



# The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

## Floral Designer Kelly Sullivan Demonstrates “From the Garden Style” Arrangements

Kelly Sullivan is the Owner and Creative Director of Botanique, a Seattle-based floral design studio. With a background in horticulture and dance, her unique approach to floral design emphasizes spatial relationships, movement, seasonality, and uncommon botanical ingredients. Kelly's work has been featured in numerous print and online publications, including the New York Times, GRAY Magazine, Seattle Bride Magazine, Seattle Met Bride and Groom Magazine, Style Unveiled and Flirty Fleurs.

Kelly will share her approach to floral design in Botanique's lush, signature, “from the garden” style. Using the example of a compote-style floral arrangement, Kelly will discuss principals of color, line, form, texture, and eco-friendly design.



## General Meeting

**March 19, 2015**

**UWBG/CUH**

**9:30 am Social**

**10 am Program**

**Guests Welcome!**

## Events at a Glance

**3/2/15 Horticulture Meeting, Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 9:15 am Social, 10 am Program, Provisional Talk: Jolie Roze “Perspectives on the Bellevue Botanical Garden”, Hort Share! Docent tour following meeting, bring appropriate clothes**

**Community Projects Committee Meeting, Bellevue Botanical Garden, immediately following**

**Auction Event, Floral Demo at Martha Harris Flowers, 5 pm - 7 pm**

**3/5/15 Board Meeting, Sunset Club, 10 am**

**3/12/15 Auction Event, “A Symphony of Soil” Film, at Catherine Parker's home**

**3/19/15 General Meeting, UWBG/CUH, 9:30 am Social, 10 am Program, as noted above. Guests Welcome!**

**3/23/15 Photography Committee Meeting, Workshop on iPhonography with Teri Dantzler, Location TBA**

**3/24/15 Flower Show Committee Meeting, at Diana Neely's home, 10 am, followed by a trip to BBG**

Consult the calendar at the SGC website: [seattlegardenclub.org](http://seattlegardenclub.org)



## From the President

Our Zone XII is well represented at the GCA level! This was evident when I met and heard many of the Zone XII and GCA Representatives speak at the Zone XII Presidents Council in Pasadena the last week in January. I was glad to have Suzette with me ~ the two of us were proud to represent our club, our members and all that is happening in our SGC!

At our February board meeting, I invited Catherine Allan, Chairperson (and on the GCA Hort Committee), to speak about the Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference which we are hosting in September. You will hear more about the opportunities to volunteer at our Annual Business Meeting. She and her committee have spent an incredible amount of time on this event and plan to make our club and city shine! Thank you, Catherine and your committee!

We continue to be educated and amazed by our provisionals with their horticulture presentations. I will look at our local gardens with Japanese influence with different eyes after hearing Karen Simmonds' excellent talk, *The Lure of Flowers: Japan's Courtship of the Pacific Northwest*.

*Marilee Ahalt, President*

## Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference "From Mountains to Sound"

Each month brings us ever closer to September, yet with more accomplishments as we proceed. Great ideas spring forth during committee meetings, creating a better vision for this event each time! Thank you ladies! Our contracts are nailed down for transportation, the hotel and restaurants as well as the picture for the Save the Date message. Whew! Terrific progress was made recently when Jenny Wyatt, Diana Ackerley and I met with Sarah Reichard to review the flow of time and breakout sessions both at CUH and at the WPA on Tuesday, September 22. Speakers are in place as are the buses that will transport everyone to and fro. The best news this winter has been the confirmation from the conference donor, who has reassured us with her generous gift towards our speakers! What more can I say? This is better than the Super Bowl, in the gardening world! The registration hurdle lies ahead and once we scale it, we should be able to breathe more comfortably. Fingers crossed!

Please refer to the SGC website for further details outlining the SMHC schedule and committee members.

