



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

General Meeting

May 21, 2015

UWBG/CUH

9:30 am Social, 10 am Program
Guests Welcome

Brooke Lucy of Bluebird Grain Farms to talk about
farming and marketing of heirloom grain



Brooke Lucy and her husband Sam own Bluebird Grain Farms in the Methow Valley. Bluebird Grain Farms is a 250 acre organic grain farm that specializes in the farming, processing and direct selling of organic heirloom grains. Brooke also happens to be the daughter of our very own SGC member Sis Woodside!

In her talk, Brooke will provide a virtual Spring through Fall tour, covering the planting and harvesting cycles of ancient varieties of wheat at Bluebird Grain Farms. Throughout her talk, Brooke will share their organic farming principles and practices, along with the nuts and bolts of their vertically integrated farm business. Brooke will also enlighten us about the organic marketplace and Bluebird Grain Farms' products. She will also touch on the strengths and challenges faced by their small farm business in the 21st Century.

Horticulture Meeting

May 4, 2015

Pam Green's Home

9:15 am Social, 10 am Program
Jill Crutcher's provisional talk
"The Golden Age of NW
Garden Design"
Hort Share - bring cuttings

11:30 am - Noon, visit Jill's garden
1000-39th Ave E.

Events at a Glance

5/5/15 Flower Show Meeting, 10 am -
11:30 am, Location TBA

5/7/15 Board Meeting, Sunset Club
Auction Event: Butchart Gardens via
floatplane

5/10/15 Auction Event: Mother's Day
Cruise & Brunch

5/14-15/15 Northwest Passages Flower
Show, Bellevue Botanical Garden

5/19/15 Auction Event: Bloedel Japanese
Garden Tour

5/20/15 Auction Event: Miller Garden
Photography

5/21/15 Shirley Meneice Committee
Meeting, 11:30 am - 1 pm, UWBG/CUH

5/27/15 Auction Event: Rhododendron
Garden Tour

5/28/15 Auction Event: Board Cocktail
Party, Vicki Reed's home

For More SGC Information:
www.seattlegardenclub.org



From the President

Northwest Passages, A GCA Flower Show is less than a month away! So many of you have been actively making our flower show possible whether you are on the committee or are entering in the show or are going to bring lots of guests to the Preview Party!!! It takes each of us doing our part (and some doing many parts) to make this a successful show! May I remind you that in the Purpose of The Garden Club of America and The Seattle Garden Club (found on page 2 of your Yearbook) is an emphasis on educating others. This is what our Northwest Passages Flower Show will do in all our disciplines: floral design, horticulture, conservation and photography! I hope you warmly encourage your family and friends to join us at The Bellevue Botanical Garden May 15 for the Preview Party! See you at the show!!!

Marilee Ahalt, Club President

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is pleased to report the Seattle Garden Club slate of Board Positions for 2015/2017. The slate was approved by the Board at the April Board meeting. The General Membership will vote to approve the slate during the June Annual Meeting at the Seattle Tennis Club, June 4, 2015.

Please note that Suzette de Turenne is our incoming President, elected in June 2014. She has served as President Elect and Policy and Planning Chair this year.

My committee members were Suzette de Turenne, Marianne Kitchell, Dabney Rohrbach and Vicki Reed who comprised an exceptional and hard-thinking group. They deserve all our thanks.

Seattle Garden Club 2015/2017 Board Members

President Elect: Jenny Wyatt

Treasurer: Carlyn Steiner

Corresponding Secretary: Jolie Roze

Community Projects: Margie Allison

Conservation: Barbie Snapp

Membership: Burnley Snyder

Program: Sue Ashmun

Meeting Arrangements: Barbara Peterson

Respectfully Submitted,
Catherine Parker, Chair

Conservation Report

The Conservation Committee will be delighted to present: The Bellevue Botanical Garden and Reusing Roof Rainwater Exhibit at our May flower show. The BBG sends excess roof rain water into two places: a beautiful Iris Rain Garden and also, after filtering, to flush toilets. You will learn from fun films how rain gardens help salmon. Explore the Iris Rain Garden. Wander through our exhibit and find out whether you could do a rain garden and if you qualify for public underwriting of your rain garden. If you have a wet basement, this also might be for you. The exhibit will be prepared by Barbie Snapp, Carey Davis, Sheila Wyckoff-Dickey, Jenny Wyatt, Carolyn Kitchell and Carol Eland. We'd like to thank 12,000 Rain Gardens.org, Nancy Kartes of the BBG, Liz Browning of Swift Landscaping and Olsen Kundig Architects for their help.

