

April 2015



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

Seattle/Tacoma Garden Club Joint General Meeting Thursday April 16, 10:30 am Social, 11:30 am Program & Lunch Seattle Tennis Club

PLEASE RSVP— YES OR NO by April 7 to Jenny Wyatt, wyattjen@comcast.net or 206-322-2922. We need a firm headcount to order lunches.
If you signed up at a meeting then you need not respond again.

Non-subscribers to the Hostess Fund: Please confirm your reservation by sending a \$38 check payable to SGC to Jenny Wyatt, 135-39th Ave East, Seattle, WA 98112.

12,000 Rain Gardens in Puget Sound Campaign



Rain gardens need rain gardeners to demonstrate how beautiful and enriching it can be to engage in civic and environmental improvement. Aaron Clark, director of the Stewardship Partners 12,000 Rain Gardens Program will share the beauty and benefits of rain gardens throughout the Puget Sound region. For the past 15 years, Stewardship Partners has been shifting the paradigm of environmental action one landowner at a time. In addition to the 12,000 Rain Gardens Program, they manage the Salmon-Safe eco-label that certifies properties for their sustainable environmental practices, and the Snoqualmie Stewardship Program that actively restores river and stream side habitat in the Snoqualmie Valley. Aaron D. Clark (Ph.D.) runs the 12,000 Rain Gardens in Puget Sound program in partnership with WSU Extension. In addition to his work on rain gardens, Aaron has studied migration evolution in songbirds at UW, and disappearing frogs as a student at Reed College.

Events at a Glance

- 4/2/15 **Board Meeting**, Sunset Club, 10 am
- 4/6/15 **Horticulture Meeting**, UWBG/CUH, 9:15 am Social, 10 am Program, Hosted by Floral Design Committee Flower Show Preparation, **Hort Share- share an arrangement from your garden!**
Community Projects Committee Meeting, immediately following
- 4/9/15 **Workshop** with Pru Hammett for provisionals and new members, CUH meeting room, 9 am - 1 pm
- 4/14/15 **Garden History Book Photographers**, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm, meet at Madison Park garden
- 4/16/15 **General Meeting**, Seattle Tennis Club, 10:30 am Social, 11:30 am Lunch/Program, as noted above
- 4/20/15 **Auction Event**, Garden Tour with Ciscoe Morris
Flower Show Meeting, 10 am - 11:30 am, location TBA
- 4/23/15 **Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference**, 10 am - noon, UWBG/CUH, Isaacson Room
- 4/30/15 **Auction Event**, Floatplane trip to Grays Harbor for bird watching

Consult the calendar at the SGC website: www.seattlegardenclub.org



From the President

PLEASE RSVP TO JENNY WYATT FOR OUR JOINT MEETING/LUNCHEON WITH THE TACOMA GARDEN CLUB SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 16. Although, we have decided not to take RSVPs for every SGC General Meeting, this one is necessary. We have all been hostesses and carried the burden of having the correct number of seats for our guests. Please help us be gracious hostesses for The Tacoma Garden Club by sending in your RSVP (via email) ASAP!

At our March board meeting, Barbara Hamachek spoke to us about her GCA position of Zone XII Flower Show Representative. Again, we were amazed at the time, energy and resources one of our members puts into her GCA position. Thank you, Barbara!

WOW! Provisional, Jolie Roze, engaged us in an Oscar worthy presentation at our March Hort Meeting on The Bellevue Botanical Gardens. How appropriate that the meeting was at their new facility and we were toured through the gardens afterwards. It was a great way to get better acquainted with our NW PASSAGES Flower Show site!

Marilee Ahalt, Club President

Horticultural Meeting Hosted by Floral Design Committee April 6 at UWBG/CUH Get Ready for Northwest Passages!

Please note our schedule

9:15 Social

10:00 Show Prep for Horticulture Entries

10:45 Announcements

11:00 Show Prep for Floral Design Entries

Our May Flower Show, Northwest Passages, is right around the bend: May 15 – 16 at Bellevue Botanical Gardens.

Please come to our April 6 Hort meeting to get up to speed. The first part of the meeting will focus on Hort entries to include entry cards, botanical names, key cards, eligibility for awards, grooming your entry, the passing process and more. The second half of the meeting will feature a demonstration by some of our floral designers.

Be sure to review the Northwest Passages schedule. There will be a quiz with prizes! This promises to be a fun and very educational meeting. Don't be left behind!

Diana Neely & Jenny Wyatt, Co-chairs



*Fabulous co-chairs Jenny Wyatt
and Diana Neely*

**Northwest
Passages**
A GCA Flower Show

Ways & Means Report

FEATURED OUTINGS WITH AVAILABLE SPOTS!

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

Eight 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, BJ Anderson, Sue Blethen and Diana Neely.