*Catherine Allan, Chair*



*photo credit: Michael Jardine*

## Founders Fund Award Vote

It's that time of year when each GCA club submits a vote for the current year's Founders Fund Awards. The Founders Fund was created in 1934 in honor of the first GCA President, Elizabeth Price Martin. With remarkable vision, energy and perseverance, The Garden Club of America has saved thousands of acres of land, innumerable trees and enriched multitudes. Historic landmarks have been restored and civic plantings flourish in countless communities nationwide. Research and education projects enrich young and old. Along with the winners, the runners-up for the awards have made distinguished contributions to their communities.

Individual members in each club vote for one of three proposals, which are previously determined by the national FF committee. Club Presidents then cast each club's winning selection electronically, and the winner is announced at the Annual GCA meeting in Rochester, NY this spring. The winner will receive \$30,000 and each runner up \$7,500. Please familiarize yourself with this year's proposals by reading the Winter issue of the GCA Bulletin or logging on to the Founders Fund webpage in the Members Area of the GCA website. You will be casting your vote at the General meeting on March 19, 2015.

Seattle Garden Club projects have been chosen as runners-up four different times for two projects. In 1940 and 1942 for azalea hybridization for Azalea Way in the Arboretum, and in 1959 and 1967 for beautification of the Lake Washington Ship Canal. Perhaps the time has come to begin exploring current possibilities in our area. There is all the information on the process to be found on the GCA website Founders Fund section. I have been asked to be the FF representative for SGC and would like to form a committee to look into finding a worthy proposal in our region. Please contact me if you are interested: [lahern1681@gmail.com](mailto:lahern1681@gmail.com) or 206-850-3974.

*Laurie Ahern*

## Conservation Report

Curiously the concept of Lobby Day was lulling. It turns out, Lobby Day diminished our constituent voices. Both environmental advocates (us) and our state representatives relaxed into thinking that after our message was delivered in one visit, no more needed to be said. Not true! We need to remind our legislators more OFTEN (at state and national levels) to reinforce our vision.

Your Conservation Committee spent a morning at the offices of Washington Environmental Council (WEC) and Washington Conservation Voters(WCV). Both WEC and WCV bring together 'uncommon' partnerships from the labor, business and faith communities to help move the Climate and Clean Energy Agenda forward. We learned about coalitions and partnering to tackle the big challenges and to advance strategic solutions for the health of our state's environment. One of the recommendations is to support 'Cap-and-Trade' as a good way to begin to reduce our carbon emissions; we can move away from fossil fuel pollution.

We all care about our future and our now. Consider sending letters, emails and making calls. To contact your state legislator, search "[leg.wa.gov/](http://leg.wa.gov/)", then on the Home page, click on "Find Your Legislator", enter our address and your reps will pop up. National contact information for our Congressional reps and Senators are listed in our SGC Yearbook on page 87.

It's a perfect time on these gray winter days to raise our voices for our world!  
Greenly voiced, *Hotie Hard*



# SGC Board Motions

## February Board Meeting

Motion: To approve the recommendation from the SGC Community Projects Committee to the SGC Governing Board to fund three Community Projects for 2014-2015, as follows, was seconded and approved.

- Phase II SGC **Fragrance Garden** Renovation, CUH \$16,000
- Planting a prominently located garden bed at Volunteer Park. (**Volunteer Park Trust**) \$10,000
- One hundred hand-drawn botanicals (of 1000 drawings) that will illustrate the revision of the authoritative one-volume *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*. (**UW Burke Museum, Herbarium**) \$10,000

## Gardener's Corner

### Plants as Medicine

Medicine has been on my radar a lot these past few months and it got me thinking: how did early man find the key to unlock the plant-based medicinal treasure chest? What is our bond to plant life outside of its aesthetic beauty and nutritional value?

The human/ medicinal plant connection goes back some 60,000 years. In Iraq, back in the 1960's a Neanderthal man was discovered buried in a cave with eight species of plants. Seven of those plants were discovered to have medicinal purposes.

