

April 2016



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

Seattle/Tacoma Garden Club Joint General Meeting Wednesday, April 20, 10:30 am Social, 11:15 am Program & Lunch The Tacoma Golf & Country Club

Guests are Welcome!

PLEASE RSVP - YES OR NO by April 8 to Barbara Peterson, barbarapeterson@gmail.com

Carpooling is encouraged 1324 Country Club Dr SW, Lakewood, 98498

Non-subscribers to the Hostess Fund: Please confirm your reservation by sending a \$35 check payable to SGC to Barbara Peterson, 2442 NW Market St #652, Seattle, WA 98107.

The Triumph of Seeds with Thor Hanson

Author and biologist Thor Hanson is a Guggenheim Fellow, a Switzer Environmental Fellow, and winner of the John Burroughs Medal. His books include *The Impenetrable Forest*, *Feathers*, and *The Triumph of Seeds*, as well as the illustrated children's favorite, *Bartholomew Quill*. Honors for Thor's writing include two Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Awards and The AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize, and his many media appearances have included NPR's Fresh Air, PRI's Science Friday and The World, and The Current on CBC. Hanson lives with his wife and son on an island in the Pacific Northwest.

Tacoma's King's Books will be selling Thor's books before our meeting and will accept checks, cash, or credit cards. (*The Triumph of Seeds* in paperback will be available to purchase for \$17.50 including tax. *Bartholomew's Quill*, a children's book, will be available for \$19.70 including tax....great gift for those grandchildren.)

Events at a Glance

- 4/4/16 **Horticulture Meeting**, at the home of Caroline Hazard Goedhart, 9:15 am Social, 10 am Program, Provisional talk: Caroline Goedhart "Thousands of Daffodils: A Family Tradition", followed by a viewing of her daffodils in bloom in the garden
- 4/7/16 **Board Meeting**, Sunset Club, 10 am
- 4/13/16 **Annual Wetherill Preserve Work Party & Potluck**, 9:30 am - 12:00 noon
- 4/20/16 **Joint Meeting with Tacoma Garden Club**, Tacoma Golf & Country Club, 10:30 am Social, 11:15 am Lunch/Program Please note it is a **WEDNESDAY**.
- 4/28/16 **Centennial Community Projects Presentations**, UWBG/CUH, 9:30 am - 12 noon, Each project under consideration will make a presentation.

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



From the President

Our Centennial plans continue. Along with tours on March 31, please plan to attend the meeting on April 28 regarding each possible Centennial gift project. Details can be found in this newsletter. Thank you, Hope Stroble and your Committee, for doing your best to keep us informed.

The GCA Founders Fund Award vote was taken at our March General Meeting and our single vote was cast for the Historic Washington Garden at the Old North Church in Boston.

Thank you to Kim Bishop for such a well-researched, interesting presentation on the Svalbard Seed Vault in Norway at our March Hort meeting; and to Barbie Snapp and Marilee Ahalt whose report at our General Meeting on the GCA NAL (National Affairs & Legislation) helped us to realize the impact that GCA can have on a national level.

Having just returned from The Philadelphia Flower Show, where I served on a Hort panel as a Prospective, I am reminded of how fortunate we are to pursue participation in the GCA Judging Program. This year, along with Philadelphia, SGC has members slated for travel to Arizona, Pasadena, Portland and other locales, where they will enjoy friendships and share love of their discipline with other GCA members, while serving on a judging panel. Whether you are interested in Horticulture, Floral Design or Photography, I encourage you to contact anyone in our club listed on page 41 in our Yearbook. "But, I'm not an expert in any of these," you might say. Everyone starts as a Candidate, progresses to a Prospective, and ultimately becomes a full Judge. Knowledge is wonderful, but the desire for knowledge, can be even better.

I have discovered a wonderful website: <http://www.finegardening.com/pronunciation-guide>. Accessible whether you are a subscriber to *Fine Gardening* or not, it provides an extensive phonetic and audible guide to the botanical pronunciations so many of us struggle with. Their advice: 'If you can't remember the preferred pronunciation of a plant name, just do your best – and say it with conviction!'