Gardens, Creativity and Refreshments

June 11, 2015

\$110

Two 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. Clam digging (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

Three 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

"BELIEVE IT or NOT"

Suzette came up with a fun game for the Business meeting. You were to write down something about yourself that no one knows. We loved trying to figure out which story went with which member. And thus the game continues...

"I was a synchronized swimmer on the University of Washington Silver Fish team."

"My grandfather was a botanist and named each of his propagations after a member of his family."

Answers found on page 7

Save the Date
MAY 15th, 2015

The Seattle Garden Club's
**Pnorthwest
Passages**
A GCA Flower Show
PREVIEW PARTY

Place: Bellevue Botanical Gardens
Time: 6:30 – 9:00pm



The GCA's National Affairs and Legislation Meeting in Washington, DC kept Carolyn Kitchell and Iris Wagner very busy

A Delightful Read Offered by Garden Club of America

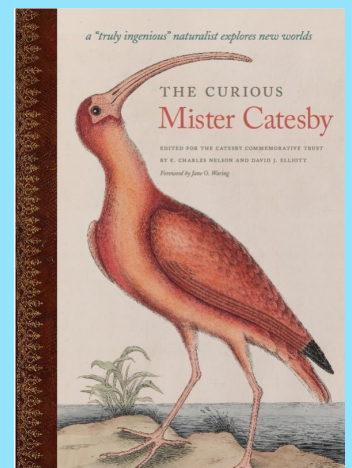


Even though an early spring has come to Pacific Northwest gardeners, April is promised to bring enough rainy days to appease most appetites for reading. **The Curious Mister Catesby** by Charles Nelson is promised to delight gardeners and historians alike as well as other readers. While the title may remind one of a child's storybook, it is actually a fabulously illustrated book about Mark Catesby (1682-1749), a British naturalist who came to the Americas in 1712 to visit a sister (who had married against the family's wishes) and found such interest in the flora and fauna that he collected and sketched much of the New World. He returned to England after 7 years and so impressed the Royal

Society that several Fellows financed his next trip of 4 years. He spent the next 17 years compiling his **Natural History**. This book used folio-sized plates of his watercolors. Catesby learned to do the etchings himself. The original plates are housed in the Royal Library of Windsor Castle and in the 1980's and 90's were exhibited in the United States and elsewhere. Finally in 1747, the naturalist had time to marry (with the approval of his family) but died a few years later.

The Tercentennial of Catesby's first trip to America coincided with Garden Club of America's own Centennial in 2012. GCA was a strong supporter of the Catesby Trust who masterminded the publication of Charles Nelson's book on the naturalist. Nelson himself is a well-known Irish botanist with several other books to his name. In recognition of GCA's support, this book will be available on the Club's website at a reduced rate to all Garden Club Members.

Carey Davis



Gardener's Corner

Big Bloom in a Small Package

This month I had the fortunate occasion to walk through New York City's Central Park. My son and I walked from 54th Street all the way to 94th via the park where I was able to gawk at the stately elms and the mottle patchwork bark of the muscular sycamore trees. It occurred to me there that while our gardens may not be able to accommodate such huge majestic trees, our yards might be able to harbor *just one more* small tree. Or perhaps, we've grown tired of pruning that supposed "small" tree and the time is right to replace an old friend with a newer, truly small scale tree, and one that will outlive us all.

I am one of those people who needs a tree "re-do." My beloved Acer palmatum 'Moonglow' has succumbed to verticillium wilt. While I'm saddened, I'm also overjoyed at the opportunity to acquaint myself with the new, lovely Styx japonicus 'Evening Light'. Growing only 10 to 12 feet tall by around 6 feet wide, this lusty, sun loving purple leaf beauty won't outgrow her new home. The ultra-fragrant white bell blooms dangling from striking maroon stems will undoubtedly become one of my favorite spring bloomers. But wait, there's more. She will flaunt her jewel like flowers yet again in the fall if I remember to water her enough...and I will.

But not so fast...the Tokyo Flower Fringe Tree or Chionanthus retusus 'Tokyo Tower' looks awfully appealing too! With 4 seasons of beauty that features: peeling golden tan bark, wispy clouds of fleecy white fragrant spring flowers, blue fruits and yellow fall color, I can hardly go wrong. Plus, it's 15 x 6 foot narrow silhouette will fit into my yard nicely.

But then again, how can I resist those gigantic magenta blooms of the Magnolia 'Genie'? With fragrant maroon teacup flowers displayed on bare branches and a compact 13 x 5 size, I'm thinking that if I choose not to plant this beautiful specimen one of my SGC friends will surely have the good sense to do so. As if that's not enough, this magnolia likes to do an encore in mid-summer. With color, form and fragrance, someone will likely succumb!

Styx 'Evening Light', Chionanthus 'Tokyo Tower' and Magnolia 'Genie', are all delightfully compact, spring blooming trees that will not outgrow your yard. Imagine one less tree to prune replaced by a new one to love (and prune free!). I'm afraid I have a hard decision to make but I relish the anticipation of a horticultural challenge.