Humans have co-evolved with plants over millions of years. We drink their juices, eat their leaves and consume them in a myriad of ways. Plants are part of our chemistry and help form our body's building blocks through their protein, fats and carbohydrates. Because of this, and the fact that plants and humans share similarities in the way antioxidants protect cells, approximately 80% of the world's population employs herbs as primary medicines. In the U.S., plants are the foundation for 40% of the pharmaceuticals in use today. From aspirin (willow bark) to anti-malarial quinine (*Cinchona pubescens*) to the cancer-fighting taxol (*Taxus brevifolia*), plant based remedies are used by some 5.1 billion people worldwide.

How were these plant-based medicines discovered? Some believe that plants revealed their therapeutic properties by a sign. For instance, a plant with a long twisted root might be used to treat a snakebite. Some believe it was a process of trial and error. Man gets gouged by a sharp tree branch, he has to stop the bleeding, he rubs every plant leaf he sees on the wound to induce clotting, one of them works, a remedy is born. Lastly, some plant medicines were said to be revealed to worthy individuals through visions or dreams with the medicine man right by their side to aid in the observation and testing phase of a botanical cure.

Approximately 7,000 medical compounds prescribed by western doctors are derived from plants, with the potential for many more. We must continue to communicate with healers from other continents to preserve remedies that have been passed down through the generations. Also imperative is the preservation of the rainforest for it holds a treasure trove of healing power yet to be discovered. The wonder of plants is never ending.

*Megan Smith*



# Community Projects Report

The Community Projects Committee will be presenting the following motion at the Business Meeting on February 19, 2015.

**MOTION to approve the recommendation from the SGC Governing Board to fund three Community Projects for 2014-2015, as follows:**

- **Phase II SGC Fragrance Garden Renovation, CUH \$16,000**
- **Planting a prominently located garden bed at Volunteer Park (Volunteer Park Trust) \$10,000**
- **Funding one hundred hand-drawn botanicals (of 1000 drawings) that will illustrate the revised edition of the authoritative one-volume *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*. (UW Burke Museum, Herbarium) \$10,000**

The **Fragrance Garden Phase II** plans and budget were reviewed by a CP sub-Committee that unanimously recommended to the Community Projects committee full funding of the request. Phase II focuses on the renovation and refurbishment of the garden and addressing the issues surrounding the removal of a diseased Striped Bark Maple, which also contaminated the soil beneath and adjacent to the tree. In addition the Governing Board recommended that the Policy and Planning committee should review the funding and organizational structure of the Fragrance Garden.

**Volunteer Park**, designed by John Charles Olmsted in 1909, is among Seattle's most visited and visible park. Alarmed by this iconic Park's degradation, a group of neighbors formed the Volunteer Park Trust (VPT) in 2010 to provide stewardship. VPT proposes to restore a large, lozenge-shaped bed prominently located to the south/east of the reservoir. The bed--approximately 150' x 10' to 30'--has been cleared of weeds by volunteers and would be replanted with a palette that echoes the original Olmsted planting plan. The request is for \$10,000 and the Committee recommended full funding.

**U.W. Burke Herbarium** grant requested funding to support the revision of a 1971 resource book "Flora of the Pacific Northwest", which documents diversity and distribution of plants, lichens, fungi and algae, throughout the Pacific Northwest. The Burke requested SGC support 100 of 1000 new pen and ink illustrations for revised edition, at a cost of \$10,000. This updated volume will be used as a text for undergraduate and graduate plant biology classes as well as in the field by researchers, botanists, and gardeners. SGC will be listed as a "Project Supporter". The text's education and conservation uses meet both the GCA and SGC "Mission" statements. The Community Projects recommended full funding of this request.

*Carlyn Steiner, Chair*



*Suzette de Turenne, Karen Simmonds and Gayle Harris  
after Karen's wonderful provisional talk!*



*We really enjoy Hort Share.  
Thank you for participating!*

# Hort Report

Thank you to Karen Simmonds for her great Provisional talk at our February Hort meeting. She presented a clear history of the evolution of the Japanese garden and illustrated its lasting influence on our Northwest gardens.

Our MARCH 2 HORT MEETING will be held at the new BELLEVUE BOTANICAL GARDEN EDUCATION CENTER. Our program is Provisional Jolie Roze's talk, *Perspectives on the Bellevue Botanical Garden*.