Carolyn Kitchell, Chair

Ways & Means Report

FEATURED OUTINGS WITH AVAILABLE SPOTS!

Walking Tour of Bloedel Reserve

May 19, 2015

\$75

Two spaces available. Tour the beautiful Japanese Tea Garden at Bloedel Reserve and enjoy traditional Japanese music and lunch for 12. Hosted by Hope Stroble and Sheila Noonan.

Rhododendron Garden and Bonsai Collection Tour

May 27, 2015

\$60

Seven 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

Six 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

In Memoriam

We regret the passing on
March 18, 2015 of
Mrs. Robert E. Hunter
'Ann Case Smith'
Honorary Life Member
Non-Resident Member since 1991
Joined SGC 1969

"How the West is One"
GCA Annual Meeting
San Francisco 2018

Questions: Iris Wagner
2018 Committee Member

Visit East Montlake Soon!

Putting on a show in full bloom right now are: *Dicentra Formosa* (Native Bleeding Heart), both pink and white varieties; *Mahonia aquafolia* (Oregon Grape), *M. nervosa* (longleaf mahonia), and *Ribes sanguineum* (red flowering currant). They are attracting bees, hummingbirds, and other pollinators to the park. The many *Polystichum munitum* (Western sword ferns), *Adiantum* (Western maidenhair fern), and *Polygonatum* (Solomon's Seal) are all unfurling new growth. More budding is evident on other plants too so come down and see for yourself! It is very beautiful beside the Montlake Cut all year round! Next, watch for starry white blossoms of *Amelanchier alnifolia* (Serviceberry), 2" creamy flower clusters of *Cornus stolonifera* (Red-osier dogwood) and the huge, 4 petaled, 6" blossoms of *Cornus 'Venus'* which is a cross between the native *C. nuttallii* and *C. kousa* but is stronger than either parent plant. We are trying to attract wildlife and pollinators with the Native Northwest plantings in our park. Do come take a look and enjoy all our hard work!

***See if you can find the NW native with variegated needlelike leaves. It is the only one I have ever seen!

Enjoy this beautiful spring! *Sue Blethen*

(left to right) Sue Blethen attacking male horsetails with Laurie Riley, Barry Bishop and his dogs-Flower and Batgirl. Carolyn Kitchell is digging in. Photo credits: Kim Bishop



National Affairs and Legislation Meeting

Iris Wagner and Carolyn Kitchell attended the GCA's National Affairs and Legislation Meeting, February 23-26. The conference focuses on conservation education and what is happening (or not) in Congress. The first day we heard from a Navy Rear Admiral on preparing for oceans rising, the National Parks, National Wildlife Foundation, Lady Bird Johnson's granddaughter, Lucinda Robb, on her grandmother's legacy, Svalbard Global Seed Vault, Pollinator Partnership, Southern Environmental Law Center and Ted Turner's daughter, Laura Turner Seydel, head of Mothers for Clean Air and the Captain Planet Foundation. The second day is held at Congress and we heard from legislators about how they are trying to work across the aisles. On the final day, we went to our senators' and representatives' offices to discuss nine 'Talking Points' prepared (and researched) by GCA National Committee members. See GCA website for details. Can you find Carolyn and Iris in the photo?



Carolyn Kitchell

Fragrance Garden



Photo credits: Marilee Ahalt



*Eve Rickenbacker's dog,
Katy, loves the garden*

Gardener's Corner

So Scrumptious You Could Eat It: The Itoh Peony

There are few plants that could compete with the peony as being the "queen of spring." As March rolls around, there is no plant I enjoy more than the rich, promising new growth of the peony emerging from the earth. Lusty and bursting with the promise of flowers that put all others to shame, every garden should have at least one peony. If you're fortunate to have the space for just one, let it be an Itoh.

With colors that remind you of sherbet, the semi-double and double flowers are not only enormous but exotic. The foliage is lovely too, since the Itoh is a hybrid of the tree peony and the herbaceous peony, both highly ornamental in their own right. However, with the strength of the tree peony, this hybrid doesn't sag with a heavy shower. Yet, the size is manageable...not all of us have space for the regal tree peony. This plant is a blooming machine. With maturity, one can enjoy as many as fifty flowers over the course of a three week period. While some may consider this plant ephemeral with only three weeks of bloom time, it's really a three season plant. Incredible flowers, handsome strong divided foliage and seed heads make this plant a garden must. I also enjoy the striking maroon foliage that comes with fall.

