

## FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, February 21, 2008



Tom Kiernan, President of the National Parks Conservation Association

*"The Future of Our National Parks"*

REI, Upper Meeting Level  
10:00 coffee, 10:30 program

REI is located at 222 Yale Avenue North.  
The entrance to the parking garage is off Yale, on the west side of the building.

REI now opens at 9:00. Come early to shop or explore the rapidly developing neighborhood or ride the South Lake Union Trolley.

**THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.  
DO BRING GUESTS TO HEAR TOM KIERNAN.**

Respond by Monday, February 18 to Lyn White at [lynbwhite@hotmail.com](mailto:lynbwhite@hotmail.com) or 206-324-7956

## Thomas C. Kiernan

The Seattle Garden Club will present a free public lecture with Thomas Kiernan, CEO of the National Parks Conservation Association, Thursday, February 21st, 2008 at 10:30am. Tom will be speaking in the 3rd floor conference room at Recreational Equipment (REI) which is located at 222 Yale Ave N. Seattle, WA. 98109. His topic will be on "The future of our National Parks."

Thomas Kieran is the president of the National Parks Conservation Association. (NPCA). The NPCA was founded in 1919, three years after the National Parks Service. There are 325,000 members today and a staff of 125 people and 20 offices throughout the country. Under Tom's leadership since 1998, the National Parks Conservation Association has developed programs to insure the future of national parks, including adequate funds to protect plants and wildlife and provide visitor education. He created a business plan initiative, recruiting MBA students to analyze budgets and determine priority allocation of scarce resources. Another program applied scientific criteria to assess the health of natural and cultural resources within parks and determined a watchdog list of the ten most endangered parks. Before joining NPCA, Tom served as president of the Audubon Society of New Hampshire, worked for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and won a Tip Award for his work in the EPA Office of Air and Radiation.

Please join us to hear how we can help increase the financial health of our National Parks and help to protect our National Treasures.

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT

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SGC Members,

What a pleasure it is to work with each of our members. You are a talented, well-prepared and thoughtful group of ladies. Through the Hort Presentations, we are becoming acquainted with the new Provisionals. In January, Barbara Feasey spoke on Fragrant Trees and demonstrated with a colorful power point display. We could almost smell the blossoms.

The Japanese Garden Entry Project was approved by a unanimous vote of the members attending the January 7 Hort Meeting at CUH. Later, at the Board Meeting, we voted to gift this project \$15,000 this year and \$20,000 next year. SGC's contribution will be matched by the Seattle Pro Parks Levy. Construction is slated to begin this spring.

Sherrill Elliott and her Program Committee have been working on next year's speakers. In November, we will have our exchange with Tacoma Garden Club when Scot Medbury, Director of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, will be our featured speaker. One month, there will be an evening meeting as we continue to explore options for times and locations.

Looking ahead to spring, The Fragrance Garden at CUH will be dedicated on May 15, a third Thursday, following our General Meeting. Please plan to stay for the ceremony and refreshments.

Representing us at the NAL Meeting in Washington, D.C. the end of February will be two Lauries, Ahern and Riley. In April, Zone XII's Meeting will be hosted by Diggers GC in Pasadena. Sue Blethen, Deborah Cheadle and I will be attending. Two focus groups will be Conservation and Garden History and Design.

Tom Kiernan will speak at REI on February 21. Since REI recently began opening earlier, at 9:00 AM, the parking might be tight by 10:00 AM. It is suggested you come early to park and then explore the changing neighborhood. You could even leave the car at home and, instead, take the bus downtown where you could ride the new trolley to Lake Union and walk to REI for the lecture.

Trudy

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## EcoTips



### Easy ways to save money and save the planet:

Margaret Meade wrote, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has." Let's

start out 2008 by all of us remembering these few simple things:

1. Always carry your canvas bag when you go shopping. (Keep that plastic out of our land fill.)
2. Consolidate your errands to save gas and emissions and carpool when possible.
3. Keep your plumbing in good repair; leaky faucets can waste 200 gallons of water a day.
4. Change furnace filters regularly to boost heating efficiency and save gas, oil and/or electricity.
5. If you haven't already done it, change those light bulbs to energy efficient bulbs; they use 75% less energy.