HORT SHARE – YES! Although the Yearbook states that there is no Hort Share, there's been a change. WE WILL HAVE HORT SHARE! Diana Ackerley will be in charge. She challenges each of us to bring something from our garden. Bring it in a container if possible.

**After the meeting, we'll have a docent-led tour of the gardens of the BBG. So bring weather-appropriate gear!**

Be sure to allow extra time to arrive at the meeting for our 9:15 Social Hour, so you have plenty of time for enjoying Hort Share and catching up with your friends before the meeting begins at 10:00. There will be signs directing you from the parking lot to the Education Center.

[A Head's Up for the May Hort meeting: there's been a location change for the May 4 Hort Meeting. Originally scheduled at the Park Shore Retirement Center, the meeting will now be at the home of Pam Green.]

*Deborah Cheadle, Chair*



Our May Flower Show at Bellevue Botanical Garden in Bellevue is well underway! Please **SAVE THE DATE** for our Preview Party the evening of Friday May 15. Party co-chairs Sheila Noonan and Carlyn Steiner are putting together a terrific party that you won't want to miss. Guests are more than welcome! Be on the look out for more information.

If you don't have a copy of our Schedule for the show and would like one, please let us know and we'll get one to you. All information is also available on our website. Division Registrars can advise you on which classes still have spaces. Now is the time to register to enter if you haven't already done so.

Committee Chairs will be recruiting volunteers soon. We hope you'll be part of this fun and educational event!

*Jenny Wyatt and Diana Neely*  
*Flower Show Co-chairs*

*Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center*  
*Photo Credit: Kim Bishop*



# Ways & Means Report

Sign Up

## OUTINGS WITH AVAILABLE SPOTS!

### Film Night at Cathy Parker's

March 12, 2015

\$75

*Seven spaces available.* Come see the acclaimed movie "A Symphony of the Soil." "Filmed on four continents, featuring esteemed scientists and working farmers and ranchers, "Symphony of the Soil" is an intriguing presentation that highlights possibilities of healthy soil creating healthy plants creating healthy humans living on a healthy planet." Also included in the evening will be wine and hors d'oeuvres and a Skype connection to the producer for a conversation afterwards. Donated by the Conservation Committee.

### Garden Tour of Seattle University with Ciscoe Morris

April 20, 2015

\$75

*Seven spaces available.* Explore the campus of Seattle University with the always entertaining Ciscoe Morris. Learn about all the specialty gardens followed by wine and hors d'oeuvres. Hosted by Janet Footh, Barbie Snapp and Roxanne Wiley.

### Rhododendron Garden and Bonsai Collection Tour

May 27, 2015

\$60

*Nine spaces available.* Tour these wonderful gardens in the Federal Way area: the Rhododendron Species Garden & Bonsai collection. Your tour will be followed by lunch. Since the Weyerhaeuser Corporation is moving its headquarters to downtown Seattle, the fate of the gardens is unknown, so take advantage of perhaps a last chance to see this Pacific Northwest treasure. Hosted by Catherine Allan, B.J. Anderson, Sue Blethen and Diana Neely.

### Gardens, Creativity and Refreshments

June 11, 2015

\$110

*Three spaces available.* Artist Gayle Harris will guide us in a class in which you will create your own sculpted leaf garden art to take home. Enjoy being creative! You will be inspired by her lovely art-filled garden. Hearty refreshments will be served. Hosted by Gayle Harris and Karen Simmonds.

### Bastille Day at Hansville Beach

July 14, 2015

\$80

*Five spaces available.* Come celebrate Bastille Day at Barbie Snapp's summer home in Hansville on the north end of the Kitsap Peninsula. Enjoy tennis, croquet, beach walks/hiking, The Nature Conservancy or local nurseries. French inspired dining is included! Hosted by Barbie Snapp and Suzy Titcomb.