Suzette de Turenne, President

"How the West is One"

GCA Annual Meeting

San Francisco, June 2018

There will be many opportunities to participate.
Start thinking of how you would like to be involved!

Questions: Iris Wagner, 2018 Committee Member

Spring

To what purpose, April, do you return again?
Beauty is not enough.
You can no longer quiet me with the redness
Of little leaves opening stickily.
I know what I know.
The sun is hot on my neck as I observe
The spikes of the crocus.
The smell of the earth is good.
It is apparent that there is no death.
But what does that signify?

- Edna St. Vincent Millay

Centennial Community Projects Tours & Presentations

Please join us for one or all of the tours. An official representative from each project will also be present to answer any questions. Let each leader know if you are interested in attending.

Centennial Project Tours

March 29

Occidental Park	12:30 pm	Leader: Eleanor Nolan	eleanor@nolanemail.com
Evergreen Passage Hillclimb	2:30 pm	Leader: Carlyn Steiner	carlyn@e-steiner.com

March 31

Arboretum South Pond	10:30 am	Leader: Jenny Wyatt	wyattjen@comcast.net
Volunteer Park	2:00 pm	Leader: Margi Allison	mallis38@comcast.net

Special Meeting April 28, 9:30 am at UWBG/CUH

Representatives from each of the four Centennial Projects being considered will give a Power Point Presentation followed by questions and answers.

Paige Miller	Arboretum South Pond
Doug Bayley	Volunteer Park
Emily Tanner-MacLean	Evergreen Passage Hillclimb
Thatcher Bailey	Occidental Park

Voting will begin immediately following this meeting and continue until our June Annual Meeting. Let me know if you have any questions hopering@gmail.com.

Hope Stroble, Centennial Committee Chair

2016 Membership Surveys Due April 4

Please speak up! The SGC Membership Survey and Committee Signup form provides members with the opportunity to make suggestions for our club and to sign up for committees.

The Survey was included in the March newsletter, is available on our website, and has been available at February and March meetings. Please remember to fill out both sides and return it to me by April 4.

Jenny Wyatt, President-Elect
135 39th Ave East
Seattle, WA 98112
wyattjen@comcast.net



*Fragrance Garden photo by Catherine Parker
of Camellia japonica*

Ways & Means Report

FEATURED OUTINGS WITH AVAILABLE SPOTS!

Rhododendron Garden and Bonsai Collection Tour

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 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.

Duck Sanctuary Tour and 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 and Refreshments

June 8, 2016

\$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.

Herbarium Flower Pressing and 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 pressings as you create lovely notecards to take home. Tea and scrumptious snacks will be served.

SGC Board Summer Cocktail Party

June 28, 2016

\$75

Sixteen spaces available. Hosted by Suzette de Turenne and the SGC Board at the beautiful home of Sue Ashmun in The Highlands. Join us for delicious hors d'oeuvres and cocktails for a perfect start to summer.

Interested? Contact Roxanne Wiley 425-442-5154 or roxwiley@comcast.net

Hort Report



Caroline Goedhart's garden

Our April 4, Hort meeting will be held at the home of Provisional Caroline Goedhart in Sammamish. Her talk is entitled *Thousands of Daffodils, A Family Tradition*. Her father, to honor her mother, planted thousands of daffodils on their property back East. Upon moving to the Northwest, Caroline and her husband continued the tradition. We hope her daffodils will be in full bloom for her talk!

We will take a woodland walk for about twenty minutes after Caroline's talk. Please wear suitable boots or shoes. Caroline's home address: 1208 East Lake Sammamish Parkway SE, Sammamish, 425-836-5116. Detailed directions will be eblasted a few days before the meeting.

Deborah Cheadle, Chair



GCA Lauds “The New American Golf Course” Have You Played Bandon Dunes, Paradise Valley CC or Old Works?

The Garden Club of America published a brochure to build awareness of the benefits of environmentally managed golf courses. This stewardship helps provide better wildlife habitat, water conservation and safety, and plant diversity.