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## BETTY AMBROSE

### A Passionate Gardener



We will miss Betty Ambrose who died on December 29, 2007. She became a member of SGC in 1951 and continued to be loyal and active throughout her life. Betty's interesting garden was featured on several tours and published as well. As a Flower Arranging Judge, Betty enjoyed traveling to GCA Clubs and made many friends. Her leadership was valued when she served on the board of the Arboretum. Betty's daughter Sis Woodside is a SGC member and Florence Covey is a TGC member.

# Conservation Report

The GCA Conservation/National Affairs Legislation (NAL) Committees met in New York in December 2007. The meeting was PACKED with useful information. Do take the time to read the committee chairmen's reports on the GCA website under the heading of Conservation/NAL Meeting December 2007.

Important highlights are the reports on Climate Change: The Arctic: earth's canary in the coal mine. Check out the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change website – [www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch) and the book, "The Weather Maker" by Tim Flannery. All clubs are being encouraged to address the climate change issue.

The Water and Wetlands report is also quite good. It begins with the following:

- Water is essential to life. It is a resource for which there is no substitute.
- Water is both a renewable resource and a finite one. There is only so much water available in the hydrologic cycle of Earth. The 6 billion people on Earth today share the same amount of water that was available to one-sixth of the population at the turn of the nineteenth century.
- Although water covers roughly 70% of the earth's surface, 97.5% of the water is salt water, and much of the remaining fresh water is frozen in glaciers. Humans have access to less than 1% of the total water on the planet.
- Of the available fresh water, individuals use less than 10%; agriculture uses 70%; the remainder goes to industry.

A related and recommended book: "Every Drop for Sale: Our Desperate Battle over Water", by Jeffrey Rothfeder.

The Endangered and Invasive Species committee report also has information on the war on weeds. Did you know that invasives are the second leading cause of species extinction in the US!! Some frightening examples are given.

*It would be an excellent idea to read the National Parks and Public Lands report so you are fully briefed before our February 21st General Meeting at REI with Thomas Kiernan, CEO of the National Parks Conservation Association!!!! The US/Mexican border disputes, two-thirds of which are on federal land, and the ecological challenges it presents are discussed.*

We are all encouraged to push the national parks Centennial Challenge fund with your Congressman (HR 2959 and S 1253) as this bill provides much needed funding for our national park system and will coincide with the park's 100th anniversary!

The other interesting vice chairman reports include: Agriculture, Air Quality and Toxic Substances, Energy Sources, Forests and Redwoods, Land Use/Sustainable Development, Oceans, Partners for Plants, and Transportation and Billboards.

Sue Blethen, Conservation Chair



## PENNY HORNE FLOWER ARRANGING

### Penny Horne's Presentation and Workshop March 20th at CUH

- The presentation will take place in the morning and the workshop will follow
- There is room for 25 participants and box lunches can be ordered for those who are staying for the workshop.

Penny will be supplying the containers for the workshop and information regarding plant material will be forthcoming. Please contact Charlee Reed [cpreed@msn.com](mailto:cpreed@msn.com) to sign up. The estimated cost will be around \$50.

#### ABOUT PENNY HORNE:

Her web site is <http://pennyhorne.com> – there is an image of her on the site.