### Clamdigging at Tekieu Beach

July 16, 2015

\$85

*Three spaces available.* Clamdigging (oysters may be found too!) in the morning on a beautiful secluded beach followed by a delicious lunch at Mary Jane Anderson's home. Hosted by Mary Jane Anderson, Suzette de Turenne and Barbara Peterson.

### Methow Valley Weekend

September 11-13 (two nights)

\$300

*Four spaces available.* Enjoy a fabulous weekend at the Methow Valley homes of Sis Woodside, Laurie Riley and Barbara Feasey. Elegant picnic lunch and hike at Gaye Pigott's Moccasin Lake Ranch. Galleries and shopping in Twisp and Winthrop. Fabulous Valley Farmers' Market. Transportation via carpools. Hosted by Barbara Feasey, Gaye Pigott, Laurie Riley and Sis Woodside.

Interested? Contact Roxanne Wiley 425.442.5154 or [roxwiley@comcast.net](mailto:roxwiley@comcast.net)



## Scarcely Spring

Nothing is real. The world has lost its edges,  
The sky, uncovered, is the one thing clear.  
The earth is a little more than atmosphere  
Where yesterday were rocks and naked ridges  
Green upon green or lifts a coral spire  
That breaks in blossom, and the hills appear  
Too frail to be the stony fruit of ages.

Nothing will keep. Even the heavens waver.  
Young larks, whose first thought is to cry aloud,  
Have spent their bubble notes. And here or there  
A few slow-hearted boys and girls discover  
A moon as insubstantial as a cloud  
Painted by air on washed and watery air.

By Louis Untermeyer (1885-1977)



## Garden Club Aprons

We have a supply available....just in time for the May flower show and for your spring gardening and flower arranging projects.

The price is \$15 and they will be available at our meetings or by contacting Laurie Riley [laurieriley@gmail.com](mailto:laurieriley@gmail.com) or 206-325-2514.

## Fragrance Garden



### Are you a weeder or a watcher???

Weeders weed and look for trash in the garden. They remove trash. We have found cans and bottles! Weeders know what a hori hori knife is! Watchers walk the garden and check for weeds, under watering, dead or stressed plants. They then email the SGC Fragrance chairman to alert her to problems in the SGC Fragrance Garden!

If you would like to help plant bulbs or weed in the garden near the end of February please email me at [diana\\_neely@msn.com](mailto:diana_neely@msn.com). Watch the garden from March onward!

*Diana Neely, Chair*





# Photography Report

## Upcoming Committee Events:

On March 23 at 10:00am, members of the Photography Committee are invited to spend two hours with iPhonography instructor, Teri Lou Dantzler. Teri Lou will teach us tips and techniques for taking better photos with our smart phones. In early March, I will email the committee to find out how many members are interested in attending (some have already let me know of their interest). Once I know numbers, I'll confirm the location of the workshop with the committee.

