywood", red carpet, garden celebs, and a first peak at the fabulous creations in the Garden Show. Sounds like fun! Contact the Arboretum Foundation for tickets.

On a personal note I want to thank all of you who have been so supportive of me over the last months. The good news: no surgery was performed or seems indicated at this time. My hope is for good health for all of us in 2013.

Fondly,

Laurie Ahern, Club President

Fabulous Santa Fe!

Plans are underway for a Seattle Garden Club tour of Santa Fe Gardens this Spring! Trip dates are June 8 - 12 (Saturday until Wednesday).

Highlights of the trip will be the Santa Fe Botanical Gardens' Annual Tour, the Santa Fe Garden Club Pequeno Tour of members' gardens, a visit to Georgia O'Keefe's home and studio at Abiquiu, as well as visits to numerous galleries and to the Museum of International Folk Art.

Accommodations will be arranged at a small hotel near the central plaza.

Space is limited. Total cost will be available soon and will include hotel, transportation after arrival, admission fees and some meals. Airline transportation will be individually arranged.

If you are interested, please contact Laurie Riley at laurieariley@msn.com or 206-890-2262 (cell) to put your name on the list.

SAVE THE DATE!

Flowers for Sacred Places WITH THE National Cathedral Flower Guild

In a Morning Workshop, National Cathedral Flower Guild Members Mary Sims and Louise Lynn cover material from their seminars, illustrate styles, demonstrate techniques, and inspire those arranging flowers in Sacred Spaces.

In an Afternoon Workshop, participants arrange flowers under Mary and Louise's guidance. Space is limited.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Morning Workshop 10-12
Afternoon Workshop 1-3:30

Fee for each Workshop:
\$45 until 02/18/13
\$50 after 02/18/13

Saint Mark's
Episcopal Cathedral
Seattle, WA

for more information, visit
www.saintmarks.org



Everything that slows us down and forces patience, everything that sets us back into the slow circles of nature, is a help. Gardening is an instrument of grace.

May Sarton

Ways & Means

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES - DON'T MISS OUT!

As is the norm, several SGC outings associated with the Holiday Auction & Luncheon have spaces available. This is a fun way to socialize with our members or to introduce prospective members!

Garden Tour & Luncheon for 16

April 4, 2013

\$85

Four spaces available. Tour the dramatic and charming garden of Kathy Fries in Kirkland, followed by a special luncheon on the property provided by our SGC provisionals.

Vendovi Island Day Trip for 10

April 8, 2013

\$85

One space available. Travel by private boat from Anacortes to Vendovi, owned by the San Juan Preservation Trust. Guided tour with naturalists Dean Dougherty and Kathleen Foley. Wildflowers and great photography opportunities; includes lunch.

Whidbey Island Artsy Tour for 12

June 18, 2013

\$50

Five spaces available. Visit Cary Jurriaans' Whidbey Island Fine Art Studio followed by lunch and a visit to at least one special island garden.

Board Cocktail Party for 40

June 26, 2013

\$75 PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE

Seventeen spaces available. The "wait list" was inadvertently placed on top of our sign-up sheet at the auction, making it appear that the event was sold out. A fabulous party at Diana Neely's home hosted by your SGC Board members. Spouses and friends welcome!

Luxury Cocktail Cruise Aboard

June 2, 2013

\$150

the Historic Yacht MV Olympus for 20

Five spaces available. Three-hour cruise with cocktails and appetizers aboard the 92' 1929 historic wooden vessel, MV Olympus. Includes special appearance by author David Dykstra, who will share the history of some of the homes and gardens on Lake Washington.

**If you are interested in any of these great opportunities,
contact Suzette de Turenne at 206-524-9042 or**

sdeturenne@comcast.net

From our Holiday Auction - Game Night Dinner at Christine Davis' Featuring Mexican Train and Mexican Fare



Party hostesses Laurie Riley, Christine Davis, Debby Smith, Charlee Reed and Carlyn Steiner



Suzette de Turenne and Eleanor Nolan toast mannequin "Jeeves," dressed for the occasion



Ana Hergert (guest), Megan Smith, Christine Davis, Eleanor Nolan and Debby Smith join the fun

Seattle Garden Club
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
Seattle Aquarium
PRESENTS

The Iris Wagner Conservation Lecture



Peter Seligmann
CEO of Conservation
International

ALONG WITH

Jean Enersen
King 5 News

Thurs. May 16, 2013
Seattle Aquarium
6:30 pm RECEPTION
7:30 pm PROGRAM

TICKETS AT
brownpapertickets.org
FOR MORE INFO VISIT
seattlegardenclub.org

WILL DISCUSS

We are all Connected!

A conversation on the connections between the
health of Puget Sound, our planet, and people.

