



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

Executive Director Burke Museum, Julie Stein, presents “The New Burke: Natural History Inside & Out”

Joining Julie will be Shannon Nichol a founding partner of Gustafson Guthrie Nichol and Bridget McNassar the Native Plants and Conservation Manager of Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center.

The Burke Museum was founded in 1885, designated the Washington State Museum of Natural History and Culture in 1899, the Burke was the first public museum in Washington. It is managed by the University of Washington College of Arts & Sciences. The Burke Museum is an active research facility that cares for 16 million biology, geology and cultural objects on behalf of the people of Washington state—and uses them to generate new knowledge.

Shannon Nichol's designs, which include Millennium Park's Lurie Garden, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Campus and Boston's North End Parks, are widely recognized for being deeply embedded in their neighborhoods and natural contexts. Shannon's work incorporates complex functions into simple frameworks and refined landforms.

Bridget McNassar is very excited to have landed back in western Washington (having grown up in Kent), and especially the spectacular Snoqualmie Valley. Developing and running the native propagation, research and education program here at Oxbow is her dream job, tying in many of her passions and providing many fun challenges. She especially loves working with seed, and is in heaven having the ability to collect seed right here at Oxbow. Being surrounded by kale, raspberries, fennel and parsnips is pretty sweet too!



General Meeting

March 17, 2016

UWBG/CUH

9:30 am Social

10 am Program

Guests Welcome!

Events at a Glance

3/3/16 Board Meeting, Sunset Club, 10 am

3/7/16 Horticulture Meeting, UWBG/CUH, 9:15 am Social, 10 am Program, Provisional Talk: Kim Bishop “Svalbard Seedvault-Preserving Agricultural Diversity”. **Please bring Hort share specimens!**

3/17/16 General Meeting, UWBG/CUH, 9:30 am Social, 10 am Program, as noted above. **Guests Welcome!**

3/28/16 Policy & Planning Meeting, at Jenny Wyatt's home, 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Consult the calendar at the SGC website: seattlegardenclub.org



From the President

Thank you to all who made our Business Meeting such a great success! Jenny Wyatt, Policy and Planning Chair/President-Elect, presented a well-organized and informative agenda. Hope Stroble and her Centennial Committee have set the stage for an exciting Centennial year, and it goes without saying that our members are rising to the occasion with enthusiasm to steer us towards an unforgettable celebration. After the unanimous vote of confidence in support of the Board's decision to designate \$100,000 for a

yet-to-be-determined Centennial project, I hope you will all take advantage of the opportunities presented over the next couple months to understand more about each of the potential Centennial projects under consideration for this gift, including attending the very important meeting on April 28th. Mark your calendars now! This is our once in a life time chance to support a project in our city to commemorate our 100 year anniversary.

While this newsletter is being finalized and "delivered" to our members, Conservation Chair Barbie Snapp and Marilee Ahalt will be wrapping up their trip to Washington DC having attended the GCA NAL Conference (National Affairs and Legislation). We will look forward to hearing about their experience when they report at our General Meeting.

The Nominating Committee, led by Marilee Ahalt, deserves accolades for having completed their slate of officers in such a timely manner - a testimony to the hard work of the Committee members, as well as the willingness and talent of our membership. Thanks to each member on the slate for being willing to take a leadership role in our Club. Our strength is in our members.

Suzette de Turenne, President

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee is pleased to report the Seattle Garden Club slate of Board Positions for 2016/2018. The slate was approved by the Board at the February Board meeting. The General Membership will vote to approve the slate during the June Annual Meeting at the Seattle Tennis Club, June 2, 2016.

Please note that Jenny Wyatt is our incoming President, elected in June 2015. She has served as President-Elect and Policy and Planning Chair this year.

My committee members were B.J. Anderson, Barbara Feasey, Marianne Kitchell and Jenny Wyatt who comprised an exceptional and hard-thinking group. They deserve all our thanks.

Seattle Garden Club 2016/2018 Board Members

President Elect: Diana Neely
Recording Secretary: Shelley Rolfe
Club Communications: Sue Brickman
Floral Design: Debby Smith
Horticulture: Diana Ackerley
Meeting Arrangements: Sheila Noonan
Photography: Suzy Titcomb
Ways & Means: Edie Tenneson

Respectively submitted,
Marilee Ahalt, Chair

East Montlake Park

East Montlake Park is ready for spring cleanup! Last fall, 50 cubic yards of wood chips were spread by Eagle Scout Benji Taflin and 47 volunteers after we had prepared the area. Now, spring jobs are needed. *Polystichum munitum* (Western Sword Ferns) and *Cornus sanguinea* (Red Twig Dogwood) need to be pruned back to encourage healthy, new growth. More ferns were planted this winter which add to the beautiful, big-scale ground cover across this woodland setting along the Montlake Cut.