"When Penny Horne agreed to speak at the International Symposium on Floral Art, no one could have anticipated the response – a standing ovation and innumerable requests for printed copies of her talk"

She created a DVD entitled "The Great American Melting Pot"

## Looking For A Sunset Bird In Winter

By Robert Frost

*The west was getting out of gold,  
The breath of air had died of cold,  
When shoeing home across the white,  
I thought I saw a bird alight.*

*In summer when I passed the place  
I had to stop and lift my face;  
A bird with an angelic gift  
Was singing in it sweet and swift.*

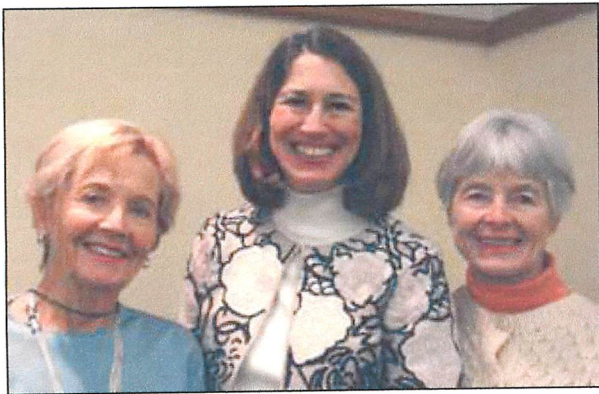
*No bird was singing in it now.  
A single leaf was on a bough,  
And that was all there was to see  
In going twice around the tree.*

*From my advantage on a hill  
I judged that such a crystal chill  
Was only adding frost to snow  
As gilt to gold that wouldn't show.*

*A brush had left a crooked stroke  
Of what was either cloud or smoke  
From north to south across the blue;  
A piercing little star was through.*



*The Winners of the Crossword Extravaganza*



*Barbara Feasey (center) and her sponsors  
Barbee Crutcher (left) and Gretchen Hull (right).*



*Alex Morse and Betty Ambrose at Seattle Garden Club's 90th Anniversary Celebration. Betty Ambrose, who passed away in December 2007, was an Honorary Life Member of our club.*

## COMMUNITY PROJECTS COMMITTEE

At a General Meeting of all members called for January 7, 2008 before the Horticulture Class, the membership approved a request from the Arboretum Foundation for \$35,000 for the Japanese Entry Gatehouse Project, payable over two years. The money will be used for the construction of the Demonstration Terrace Garden. The vote was unanimous.

The Winter issue of the Washington Park Arboretum Bulletin has a grand article by Iain Robertson on the Japanese Entry Gatehouse Project. Iain wrote "Entered from the main courtyard, this well-proportioned room (the meeting room) opens to the north where it extends into an intimate garden courtyard." The garden courtyard he refers to is the "terrace garden" which we are funding and in which our name will be displayed.



*Mary Anne Wiley shows drawing of the Japanese Garden Entry project after she and Elizabeth Moses gave a tour of the Japanese Garden to several SGC members including Trudy Baldwin, Gretchen Hull, Janet Footh, B.J. Anderson and Judy Phillips. Photo taken by Diana Neely*

## HORT STARTS

February 4th Hort Meeting at Diana Neely's in Medina, 9:30am coffee and 10:00 meeting. Please carpool. Provisional Suzette de Turenne will be speaking on Fragrant Roses. As we continue to learn about fragrance in the garden, keep in mind this excerpt from Coleridge's "Kubla Khan, or A Vision in a Dream":

*And there were gardens bright with sinuous rills,  
Where blossomed many an incense-bearing tree;  
And here were forests ancient as the hills,  
Enfolding sunny spots of greenery.*

**Have you disbudded your camellias?** Disbudding accomplishes two things: it concentrates the plant's energy on the development of fewer flowers, and it regulates the position of the blooms on the branch so that each may open unhindered.



### HORT QUIZ:

Can you name these garden-worthy natives (all Freeman winners)?

By Diana Metcalf, Vice Chairman, Freeman Plant Award, GC of Philadelphia, Zone V

Since 1995 the Freeman Medal has been awarded annually to an outstanding plant considered worthy of greater recognition and horticultural use. Special preference is given to natives. How well do you know your natives and these Freeman winners?