The Itoh peony was named after Dr. Toichi Itoh. In the early 1900's the good doctor started his mission to cross the tree peony with the herbaceous peony. After 20,000 attempts his dream finally came true in 1948. From this cross came 36 seedlings and with continuous breeding the Itoh's you see today were born. Soft yellows, magenta, warm corals, wine red and whites with contrasting eye colors, the colors are luscious and irresistible.

Typically, plants seem to quiver when they see me coming their way fearing an "uprooting for lack of performance." My Itoh never has to worry. She's there for good!

Megan Smith



Grape Vine Shoots

I have watched their caution over months,
Extending upward and across the air:
What faith is theirs, what patience!

The green shoots of the new year
From where I trained them to the rusty fence
Believe in the wind, in space itself.

They bed out as if they could not bend so far.
They strain upward with a sturdy delicacy.
It is their quiet assurance that moves me.

By Richard Eberhart

Well-known nature poet

(See Article on Garden Club of America website)

"Something you do not know about me...."

Try and figure out which story goes with which
SGC member.

"My mother used to sleep with a shotgun next
to her bed throughout my childhood and she
was a garden club member and held positions
in GCA."

"I modeled for I. Magnin."

Answers found on page 8

Floral Design



Marilee Ahalt's balancing act



Kim Bishop is creating

Pru Hammett Workshop



*Candace Lancaster and Pru Hammett
are all smiles*



*Caroline Goedhart and Barbara
Feasey are loving the workshop*



*Jolie Roze and her
beautiful arrangement*



*Spectacular!
Thank you Kim for all the
photos except the one
Candace took of you.*

Garden Club of America Announces Tree of the Year

It's azalea and rhododendron time! That means it's also time to announce the winner of the Freeman Plant/Tree of the year. 2015's winner is the *Quercus macrocarpa*. This lovely oak, nominated by the Cincinnati Garden Club is a popular street and yard tree with its rich brown fall leaves and tall shady shape as well as an important food source for wildlife including black bears. In fact, so tasty are the acorns which are produced only every few years, that the oak tree responds by making massive amounts of seeds to insure propagation. The acorns are huge, hence the name *macrocarpa* which is Latin for large fruit. Another name for the tree is Bur or Burr oak, as memorialized in Richard Eberhart's 1947 volume of poetry entitled "Burr Oaks", named for the 40 acres he grew up on in Minnesota (See poem on page 6). And that's the location in Midwestern plains where you'll find most of these oaks, although they are being grown successfully in many others area including Washington and Alaska.



The Freeman Award is given by Garden Club of America every spring to a lesser-known plant/tree to help revive and sustain popularity of the species so it is not forgotten. All Clubs are encouraged to submit an entry. Every other year a tree versus a plant is selected. It was established in memory of Montine McDaniel Freeman (1915-1998), a wonderful horticulturist from New Orleans.

Carey Davis

Visiting Gardens

INVITATION

2015 Behind Adobe Walls Home and Garden Tours

July 21 or July 28, 2015

The Santa Fe Garden Club hosts its 76th annual "**Behind Adobe Walls Home and Garden Tours**". Santa Fe's most prestigious Home and Garden Tour features four different seldom-seen private homes and gardens each week by guided bus tour. **The 2015 tours will feature several homes by members of the Santa Fe interior design and art community.** Tour proceeds benefit the Santa Fe Garden Club's local on-going education, beautification and conservation projects including the Santa Fe Botanical Garden and the New Mexico Museum of Art Courtyard Garden.