****Watch for eblasts announcing work parties. All volunteers are welcome to help! East Montlake Park is located in front of the old Mohai Museum site along the Montlake Cut at the corner of E. Park and E. Shelby Streets—next door to 2802 E. Park Drive. Join the fun and get to know your fellow members as we continue improvements to this park where we have worked since 2008.

Sue Blethen sueblethen@hotmail.com

Pamela Green Lecture Series

Save the Date!

May 4th, 2016

6:30 pm Pre Function

7:30 pm Program

Asian Art Museum



Allan Armitage, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus University of Georgia, Traveler, Writer, Speaker and self proclaimed all around Horticulture Geek. Allan is a well known writer, speaker and researcher throughout the world. His books are well published and his research is well renowned. He has most recently written a new book, "Its Not Just about the Hat" and developed an App for smartphones and tablets that serves as a bridge between industry and the consumer. He has received numerous awards for his work including The GCA Medal of Honor and the highest award from the American Horticultural Society, the Liberty Hyde Bailey Award for lifelong achievements in horticulture.

For more information on Allan Armitage. allanarmitage.net

Tickets are available through brownpapertickets.com for \$40.00. You may also purchase tickets at some SGC meetings. More information is on the SGC website. seattlegardenclub.org

It's that time of year when each GCA club submits a vote for the current year's Founders Fund Awards. The GCA FF Committee determines the finalists, which you see listed here. At the March general meeting, SGC individual members will vote for one; then SGC will submit one vote to GCA representing the finalist who received the majority of our popular votes. The winner will be announced at the GCA Annual Meeting this spring. By being selected as a finalist, each of these projects is already a winner. \$30,000 will be awarded to the #1 choice, and each of the runners up will receive \$10,000. Take time to review these worthy projects so you can vote with confidence at our meeting.



THE GARDEN CLUB of AMERICA

2016 FOUNDERS FUND AWARD FINALISTS Proposal Summaries

The HISTORIC WASHINGTON GARDEN at the OLD NORTH CHURCH

Proposed by Beacon Hill GC, Zone I | Seconded by Chestnut Hill GC, Zone I

The Old North Church of Paul Revere fame is Boston's oldest standing church and most visited historic site, attracting half a million visitors each year. The Beacon Hill Garden Club has been a partner of the Church for over sixty years. The two now plan to recreate the garden ahead of the church's 300th birthday and the nation's 250th. This accessible garden will showcase 18th century plant materials, the famous Longfellow poem and a flexible outdoor classroom.

BUILDING SUSTAINABILITY at HARTFORD'S HISTORIC KENY PARK

Proposed by GC of Hartford, Zone II | Seconded by Connecticut Valley GC, Zone II

Hartford's historic Keney Park borders a neighborhood of astounding poverty. GCH will provide educational and employment opportunities for park workers and volunteers through a course on basics in urban park care. These best practices will be illustrated by planting the park's five entrances using the winning plan from our *Partners for Plants* design contest. The curriculum will be posted online for public access. Signage will teach visitors about habitat diversity within this 700-acre Olmsted Brothers-designed jewel.

The WETLANDS EDUCATION CENTER at CATTAIL MARSH

Proposed by Magnolia GC, Zone IX | Seconded by The GC of Houston, Zone IX

The Magnolia Garden Club seeks to construct The Wetlands Education Center at Cattail Marsh, a manmade wetland in Beaumont, Texas. As the end stage in the city's wastewater treatment, it astonished engineers by becoming an amazing, diverse wildlife habitat. It is a demonstration for the future where mankind and nature interact. This elevated classroom with large viewing platform will provide outreach to schoolchildren and visitors, raising awareness and understanding of the role of wetlands in our ecosystem.

WAYS & MEANS

AUCTION OUTINGS WITH AVAILABLE SPOTS!

FLORAL FUN EVENING

February 29, 2016

\$75

Four spaces available. Come and enjoy a fun evening of wine and hors d'oeuvres at Martha Harris in Madison Park while Bruce provides a demonstration on floral design. Donated by the Floral Design Committee.

RHODODENDRON & BONSAI TOUR & LUNCH

May 6, 2016

\$65

One space available. Tour these wonderful gardens in the Federal Way area: the Rhododendron Species Garden & Bonsai collection. Your tour will be followed by a delicious lunch. Hosted by Catherine Allan, BJ Anderson, Sue Blethen and Diana Neely.