One of GCA's goals is to encourage golf course managers and developers to enhance greenspace for humans and wildlife. More and more golfers are learning about the benefits of course management including steps to enhance:

- **Soil Sustainability:** Including practices to build a broad-based population of microorganisms that will maintain a healthy balance in the plant root zone. A well-balanced soil will create an environment for healthy, stress-resistant turfgrass carpet and will reduce insects, diseases, and weeds. Also, a good organic and microbial program is one of the most significant ways to reduce water usage.
- **Natives:** Golf courses have land called out-of-play areas, which can serve as important refuges for native plants and pollinators. This interaction is essential to native habitats or ecosystems. Native grasses planted at the edge of ponds and streams can provide bird habitat, reduce run-off from fertilizers, and even discourage Canada geese.

Here are some examples of courses in the West that GCA appreciates:

- **Paradise Valley CC, Paradise Valley, AZ:** Built in 1953 on 122 acres. Ecoagriculture is practiced, using microbes and maintaining the soil biology they thrive in. This well-balanced soil contains 3-5% organic matter in the top 6 inches of soil. Integrated Pest Management works well and ensures minimal pesticide usage. The numerous clippings are sold as food to a cattle business. This is an example of an older course that continues to reduce pesticide use by understanding the importance of soil sustainability and using sound environmental practices.
- **Bandon Dunes, Bandon, OR:** Designed by David McLay Kidd, this course of 260 acres with 75 acres maintained, has spectacular views and indigenous beach grasses contributing to the natural surroundings of this links course. The weather station uses software that controls the irrigation after measuring transpiration, evaporation, and timing to avoid wind drift. Since the course is built on sand, a light feeding of a slow release organic fertilizer is used to lessen the potential of leaching.
- **Old Works, Anaconda, MT:** Designed by Jack Nicklaus, Old Works was built on an Arco superfund site designed to be a barrier between people and the tailings from the mine. The area was contoured and capped with limestone and clay, which protects the ground water by preventing any more percolation. There are 300 acres, of which only 100 are watered. The lower amount of water keeps the soil biology correct and prevents anaerobic conditions. Fertilizer and irrigation are not allowed to enter the trout stream running through the course. 95% fescue and 5% colonial bentgrass combine to make a phenomenal playing surface. In areas that are not maintained, native grasses are used to simulate a high mountain prairie. The rodent population exploded with these grasses and, as a result, the fox, mountain lion, bear, deer, and elk moved in to balance it.

Conservation Report

If we condensed Earth's 4.6-billion year history into one calendar year, humans evolved in the very last hour of December 31 – and the Industrial Revolution and modern age took place the last two seconds of that year. During those two short seconds we managed to alter Earth's climate for tens of thousands of years to come. So much so, that new research shows we have essentially cancelled the next ice age. Due to or as a result of the changes over these two short seconds, a new geological term has been proposed...

Anthropocene /æn'θrɒpəˌsiːn/ noun

1. **the Anthropocene**, a proposed term for the present geological epoch (from the time of the Industrial Revolution onwards), during which humanity has begun to have a significant impact on the environment

Word Origin: C21: from anthropo- and -cene, coined by Paul Crutzen (born 1933), Nobel-winning Dutch chemist

The Anthropocene Working Group plans to meet in mid-2016 to submit evidence and decide whether the Anthropocene is a true geologic epoch.

At NAL in February, we were advised not to engage the 8% of those who do not believe in climate change. In other words, this means the 92% who feels that climate change is real, need to take action. Every day could be filled with viewing or reading disheartening environmental news directly related to human activity. When faced with this adversity we still have to remember that every voice and action has the opportunity to move us in the right direction. Find your area of conservation that interests you and apply any or all of these steps to make a difference. Hopefully, people will see your efforts, take the cue and implement their own environmental action. Even if it is a small change, it will make your heart feel better.

ACTIONS GCA WOULD LIKE US ALL TO TAKE:

Be active, not apathetic - this is the biggest battle! Find what makes your heart sing and pursue it.

Be a voice for our environment - email your politicians (we were told this was the most effective method of communication), educate when the opportunity rises, attend lectures, support your causes.

Lead by example - electric cars, pollinator and rain gardens, neighborhood e-recycle, bat boxes or become a certified National Wildlife Federation habitat. People will ask you about your efforts, providing an opportunity to educate!