SEATTLE AQUARIUM K5 THE HOME TEAM SEATTLE GARDEN CLUB CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

**Please clip out our
poster on this page and**

SAVE THE DATE **The Iris Wagner** **Conservation Lecture**

Thursday, May 16, 2013
6:30 pm Reception
7:30 pm Program

Seattle Aquarium

Tickets at brownpapertickets.org

Invite your Friends!

Conservation Condensations

LOBBY DAY: February 19, 2013, in Olympia, Washington

Our Seattle Garden Club, along with Tacoma Garden Club, receives kudos from our Zone XII Representative for promoting at our state level the Environmental Priorities on Lobby Day. Juliet Romano, former Conservation Chair, began our attendance at Lobby Day. Persuading our legislators to protect the health of our families and our natural environment is our priority! Partnering with over two dozen organizations, we will promote:

TOXIC FREE KIDS: To remove dangerous flame retardant chemicals in children's clothing and furniture

CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTIONS: To develop policies that accelerate clean energy investments, reducing our fossil fuel dependence

CONSERVATION PROJECTS: To promote projects that protect Puget Sound, reduce toxic run-off, as well as expanding and improving habitat and forest health

Seattle Garden Club will carpool to Olympia on Wednesday, February 19. We expect to leave the Seattle Tennis Club parking lot at 7:30 am and return in mid-to-late afternoon. More information will be sent in early February.

GCA National Affairs and Legislation Conference in Washington, D.C.

This year, Seattle Garden Club's two representatives will be Hotie Hard, Conservation Chair, and Carolyn Kitchell. We expect to learn and absorb much environmental information from the various remarkable speakers. Following our mornings of presentations, we will dash off to "the Hill" to present to our various Congressional representatives our talking points about important legislation. Heady, dense sessions inspire us and inform us.

Con-servingly yours,

Hotie Hard, Conservation Chair

The Hort Report



Roxanne Wiley, Champion of Champion Trees, with sponsors Barbara Anderson and Catherine Roach

Our Horticulture Meeting on January 7 launched the New Year on the right foot with captivating presentations. The theme of trees continued with the topic of Champion Trees presented by Provisional Roxanne Wiley and horticulturist extraordinaire, Arthur Lee Jacobson. Both knew the subject inside and out, engaging our members throughout the morning.

Arthur Lee not only served as a deep well of horticultural resources for Roxanne in preparing for her talk, but he also spent considerable time after his talk answering questions regarding pruning and care for trees. He wisely responded, "it depends," to more involved questions. His website has a wealth of information from trees to his philosophy of life: www.arthurleej.com.

We learned about the scientific and common sense methods of measuring the circumference of a large tree, combined with the height and crown spread determined by a point system, in order to earn the Champion Tree title. Washington State has 45 champion trees in its registry! Wouldn't it be fun to take a trip to search for them? One of Roxanne's useful websites was: www.americanforests.org.

February will change our perspective on trees at the **Graham Visitor's Center** with a walk through the Arboretum to take a closer look at the Winter Garden. Two Provisionals, Sarah Robinson and Susan Brickman, will present Dormancy in Trees and Winter Interest.

Come celebrate winter in the Arboretum on February 4, and learn more about the trees in our own backyard. Please dress for the weather and take time to inhale the fresh air in our treasured garden.

Catherine Allan, Horticulture Chair



Ginny Kitchell looks on as Arthur Lee Jacobson sketches a Japanese Maple for Jeannie Gravenkemper

Gardener's Corner

Thoughts for February



- Now that days are finally starting to lengthen, indoor plants will start to show signs of new growth. When this happens, water more frequently and fertilize with a weak solution, approximately 1/4 strength.
- Prune fruit trees and blueberries. Cut off tall yellowed stems of all perennials, especially ornamental grasses.
- Many years ago member and professional landscaper Ann Herron (Groff-Smith) published in our Newsletter her favorite tips for gardeners. I clipped it, saved it for years, and now it's my pleasure to honor her generosity and expertise by passing her tips on to you:
 - * Water your houseplants with leftover tea. Ferns especially love it.
 - OR
 - * Water your houseplants once a month with this mixture: Dissolve 1 package Knox gelatin in 1 cup hot water and add 3 cups cold water.
 - * To eliminate weeds in the cracks (driveway or patio), pour ¼ cup of table salt dissolved in a quart of boiling water onto the offending cracks and "they will never come back."
 - * Spray for Mildew: 1 TBLS. Baking soda + 1 tsp. Dish detergent or vegetable oil + 1 gallon water

Janet Footh

Photography

Registrations for the SGC Club Photography Show, "In Tune with Photography," are now being accepted by Sis Woodside, sischet@comcast.net.

All SGC members, including Provisionals, are encouraged to enter a photograph.

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. Please read the rules carefully.

Questions:
Mary Turner, Show Chair
206-325-0270
mturner915@aol.com



Floral Design

Committee Meeting: Friday, February 15, 10 am

Location: Barbara Feasey's home

We will be discussing the "Simply Seattle" mini flower show to be held at our SGC Annual Meeting on June 6, 2013.