DUCK SANCTUARY TOUR & LUNCH

May 24, 2016

\$80

Four spaces available. Travel by carpool to Port Angeles to the Dry Creek Waterfowl Sanctuary where we will be given a tour by the owners Debbie and Arnold Schouten, breeders of North American sea ducks, followed by a box lunch. If time allows, trip will include a visit to the former Elwha Dam site. Hosted by Hope Stroble, Suzette de Turenne and the Schoutens.

GARDENS, CREATIVITY & REFRESHMENTS

June 8, 2016

\$110

Two spaces available. Artist Gayle Harris will guide you 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.

HERBARIUM FLOWER PRESSING & TEA

June 22, 2016

\$100

One space available. Hosted by Eve Rickenbaker. Eve will show you how the Herbarium presses specimens for posterity and will instruct you in the art of flower pressing as you create lovely notecards to take home. Tea and scrumptious snacks will be provided.

SGC BOARD SUMMER COCKTAIL PARTY

June 28, 2016

\$75

Fourteen spaces available. This annual cocktail party with elegant hors d'oeuvres and cocktails hosted by the Seattle Garden Club Board will take place at the lovely home of Sue Ashmun in The Highlands.

Interested? Contact Roxanne Wiley

425-442-5154

roxwiley@comcast.net

Conservation Report

Conservation Mash-up (mash-up: informal noun - *a mixture or fusion of disparate elements*)

There is so much to say and so little space! This month's Conservation Newsletter is about **awareness** and contains a compilation of issues I have been researching that in one way or another, touch many of our lives. Take a tumble through the looking glass and click on any or all of these links to learn more about these relevant concerns.

Neonicotinoid: We are closing in on pesticide season! With GCA requesting its members to make efforts towards protecting our pollinators, our eyes look towards **Neonicotinoids**, a main chemical common in many insecticides thought to have harmful effects on our pollinators. A new EPA study found in some cases that the chemical didn't harm bees or their hives, but in other cases it posed a significant risk. Both the pesticide maker and anti-pesticide advocates were unhappy with the report.

<http://www.nbcnews.com/science/environment/neonicotinoid-pesticide>

<http://phys.org/news/2015-10-explores-neonicotinoids-affect-bees.html>

<http://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/NeonicsInYourGarden.pdf>

<http://northcoastgardening.com/2015/02/nurseries-neonicotinoid/>

My hope is that *we* move towards using more natural methods to keep our gardens healthy and avoid chemicals altogether. As you make your planting selections this spring, take a moment to look for a label or ask if neonicotinoid has been used on that plant. Let's be informed about our choices, or at least make the nurseries aware that the use of neonicotinoid by growers is of concern to their customers.

Palm Oil and Palm Seed Oil: Palm oil is in thousands of products that people use every day, from baked goods and ice cream to household cleaning products and shampoo, and can even be found in fuel tanks. Unfortunately, palm oil is responsible for large-scale deforestation and loss of critical habitat in the tropics which creates extensive carbon emissions that contribute to global warming.

http://www.wwf.org.au/our_work/saving_the_natural_world/forests/palm_oil

<https://www.rainforest-rescue.org/topics/palm-oil>

http://www.disclose.tv/action/viewvideo/221052/palm_oil_alternative

Did you know that the sea level in Puget Sound has risen 8 inches in the last 100 years?

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/shorelines/FeederBluffs/importance/SeaLevelRise.html>

Energy and Conservation: GOING GREEN!

France: As of March 2015, rooftops on new buildings built in commercial zones in France must either be partially covered in plants or solar panels. Green roofs have an insulating effect, helping *reduce* the amount of energy needed to heat or cool a building during winter and summer. They also retain rainwater, thus helping minimize problems with runoff, while favoring biodiversity and giving birds a place to nest in the urban jungle.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/mar/20/france-decrees-new-rooftops>

con't on next page

New York: Mayor Bill de Blasio wants to increase the solar power capacity of city-owned buildings five-fold from what it is now. The push comes as part of an ambitious plan to cut 80 percent of New York's greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

<http://www.seattletimes.com/business/nyc-mayor-wants-to-boost-solar-power-capacity-five-fold/>

With all our new construction, wouldn't it be great to see *Seattle* start moving in this direction?

Coastal British Columbia: GOOD NEWS!

A landmark deal 10 years in the making will protect 9.1 millions acres of Canadian rain forest on the Pacific Coast of British Columbia!