Hours: Bus departs from Hotel Santa Fe at 12:10 pm returning at 4:45 pm, \$75 per person/tour
Ticket & Information Contact: 505-984-0022, 800-283-0122 or terry@westwindtravel.net

Burnley Snider & Laurie Riley, Co-Chairs



Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference

Never did I imagine in my wildest dreams that I had so much time to devote to this conference! February and March were spent in front of the computer carefully reviewing the details of each breakout session during the conference. Jenny Wyatt has been a tremendous help engaging speakers for Monday afternoon as well as organizing the flow of each session. The bios of each speaker and descriptions of the morning and afternoon sessions on Monday and Tuesday, September 21 & 22, had to be submitted to GCA in order for the information to be available for registration. We've cleared the first wave of the VIP's registration, now it's open to all club Hort Chairs. This second day of registration already has 162 paid delegates who want to come! It's happening! The maximum number of delegates is 200 due to CUH's occupancy limit. We are well on our way, meeting our expectations in record time! Is it our Club members? Our horticultural offerings? Our fair city? No doubt, it's all of the above and more that will draw eager participants here! Please take the time and effort to review the schedule online and project where you can offer an hour or two of your time to show the way to these enthusiastic visitors September 20-23. Please remember the next SMHC Committee meeting Thursday, April 23 at CUH from 10 am-Noon.

Catherine Allen, Chair



Auction Event: Martha Harris Floral Demonstration

Answers from page 6
Catherine Parker
Marilee Ahalt

SGC Board Motions

March Board Meeting

MOTION to amend the dues required by the Provisional Members, beginning with the 2015-2016 Provisional class, to be raised from \$210 to \$230 per person, to cover the increase by the GCA was seconded and approved.

Hort Report

The Elisabeth Miller Library's website is full of valuable information for Seattle-area gardeners, including this list of upcoming plant sales and tours. Take a look:

http://depts.washington.edu/hortlib/calendar/tours_sales.php

Deborah Cheadle, Chair



Resources for Plants That Attract Pollinators to Our Gardens:

Pollinator Friendly Planting Guides searchable by Zip Code: <http://www.pollinator.org/guides.htm>

Gardens with Wings, butterfly gardening: <http://gardenswithwings.com/>

Regional Plant Lists for Pollinators: <http://xerces.org/providing-wildflowers-for-pollinators/>

Gardening for pollinators USDA: <http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/gardening.shtml>

Attracting pollinators to your garden using native plants - Eastern U.S.: http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/documents/AttractingPollinatorsEasternUS_VI.pdf

Attracting pollinators to your garden using native plants - Western U.S.: <http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/documents/AttractingPollinatorsV5.pdf>

What you can do to help: <http://www.fws.gov/pollinators/pollinatorpages/yourhelp.html#garden>

Resource Center links to regional planting guides, pesticide guides, and more: <http://www.xerces.org/pollinator-resource-center/>

Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center plant search: <http://www.wildflower.org/collections/>



Seattle & Tacoma Garden Club Luncheon



Photo credits: Amazing Kim Bishop

YOU ARE INVITED!!



FRIDAY – May 15, 2015
6:30 - 9:00pm

Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main Street
Bellevue, WA 98005

Spectacular Exhibits:
Floral Design
Horticulture
Conservation
Photography

Hors d'oeuvres, Drinks &
Entertainment

Reservation Request

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

☐ At \$125 – Glacier Peak # _____ = \$ _____

☐ At \$250 – Mount Baker # _____ = \$ _____

☐ At \$500 – Mount Rainier # _____ = \$ _____

☐ Other Donation – Heavenly \$ _____

Payment:

☐ Credit Card Payment – Call Sheila Noonan

☐ Check Enclosed: Please make checks payable to
"Seattle Garden Club"

Mail to: Sheila Noonan, Treasurer
624 35th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122
Tel: 206-860-7662

Seattle Garden Club is a 501(c)(3) organization. Fair market value of each ticket is \$65.

Northwest Passages Flower Show

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE PREVIEW PARTY
FILL OUT THE ABOVE INVITATION AND MAIL IT TO SHEILA

Photography registration is completely full! Entries have been arriving in a timely manner. We are very excited about our wonderful schedule and hope you will all be present to see the exhibit at the Preview Party.

Diana Neely & Jenny Wyatt, Co-Chairs

Looking Ahead

- 6/4/15 **Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon**, Seattle Tennis Club, 11 am - 2 pm
11 am Social and Greeting New Provisionals; Noon - 2 pm, Lunch and Program
Members only
- 6/8/15 **Shirley Meneice Committee Meeting**, CUH Isaacson Room, 9:30 am - 11 am
- 6/11/15 **Auction Event: Garden Art Workshop** with Gayle Harris
- 6/16/15 **Incoming/Outgoing Board Meeting and Luncheon**,
Sunset Club, 10 am - 1 pm
- 6/18/15 **Auction Event: Herbarium Tour & Notecard Workshop** with Lunch



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

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The Garden Club of America



THE GARDEN CLUB of AMERICA



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