Please RSVP to Marilee Ahalt at Marilee.ahalt@gmail.com



Floral Designers Marilee Ahalt, Carol Henderson and Vicki Neumann busily planning

Bulbs Bloom Thanks to GCA



It's about the time of year that Pacific Northwesterners begin to really believe spring will return. Often in early February we spot a clump of snowdrops (*Galanthus*) pushing through the soil, and in a week or two the crocus come up underneath maple trees or in a well-tended garden plot. By March the narcissi have butter yellowed many a yard, and we are ever hopeful about the color display the tulips, muscari and hyacinths will bring.

Many of these bulbs originated in and have been imported from The Netherlands and Turkey. For many years they were put in quarantine and thus were not available to Americans. Backed by a strong lobby from the American Nurserymen, the Department of Agriculture maintained a restriction on many bulbs, claiming imported plant diseases.

In 1922 Garden Club of America's Horticulture Committee wearied of what they deemed an unfair prohibition of narcissus and daffodils. Louise Crowninshield, as head of the committee, was determined to have the government lift the ban. When she arrived in D.C. she followed leads, pulled strings and got as far as Herbert Hoover, then Secretary of Commerce. He advised her to gather experts who would disagree with the American Nurserymen who profited from the ban. Crowninshield's tenacity and argument with nurseries was viewed as inappropriate and unladylike by other factors in GCA, and the quarantine held.

A certain amount of discomfort remained within GCA. The Depression and WWII were to occur before the matter was taken up again. This time Washington was weary of keeping track of the bans, and in 1947 Louise Crowninshield was at last successful in lifting the restrictions. Dutch and Turkish bulbs bloomed throughout our country, including here in the Pacific Northwest.

Perhaps when the bulbs flower in Central Park for the Centennial Celebration this June, we shall all think of the work of Louise Crowninshield and her horticulture committee.

Carey Davis

Community Projects

GRANTS UPDATE: The Community Projects Committee is continuing to review proposals submitted to the Seattle Garden Club. Committee members have collectively identified detailed questions for each proposing institution, and representatives are visiting with each institution to gather further information. We will reconvene on January 30 to thoroughly review the proposals. The Committee will present recommendations to the membership for review at our Annual Business Meeting on February 21.

PROJECT UPDATE: It is inspiring to know about the ongoing gratitude and impact of SGC grants. Below are excerpts from a letter of appreciation from Islandwood for its garden education program. SGC approves and facilitates the grant to Islandwood, but the funds come from the Pendleton and Elisabeth Miller Charitable Foundation.

The support from the Seattle Garden Club/Miller Trust is so important to us, so I know you will appreciate this update. Since September:

We've had approximately 1,125 School Overnight Program kids visit the garden this fall ...

There were 109 kids that participated in a Soil to Snack program and cooked something amazing with Chris in the kitchen. There were an additional 141 kids that made spring rolls in the garden ...

We hired Emily Owens as our new Garden Educator. She has brought warmth, ambition, farming connections, enthusiasm, intelligence and much more in her few months here so far. She is working on some new curriculum and local farmer inter-connections ...

Emily has created a Garden Blog that is ... nearly ready to be linked with our IslandWood website, which can help connect people and kids to the garden as well as serve as a resource. On it there are seasonal photos of the garden, Soil to Snack recipes with photos, bios, garden background and sustainability practices, compost information, important food/farm links, sustainable cuisine, and a place for kids to follow up on garden projects that they participated in

We were the grateful recipients of 25 hard-working volunteers from Floyd Snider Consulting and they did an amazing amount of hauling.

Eleanor Nolan, Community Projects Chair

Membership and Roster Updates

Address change

Noreen Frink: 605 39th Ave. East, Seattle, WA 98112

Email changes

Hope Stroble: hopering@gmail.com

Mary Smith:

marynewtonsmith@hotmail.com.

Resignations

Dorothy McKinney Anderson, Judy Thomas, Stephanie Fowler, Maggie Mangham (Provisional)

Please note these changes in your Yearbook

To Ninety

by Robyn Sarah

A city sparrow
touches down
on a bare branch

in the fork of a tree
through whose arms
the snow is sifting —

swipes his beak
against wood, this side
then that,

and flies away:
what sight
could be more common?

Yet I think
for such sights alone
I would live to ninety.

Looking Ahead

- 3/4/13 **Provisional Meeting**, UWBG/CUH Board Room, 9 am
Horticulture Meeting, UWBG/CUH, 9:30 am Social, 10:00 am Program
Presentations by Provisionals Susie Titcomb on Street Trees and
Susan Ashmun on Folklore of Trees
- 3/7/13 **Board Meeting**, Sunset Club, 10 am
- 3/21/13 **General Meeting**, UWBG/CUH, 9:30 am Social, 10 am Program
Maxine Meklar, floral designer and owner of Maxine's Floral
Guests Welcome!



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



Seattle Garden Club

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