

From the President:

This is a magical time of year --- one day it is cool (40s) and one day it is warm (70s). Then suddenly from nowhere the Spring blossoms begin to appear. It is a favorite season full of surprises... But the real magic will take place when we present our GCA Flower Show on May 19th! Thanks again to Pam, Iris and their committee for working hard to make this the best ever.

At our February General Meeting with Iain Robertson presenting "Gardening Seattle: Stewarding our Public Green Spaces" gave us much to think about. One thing he mentioned was: "Cities, like gardens, are interactive systems ---- systems in which everything affects everything else." He said it is important to weed as well as plant the city, but then we need to 'look after it.' Thank you to Beverly Martin for organizing this event and her committee of: Jeannine Foster, Eleanor Nolan, Cathy Parker, Charlee Reed, Debby Wilson and Sis Woodside.

The March Horticulture Meeting featured several topics. Debby Smith gave a wonderful presentation of her Top Ten Camellias for the Pacific Northwest Garden." Camellias have many uses some of which are an oil treatment for the hair, in tea, cosmetics, fabrics, wallpaper and more. Barbara Tuffli spoke to us further on camellias and how to pick the right blooms for the show on April 2nd. Then Geneva Emmons informed us about growing pumpkins and the challenge to grow the biggest. There will be a prize for the winner. We continue to be educated and are having fun doing it --- thanks to Diana Neely for organizing all of this.

Your Board continues to be involved and to make important decisions --- please read the Summary of Actions to keep you informed. There is also a report to read on the results of the January Business Meeting. Be looking for a special mailing before the April 19th meeting at Bloedel Reserve. We will be voting on two issues which include the SGC Entry Garden at CUH/ Botanic Gardens. The second issue involves the Board's approving and taking a stand on a statement of support regarding SR520. We need to remember that conservation action begins locally in our homes and communities. The GCA works locally and acts nationally to build a better environment through leadership and education.

Enclosed are the Committee Sign Up Sheets and the Membership Information Sheets. I am hopeful you will fill out both of these and return to me before May 1st. Your involvement and input are important and I thank you for taking the time to complete these.

Yet to come is our joint meeting with Tacoma in April; "It's Magic" the GCA Flower Show and Preview Party in May and our 90th celebration in June. I invite you to be a part of these as your participation is needed and greatly appreciated. Special wishes for a Happy Easter!

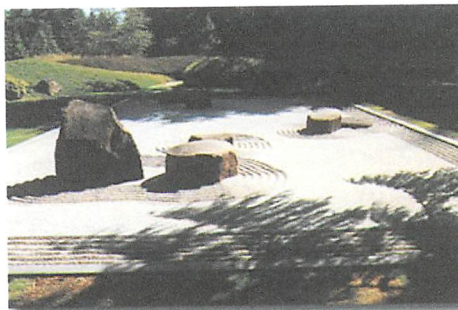
B.J. Anderson

Annual Joint Meeting and Luncheon with Tacoma Garden Club

Thursday, April 19, 2007 at 10:30am

The Bloedel Reserve

Bainbridge Island



It is very important to
reply no later than April 13
to Barbara Anderson

Bhagenandeson@aol.com

or

206-842-0552

Plan to take the 9:35 ferry sailing from Seattle Pier 52. See Page 2 for information regarding carpools, driving directions, fares and the meeting schedule.

Non-subscribers to the Hostess Fund only: Please mail a check for \$14 payable to the Seattle Garden Club to Barbara Anderson, 12275 N.E. Country Club Road, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110



REMINDER: The April 2nd Horticulture Meeting will be the first ever "In-Club Camellia Show" at the Graham Visitors Center at the Washington Park Arboretum. All members are encouraged to participate. Horticulture entries will be accepted between 7:30am & 9:30am. Photography entries must be received by 4:00pm March 23rd. Either mail your entry to Jane Harder or deliver to Sis Woodside. Coffee will be available at 9:30am. From 10:00am - 11:00am Randall Hitchin, the Registrar/Collections manager for the UWBG, will lead a tour of the Arboretum's Camellia Collection. The show will be open to SGC members at 11:00am and to the public from 1:00pm - 4:00pm. Invite your friends! Barbara Tuffli & Fran Neumann will be our guest judges.

The Bloedel Reserve on April 19

If you have been to The Bloedel Reserve on Bainbridge Island, you know that it lives up to its name "Reserve" by limiting the number of visitors. It is a very special privilege to be accorded the opportunity to join our friends in the Tacoma Garden Club for a tour and luncheon at Bloedel.

Once home to the Bloedel Family, the Reserve now welcomes visitors to its acclaimed and varied gardens - the Japanese Garden, the Moss Garden, the Reflection Garden and the Glen. There is a bird refuge and extensive woodlands, and as a counterpoint to the lush wildness of a Pacific Northwest forest you will appreciate the European design of the Visitor Center and its formal residential landscape. Visit www.bloedelreserve.org for an enticing visual display of some of the highlights of the Reserve's approximately 150 acres.

Your Program and Arrangements Committees - and of course our hosts at Bloedel - are working hard to make your trip "across the water" worthwhile. We are confident that you will feel rewarded for your efforts.

The Ferries. You should take the 9:35 a.m. ferry to Bainbridge, departing Seattle. Plan to arrive at the dock 10 to 20 minutes ahead of the departure time. The crossing takes approximately 35 minutes. The fare for car and driver is \$11.25 and is collected each way. The fare for passengers is \$6.50 and is collected on westbound sailings only. For your return to Seattle, we recommend the ferry departing Bainbridge at 2:05. (There is a 1:10 departure if you *must* leave early and eat lunch in your car instead of joining the Seattle and Tacoma members at table.)

Carpools. We think you will immediately see the advantages of carpooling. We will have two SGC park and rides: in Bellevue at BJ Anderson's at 8602 NE 19th St and in Seattle at the Seattle Tennis Club. Plan to arrive at BJ's by 8:30 or at the Tennis Club by 8:45 to form your carpools so you can be in the ferry line at 9:15 with time to spare.

Directions to Bloedel from the Bainbridge Ferry Terminal. Once off the ferry at Bainbridge Island you will be at the south end of Highway 305. Proceed away from the ferry and Winslow following Highway 305 northwards across the island. Approximately 6.5 miles away from the ferry terminal, there will be a highway sign on the right stating "BLOEDEL RESERVE NEXT RIGHT." Turn right on Agatewood Road, and follow that road approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile at which point it becomes Dolphin Drive. Follow Dolphin Drive to its east end ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile) where you will see the white walls and Gate House of the Bloedel Reserve.

Our Schedule at Bloedel. Our visit begins promptly at 10:30 with coffee and a welcome from the staff at Bloedel. (If you choose another ferry route, please be sure to arrive by 10:30.) From 11:00 to 12:30 we will tour the gardens. Docents placed strategically on the grounds will guide and inform us. We will be seated for box lunches from 12:30 to 1:30. The ferry departs the Bainbridge terminal at 2:05.