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/02/02/465307500/landmark-deal>

Wrap-up - In January, Conservation had a great meeting with the Washington Environmental Council. Our focus was to learn about their environmental priorities for this current Legislative session. While in session, The WEC Legislative Hotlist is updated every Monday and can be found at:

<http://wecprotects.org/environmental-priorities-coalition/hot-list/>

Barbie Snapp, Chair

Hort Report

Our March 2016 meeting will offer a chance to learn about a very special horticultural institution, the Svalbard Seedvault in Iceland. Kim Bishop will tell us about this in her talk, *Svalbard Seedvault – Preserving Agricultural Biodiversity*. The Global Seed Vault, "...deep inside a mountain on a remote island in the Svalbard archipelago, halfway between mainland Norway and the North Pole" is a "repository that would be tapped in the event a cataclysm threatens global food supplies." Come hear about this fascinating undertaking.

Deborah Cheadle, Chair



Svalbard Seedvault, Iceland

GCA News

When I returned home from a wonderful trip visiting grandchildren (yay!), I found the **Winter 2016 GCA Bulletin** calling out to me among a stack of mail. Settling in, I was inspired by delightful vignettes of GCA members across the country working to protect and restore the beauty of our natural world.

I was especially drawn to the pollinator articles including one encouraging us all to discover and help sustain winter habitat for these amazing creatures. Then, I took the "**Pollinator Quiz**"-- it's fun and a great way to learn -- HINT: plant more blue flowers.... I encourage you to dig out your Winter edition and enjoy all the tidbits that have been compiled for us. Go to page 43 of the Winter 2016 GCA Bulletin.

[Link to 2016 Winter GCA Bulletin](#)

Shelley Rolfe

Membership Survey & Committee Signup for 2016-2017

SGC is fortunate to have a membership that is fully engaged in committee work. Committee Chairs depend on it!

We are in the full swing of planning our leadership and committees for 2016 - 2017 year. Once again, we ask you to complete our Survey to provide your input on our club and indicate how you would like to be involved. A copy of the Survey is included in this newsletter and will also be available at February and March meetings and on our Website.

Please complete the Survey and return it to me by April 4, 2016. Home address: 135 - 39th Ave E. Seattle, WA 98112. Email: wyattjen@comcast.net (wyattjen@me.com or icloud.com also come to my Comcast address).

Many thanks,
Jenny Wyatt, President-elect



Charlee Reed captured a moment from the Fragrance Garden tour for the provisionals by Diana Neely.

Spring Cleaning

"March bustles in on windy feet
And sweeps my doorstep and my street.
She washes and cleans with pounding rains,
Scrubbing the earth of winter stains.
She shakes the grime from carpet green
Till naught but fresh new blades are seen.
Then, house in order, all neat as a pin,
She ushers gentle springtime in."

by Susan Reiner



Miles Johnson of Fiori Floral Designs made a beautiful pavé floral design.



Floral designer, Miles Johnson, Carol Henderson, Debby Smith, Marilee Ahalt & Nancy Bain admire the arrangements.

SGC MEMBERSHIP SURVEY AND COMMITTEE SIGNUP 2016

Return this survey by April 4, 2016, to Jenny Wyatt, 135 39th Ave E., Seattle, 98112

This is your opportunity to give your input regarding your club and your participation. Please take the time to fill out both pages. Questions? Contact Jenny, 206-322-2922; wyattjen@comcast.net

NAME: _____

Suggestions for:

General Meeting:

Horticulture Class:

Flower Design:

Field Trip:

Would you be willing to share your home for a meeting?

____ Horticulture Meeting @ 50-60 persons

____ September Picnic @ 80 persons

Would you be interested in serving on the SGC Board or chairing a committee?

Which SGC Board position interests you?

Which **Special Committee** would you like to chair?

Does serving as **Club President** interest you? No/Yes/Maybe (circle one)

Does serving as **Club Treasurer** interest you? No/Yes/Maybe (circle one)

Would you like to be on the SGC Centennial Ad Hoc Committee? ____ Yes Chair: Hope Stroble

Please specify which area of our Celebration interests you. Any additional thoughts about our Centennial?

Would you like to be considered for a Zone XII position? ____ Yes Is there one that interests you most?

If you are interested in the **Judging Program**, please contact the current advisors:

SGC Judging Chairman: Mary Turner, 206-325-0270, mturner915@aol.com

Floral Design: Jo Anne Rosen, 206-387-3530, joannerosen@hotmail.com

Horticulture: Nancy Bain, 206-448-4844, bainnancy@me.com

Photography: Juliet Romano, 206-323-2786, julietromano@comcast.net

Suggestions for a **Founders Fund** award in our area (a substantial monetary award for exceptional community projects):

Any additional comments or suggestions?