Encourage volunteerism - There is no doubt that within your area of interest, the opportunities to volunteer abound! Lead by example, set up a family and friends event.

Two areas where you can take action right now by emailing your Congressmen and Senators (contacts found online) are:

Protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: audubonaction.org/site/News

West Coast Action Alliance article on Naval War Exercises: westcoastactionalliance.org/overview

If I am anything, I am an idea person. If you are unsure where to start taking action for our environment, please feel free to call or email me with your questions, I would be happy to help.

Barbie Snapp, Chair



Thank you Fragrance Garden Weeders!

Ana Hergert
Charlee Reed
Sue Blethen
Catherine Allan
& Diana Neely

Pamela Green Lecture Series

Save the Date!

May 4, 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

Thank you Kim Bishop for such an interesting provisional talk regarding the Svalbard Global Seed Vault & Preserving Agricultural Biodiversity.

Photo, at right, of Cary Fowler, former Executive Director, with original seeds outside the seed vault in Spitsbergen, Norway.

For more information visit the website [Svalbard Global Seed Vault](http://SvalbardGlobalSeedVault.org).



Gardener's Corner

Zebras in the Garden by Megan Smith

I'll admit it, I'm a foliage junkie. I crave garden color: yellows, reds, pinks, greens and purples. But what really gives me my "fix" is all the different patterning that foliage has to offer. I'm referring to variegation – the stripes, dots, veining and outlined leaves. These are our "wild animals" of the garden. Our garden's zebras (and leopards, giraffes, tortoises, etc.) can be soft like a variegated *Cornus sanguinea* 'Ivory Halo' or zingy like a *Canna* 'Tropicana'. But to really understand what we're dealing with, we need to ask, "What is variegation and why does it occur?"

Variegation simply refers to a variety of color, usually of a leaf, flower or branch. Stems can be variegated as well, along with trunks and seeds. Variegation in leaf color arises because of a lack of green pigment or chlorophyll in some of the leaf cells. This is caused by a cell mutation that can be genetic or occur randomly (chimeric). If the variegation is genetic, the leaf color is stable and the foliage color will be retained. This applies to solid colored leaves as well, such as gold and purple. Variegation can also be caused by a viral infection resulting in discolored veins or leaf areas. This is how some of the "reticulated" foliage comes into our garden such as the zippy vine, *Lonicera japonica* 'Aureoreticulata' with its delicate yellow netting.

It's crucial when introducing zebras and others into the garden that you make sure that they're not going to lose their stripes (or spots, dots, etc.)! The beguiling masterwort, *Astrantia major* 'Sunningdale Variegated' did just that in my garden. As the season wore on I experienced the 'here today gone tomorrow' syndrome and didn't like it one bit. Some hostas and Japanese maples do that as well. You also have to beware of plants that can be a bit confused sporting a daring yellow variegation in the spring only to fade to cream later in the season. Lastly, if one of your variegated beauties decides it wants a permanent color change (reverting, that is) just prune out the solid green stems as they're typically more vigorous and will outgrow the variegated sections. Despite these slight foibles there are multitudes of reliable fanciful colored variegates that need to be let loose in your garden.

Designing around variegation is a blast! My favorite approach is to use 'color echos'. I use the variegate as my main plant, partnering it with a plant of contrasting foliage color and texture with a flower that repeats the variegation color. Picture this: a glorious holly, *Ilex altaclarensis* 'Lawsoniana,' with shiny leaves and scrumptious yellow variegation paired with a bronze foliaged yellow flowering *Dahlia* 'Mystic Illusion.' Pure bliss. Invite the zebras and their friends into your garden and watch it come alive!

Photography Report

With the weather starting to improve and longer days arriving, I thought it might be a nice time to revisit a photo 'recipe' and lesson from Michele Burton. Truly, the best light is during that in-between time of sunrise and sunset. Be sure to take your tripod!



photo credit: Michele Burton

Shoot during the Magic Hour (or minutes)

"Two of the most dynamic times to shoot are dawn and dusk. During Fall and Winter in the Puget Sound region, you don't even have to get up early or stay up late to take advantage. In the half hour surrounding both sunrise and sunset, the light evens out between land and sky (no big contrast problems) and the colors become rich.