## A Photographic 'Recipe':

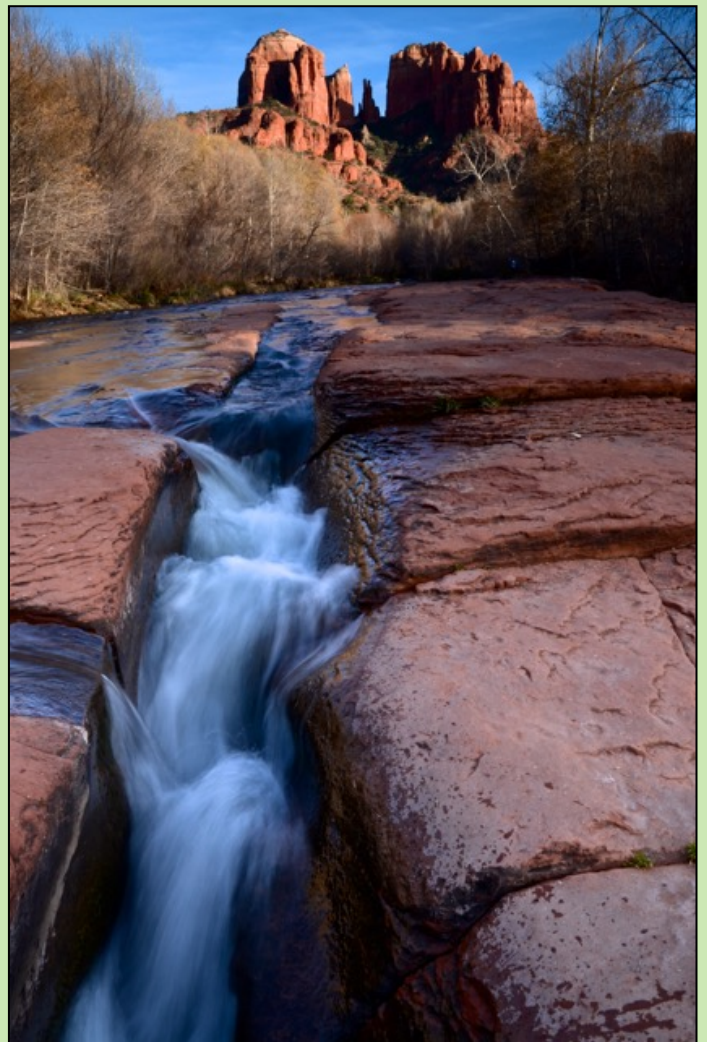
Want to try getting 'soft' water photos similar to the ones Justin Reznick showed us during his talk at the January General Meeting? Here are some tips for capturing smooth flowing water:

- 1) You will need a tripod so that you can keep the shutter open long enough for the water to flow.
- 2) Use a high f-stop. f/22 or higher (to reduce the amount of light coming in so the image doesn't get over exposed. The higher the better!)
- 3) Set your ISO to 100.
- 4) Turn off the Auto Focus once you have focused on your subject.
- 5) Try to be in a lower light setting (overcast, shady or early/late in the day) OR use a ND (neutral density) filter to reduce the amount of light coming in and hitting the sensor. A polarizing filter can also darken the scene enough to allow the shutter to stay open longer.
- 6) Try to have a shutter speed of at least 1 second or longer. If you are in Aperture Priority and the shutter speed isn't slow enough, that is when you will want to add a ND or a polarizing filter. If you are shooting in Manual and your photo is over exposed then a filter or darker setting will help.
- 7) A shutter release cable can be helpful in preventing camera shake...or set your camera's automatic timer for a 2 second delay.

Have fun experimenting with your cameras! Share your results with everyone by sending your photos to me or Kim for viewing on the website!

*Juliet Romano, Chair*

*Photo by Suzy Titcomb*



## Looking Ahead

4/2/15 **Board Meeting**, Sunset Club, 10 am

4/6/15 **Horticulture Meeting Hosted by Floral Design, UWBG/CUH**, 9:15 am Social, 10 am Program  
May Flower Show Preparation, **Hort Share-share an arrangement from your garden**  
Community Projects will meet immediately following

4/16/15 **Joint Meeting and Luncheon with Tacoma Garden Club, Seattle Tennis Club**  
10:30 am Social, 11:30 am-1:30 pm Lunch & Program  
Aaron Clark, Manager, Stewardship Partners, 12,000 Rain Gardens Campaign  
RSVP to Jenny Wyatt, [wyattjen@comcast.net](mailto:wyattjen@comcast.net), 206-322-2922  
Cost for non-subscribers is \$38, Members only please

4/20/15 **Auction Event**, Seattle University Garden Tour with Ciscoe Morris, 10 am - 11:30 am  
**Flower Show Meeting**, location TBD

4/30/15 **Auction Event**, Floatplane trip to Grays Harbor for birdwatching



### GCA Encourages Use of Email

If you receive this newsletter via U.S. Mail and would like to receive it via email, please contact me. Please help us reduce waste and expenses. Thank you!

Dabney Rohrbach, Communications Chair  
[dmrohrbach@gmail.com](mailto:dmrohrbach@gmail.com)

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**Seattle Garden Club**

University of Washington Botanic Gardens  
Box 354115  
Seattle, WA 98195-4115