Please review your personal contact information in the Yearbook, and note changes below:

Please direct any change of membership status to Burnley Snyder, 206-364-2720, lottie7@aol.com

Standing and Special Committee Signups

Please consult pages 31-41 of our SGC Yearbook
for a better understanding of these committees

Members are encouraged to serve on two or more committees

Name _____

STANDING COMMITTEES (Board Position)

_____ Club Communications

_____ Community Projects

_____ Conservation

_____ Finance

_____ Floral Design

_____ Horticulture

_____ Meeting Arrangements

_____ Membership This sign up is for interest only and does not guarantee a position. Committee members are selected by the President and Membership Chair according to our Bylaws, IV, 3.3, 1.

_____ Photography

_____ Policy and Planning

_____ Program

_____ Ways and Means

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

_____ Archives

_____ Awards

_____ Bylaws

_____ Fragrance Garden

_____ Garden History and Design

_____ Historian

_____ Nominations This sign up is for interest only and does not guarantee a position. Committee members are selected by the President according to our Bylaws IV, 3.3, 1.

_____ Scholarship

_____ School Gardens (in transition)

_____ Speaker Endowment Funds

_____ Visiting Gardens

Gardener's Corner

Hints of Spring by Megan Smith

I felt that familiar feeling the other day. The sun was out and I was attending to some crucial winter gardening tasks. It's a distinct early spring feeling – a mix of excitement and anxiety, like something's just about to happen. And indeed....it is. The fresh grassy day lilies have popped out and those delicious looking peony buds are bursting upwards. The Spirea japonica 'Magic Carpet' stems are peppered with warm russet virgin leaves and the Dicentra formosa foliage is unfurling resembling a newborn bird's curled little wing.

For gardeners, it's time to work. We need to be exercising our glutes and thighs, dancing with our rakes, and getting up-close-and-personal with our pruning shears. Being industrious now during the occasional clear day saves us time later when it comes to weeding and cutting back. Here is what I've already done and still have to do this month.

1. The hellebore and epimedium leaves have been cut back. Also gone are all perennials that were leftover because of their winter skeletons. All deciduous grasses have been trimmed.
2. Still on the "to do" list is bed clean-up (raking and weeding) followed by the spreading of a 3-inch layer of compost/manure mix to feed plants and deter weeds.
3. Next, I have to bait for slugs and snails using an organic brand.
4. I need to cast my summer blooming flower seeds. This year I'm trying a Butterfly Cosmos called Little Ladybirds (dwarf). They'll look mighty fine with my Nigella (Love in the Mist) that self-seeds each year.
5. Just planted are some dwarf daffodils and alliums that I purchased on sale along with some Anemone coronaria bulbs, which still need to go in the ground. I know it's late for these, but bulbs are tough and will try their best to bloom no matter how late in the season they're planted.
6. My Cornus kousa needs some light pruning. In general, late winter/ early spring is a good time to prune as the wounds you make will callus over and close quickly at this time of year.
7. As much as I'd love to "play" and go check out the bare root plants now at the nurseries, I must be disciplined and complete all the above "work" first. As all accomplished gardeners know...early garden work equals more garden play later. So gardening friends...get up, get out and get working!



Peggy Wilton's glass mugs torch is being passed on to Vicki Reed, Candy Lancaster, Barbara Peterson & Debby Smith!



Arboretum pruners- Janet Footh, 3 handsome helpers, Catherine Allan, Shelley Rolfe and Ana Hergert.

Looking Ahead

4/6/16 **Horticulture Meeting**, at the home of Caroline Goedhart, 9:15 am Social, 10 am Program
Provisional Talk: Caroline Goedhart, *Thousands of Daffodils: A Family Tradition*,
followed by a viewing of Caroline's daffodils in bloom

4/7/16 **Board Meeting**, Sunset Club, 10 am

4/20/16 **Joint Meeting and Luncheon with Tacoma Garden Club**, at Tacoma Golf & Country Club,
10:30 am Social, 11:30 am-1:00 pm Lunch & Program
Thor Hansen, author of *Feathers* and *The Triumph of Seeds*, he is from the San Juans
RSVP to Barbara Peterson, violet2515@gmail.com, 206-322-2922
Cost for non-subscribers.

4/22/16 **Wetherill Preserve Work Party & Potluck**, 9:30 am - 12:00 noon, Earth Day!

4/28/16 **Centennial Community Projects Presentations**, CUH, 9:30 am - 12:00 noon
VOTING!



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
The Garden Club of America



THE GARDEN CLUB of AMERICA



Seattle Garden Club

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