You will need a bit of patience, a tripod or other support, and a self-timer or remote. I recommend starting in either Shutter Priority or Manual Mode. I usually set my ISO low to avoid getting too much noise. The photo above was made using ISO 100 with a shutter speed of 20 seconds at f/22. My goal was to get 'silky water' (long shutter speed) and 'star lights' (high numbered aperture). Be sure to experiment with over and under exposure for best results. With the image above, I couldn't use a longer shutter speed because the lights would become even more blown out." Michele Burton

Juliet Romano, Chair

Wetherill Nature Preserve Annual Work Party

It's time to gather at Wetherill Nature Preserve at Hunts Point Town Hall for our annual work party. This has been a yearly tradition for 14 years in honor of Marge Wetherill Baird. We'll work for 2 hours and then convene in the Town Hall for a potluck lunch. Please join us on Wednesday, April 13, at 9:30 am.

Sis Woodside siswoodside@gmail.com

Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference Report

Our final chapter in the 2015 Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference came to a close on February 18, 2016, five months later! We gave Sarah Reichard, director of the UWBG, a gift for \$10,105 to be used towards the renovation of the prized Camellia Collection in the Washington Park Arboretum; this gift amount was the surplus from the SMHC. The room was filled with blooming Camellias from Diana Neely's garden and the Arboretum, thanks to a successful pruning session at the Arboretum, arranged by Deborah Cheadle, Hort chair. Sarah was indeed grateful and thanked the membership for making this contribution. A signed booklet on 'Camellia Portraits', from Barbara Tuffli, added to the surprise and poignancy of this special gift.

My sincere appreciation to everyone who helped make this special ending so memorable.

Catherine Allan, Chair



Catherine Allan & Sarah Reichard



Auction Experience: Floral Fun Evening at Martha Harris

(clockwise from upper left) The ladies are practicing bow making; a colorful arrangement; Bruce demonstrates lovely floral designs



CLUB PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

Annual Meeting Luncheon - June 2, 2016

“SPRING IN BLOOM”

To be held at our Annual Meeting Luncheon at the Seattle Tennis Club, this is intended to give members an opportunity to participate in a more casual manner than a larger show.

Below are the three classes on our show schedule. **Registration opens at 8am on March 25** and closes on April 8. **Email your first and second choices** to Jo Anne Rosen at joannerosen@hotmail.com. All members and Provisionals are welcome to enter. The actual printed/mounted photographs are due on May 16. More details will follow.

1. **LANDSCAPE** (6 entries): A photograph incorporating a foreground, middle ground and back ground (which could include some sky).
2. **MACRO or CLOSE-UP** (6 entries): A macro is an image in which the subject appears greater than life-size, as opposed to a close-up.
3. **CREATIVE MANIPULATION** (6 entries): An image using creative techniques where manipulation is very obvious.

Questions? Email Jo Anne Rosen at joannerosen@hotmail.com or Mary Turner at mturner915@aol.com.

FLORAL DESIGN has opted to request Provisionals and FD Committee members to provide a centerpiece of your choice, appropriate for the center of a 72” table; light judging by our own FD Judges. Additional details will be forthcoming.

HORT has decided to postpone their participation and looks forward to providing an opportunity for exhibiting at a later date.



Looking Ahead

- 5/2 **Hort Meeting**, CUH, 9:15 am Social, 10 am Program, Provisional
talk: Delphine Stevens "The Walled Garden - A Practical & Private Paradise", followed by
a visit to Sally Nordstrom's walled garden
- 5/5 **Board Meeting**, Sunset Club, 10 am
- 5/6 **Auction Event**: Pending-Rhododendron & Bonsai Garden Tour & Lunch
- 5/12 **Auction Event**: WSU Mt. Vernon Tour & Lunch
- 5/15 **Auction Event**: Highlands Concert & Dinner
- 5/19 **General Meeting**, UWBG/CUH, 9:30 am Social, 10:00 am Program, Sara Bermann,
Founder, Pollinator Pathway **Guests welcome!**
- 5/24 **Auction Event**: Duck Sanctuary Tour & 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

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