Identify the following from the choices below (Match the number with the corresponding letter):

1. A conifer that is flood-tolerant and prized for its wood
2. A tree that blooms every two-three years with fragrant, white pea-like flowers
3. A successful, highly disease-resistant street tree tolerant of urban stress factors
4. A non-invasive, native woody deciduous vine that blooms in May-June
5. A type of native maple with striped bark that grows in the shade
6. A tree that has attractive orangy to brownish exfoliating bark
7. A native azalea that has showy orange to red flowers in late summer
8. A broad tree-like shrub that has white, brush-like flowers in summer and is best planted where it has room to spread
9. A tree-like shrub with fragrant flowers that provide nectar for butterflies, native bees and other pollinators

10. A shrub related to a sumac and native to the southeastern United States
11. A plant that is related to Philadelphus and is well adapted to California wildfires by stump-sprouting after burning
12. A native tall shrub or tree with creamy white, lemony scented flowers and bright scarlet seeds that are attractive to fruit-eating birds

### Freeman Medal Winners:

- a. *Carpenteria californica* 'Elizabeth' (bush anemone)
- b. *Rhododendron prunifolium* (plum leaf azalea)
- c. *Ulmus americana* 'Princeton' (Princeton elm)
- d. *Magnolia virginiana* (sweet bay)
- e. *Cotinus obovatus* (chittamwood)
- f. *Betula nigra* 'Little King' (Fox Valley river birch)
- g. *Wisteria frutescens* (American wisteria)
- h. *Aesculus parviflora* (bottle-brush buckeye)
- i. *Cladrastis lutea* (syn. *C. kentukea*) (yellowwood)
- j. *Acer pensylvanicum* (moosewood)
- k. *Taxodium distichum* (bald cypress)
- l. *Viburnum nudum* 'Winterthur' (Winterthur witherod)

The answers can be found on page 38 of the current online issue of the Real Dirt. Go to [www.gcamerica.org](http://www.gcamerica.org) and click on Members Only. Log on with a username of "gcamember" and password of "compost." Once inside click on Real Dirt on the Menu and then follow directions for the current Fall Issue.

Make sure to check out all the interesting articles in the Real Dirt including an article by Happy Hieronimus mentioning our "Baird Board" and Portland GC's "Rocchia Rack"

### A REMINDER FOR THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED

### THE ANNUAL NORTHWEST FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW PREVIEW GALA

*Produced by the Arboretum Foundation  
benefiting Washington Park Arboretum*

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2008**

Washington State Convention and Trade Center  
Seventh and Pike, Seattle, Washington

For information or to receive tickets

Visit [www.arboretumfoundation.org](http://www.arboretumfoundation.org) or call 206-325-4510

## Correction to the Yearbook

### Carol Eland

New address is 1225 Shenandoah Dr E, Seattle, WA 98112  
same phones and email.

### Attention Flower Arrangers!

Nobuko Relnick has been invited once again to do her superb Japanese flower arranging demonstrations at the NORTHWEST FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW. She was chosen out of 150 applicants! She is a delightful, talented, creative, fun and informative ikebana instructor.

Time and place:

#### FEBRUARY 22, FRIDAY

6:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M. – Monrovia DIY Stage

#### FEBRUARY 24, SUNDAY

12:00-1:00 P.M. – Monrovia DIY Stage

## Important Dates in February

- February 4 SGC Horticulture Meeting  
Home of Diana Neely  
9:30 a.m. coffee • 10:00 program  
Fragrant Roses/Vines (Sweet Peas)  
Speaker: Provisional  
Suzette Lamoureux de Turenne
- February 5 Policy Planning Meeting  
Home of Laurie Riley  
10:00 a.m.
- February 7 SGC Board Meeting  
Sunset Club  
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
- February 8 Flower Arrangers Meeting  
Home of Charlee Reed  
308 36th Avenue East, Seattle  
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- February 21 REI Conference Room  
Open to the Public  
Speaker: Tom Kiernan,  
President of the National Parks  
Conservation Association  
10:00 a.m. coffee • 10:30 a.m. program



### Seattle Garden Club

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