Megan Smith

Policy & Planning Report

SGC Membership Survey and Committee Sign-up



Our Club flourishes with the help of our member volunteer efforts! If you have not already done so, please fill out SGC's yearly survey included in this newsletter. (Those who attended our Annual Business Meeting in February had the opportunity to do so then). This is your opportunity to provide input and determine how to be involved. Consider stretching your interests by joining a committee you have not yet experienced. Return the survey to Suzette de Turenne. Questions: Contact Suzette at 206-524-9042 or sdeturenne@comcast.net. Also, be sure to take time to read the fun and interesting "believe it or not" items that were part of our community-building efforts at the Business Meeting, also in this issue. Many thanks to those who willingly offered little-known facts about themselves!

Suzette de Turenne, Chair

Floral Design News: Provisionals and new members will be treated to a workshop with Pru Hammett on Thursday, April 9 at UWBG/CUH classroom from 9 am - 1 pm.

The Hort Report

We had a spirited Monday Hort meeting in March at the Bellevue Botanical Garden's Education Center, which included Hort Share, a mock-layout of the upcoming Flower Show, and a wonderful talk by Jolie Roze on the history of the BBG. Afterwards, Capital Campaign Chair, Denise Lane, treated some of us to a tour of the garden. We all look forward to the chance to see the Garden again during the May Flower Show. A head's up for the May 4, Monday Hort Meeting: it will be held at Pam Green's home, NOT at Park Shore, as printed in the Yearbook.

*Deborah Cheadle
Chair*



*Marilee Ahalt,
Jolie Roze and
Dabney Rohrbach
prior to Jolie's
informative talk.*



Thank you to the UWBG for making it possible for us to do the Fragrance Garden renovation by removing the acer, striped bark maple!

Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference Report

Suzette and Marilee kindly invited me to present an overview of the Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference progress at the February Business meeting. Kim Bishop magically made it all happen in the end! Jenny Wyatt is helping to fit the puzzle pieces together for the breakout sessions at the Marriott Hotel, Monday, September 21, CUH and in the WPA on Tuesday, September 22. The descriptions of the breakout sessions and overall timing of the conference are due Friday, March 13 at GCA! Fortunately, GCA provides a computer whiz-kid, Lauren Drinker, to create the registration pages online in order for registration to occur. Pam Green, her assistant Sandy Cox, Dabney Rohrbach and I met Lauren Drinker, via a webinar, to review the registration process. The first group registers March 24 then it opens to all GCA Club Presidents and Horticulture Chairs April 7. Sue Blethen and Gayle Harris are beginning to outline the times and places for the volunteers to assist in all capacities. It's like a symphony where everyone plays her heart out, performing harmoniously!

Catherine Allan, Chair

THINGS HAVE ENDS AND BEGINNINGS

Cloud mountains rise over mountain range.
Silence and quietness,
sky bright as water, sky bright as lake water.
Grace is the instinct for knowing when to stop. And where.

by Charles Wright
Current Poet Laureate

Please Verify Your GCA Member Information

Go to the GCA website: gcamerica.org

- > sign in as a Member with your name and password
- > go to 'My Profile' page
- > verify and edit your personal information (address, email, SGC positions...).

Barbara Hamacheck, Zone XII Flower Show Representative

Answers from page 3
Peggy Wilton
"Trudy" Baldwin

Hort Meeting at the Bellevue Botanical Garden



Wonderful BBG Education Center room for our meeting.
Cheers from Sue Blethen and Deborah Cheadle - Happy
St. Patrick's Day!
Beautiful spring flowers from Hort share.
Photo credits: Kim Bishop

Looking Ahead

- 5/4 **Hort Meeting**, the home of Pam Green, 9:15 am Social, 10 am Program, Provisional talk: Jill Crutcher "The Golden Age of Northwest Garden Design", **Please bring cuttings for Hort share!**
After the Program: Walking tour of members' gardens in Madison Park
- 5/5 **Flower Show Committee Meeting**, location TBA
- 5/7 **Board Meeting**, Sunset Club, 10 am
Auction Event: Butchart Gardens via floatplane
- 5/10 **Auction Event:** Mother's Day Cruise & Brunch
- 5/15-16 **Northwest Passages Flower Show**, Bellevue Botanical Garden
- 5/19 **Auction Event:** Bloedel Japanese Garden Tour & Lunch
- 5/20 **Auction Event:** Miller Garden Photography & Lunch
- 5/21 **General Meeting**, UWBG/CUH, 9:30 am Social, 10:00 am Program, Brooke Lucy, Co-owner of Bluebird Grain Farms, plow to package organic heirloom grains, Sis Woodside's daughter
Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference Meeting immediately following
- 5/27 **Auction Event:** Rhododendron Speices Garden & Bonsai Collection & Lunch
- 5/28 **Auction Event:** SGC Board Cocktail Party



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

The Seattle Garden Club is a Member of
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THE GARDEN CLUB of AMERICA



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