

The Seattle Garden Club

October 2008



October General Meeting

- Date:** Thursday, October 16, 2008
- Place:** UWBG/CUH
- Agenda:** Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, author of *The Informed Gardener*
- Title:** Sustainable Landscaping: Easier on your back, your wallet, and the environment

Guests Welcome

Book Sale and Signing of *The Informed Gardener*
before and after the talk

Cost of Book \$18.95, by Cash or Check

PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10 with a YES or NO.

Laurie Ahern: 206-322-6723 or lahern1681@gmail.com

LINDA CHALKER-SCOTT, WSU Extension Urban Horticulturist and science editor of *Master Gardener Magazine*, will be addressing topics such as soil amendments, fertilizers, mulches, and preparing trees and shrubs for fall transplanting. She also will answer your questions about the myths and misconceptions that plague home gardeners and horticulture professionals.

Your Club Programs

Is there a speaker or topic that you would like us to include in our planning for future programs? As we start a new year of programs and events please remember to bring ideas to your committees and discuss the community resources you feel we should be seeking to keep our programs vital and educational. The chairs of all major committees sit on the Program Committee. If you are not currently involved in a committee then please contact me directly with your ideas [sherrilleliott@comcast.net]. We will be meeting in the fall.



Prudence Hammett Arrangement

Photo by Jane Harder

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Are you enjoying these splendid late September days? I'm taking advantage of every opportunity to be outdoors at the end of summer by having meals on the deck, watering by hand so I can enjoy the changing leaf colors, fall-blooming asters and dahlias. This is the time to find apples, grapes and pears on the tables at the Farmers' Markets.

Plans are developing for the celebration of GCA's Centennial in 2013. As you know, the 2013 Founder's Fund Project will restore the Dene Summer House Landscape in Central Park in a manner the Olmsteads envisioned. On the local level, clubs are encouraged to develop a community project titled *2013 Preserving the Past, Growing the Future: Trees, Our Living Legacy*. You will be learning more about this soon. Seattle Garden Club joined GCA in 1917 so it also has a long history. We will take this opportunity to share our history with you.

Magical Gardens of the Pacific Northwest is a GCA Visiting Gardens Trip planned for May 6 – 13, 2009. GCA visitors will tour Seattle and Vancouver, B.C. It may seem like we are a long way from headquarters in New York City, but gardeners from all over the country will arrive in the spring to enjoy our colorful gardens out here on the West Coast.

Thank you to Diana Neely for sharing her beautiful garden for our Fall Picnic. It was a wonderful setting in which to practice photography as many of you did. What fun to connect with gardening friends and to welcome provisionals to another year of SGC activities. Thanks to all of you who brought plants to exchange. How satisfying to receive a plant from a SGC member to place in your garden.

Hort is planning Healthy Gardening for the focus of meetings this year. It even includes healthy ways for gardeners to use their hands, knees and backs. In addition to the interesting programs for General Meetings, two special events will take place this year. In January, Fergus Garrett, Director of Great Dixter, will entertain and inform us about the late Christopher Lloyd's wonderful garden. Eleanor Nolan is working with a devoted group of SGC conservationists to plan the Wagner Lecture in late spring.

Our joint meeting with Tacoma Garden Club will be on November 20 at Seattle Golf Club. Scott Medbury from the Brooklyn Botanical Garden will speak to us. Jane Harder has invited TGC to share in a joint photography exhibit with autumn images that day. Anyone can enter so take your cameras out on walks and adventures now.

Debbi Wilson and Catherine Allan will represent SGC at the Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference at the New York Botanical Garden October 26-29.

If you didn't have the opportunity to attend the grand opening of the Pacific Connections Garden, do visit the Arboretum to see this plant display representing Chile, China, Cascadia, New Zealand and Australia.

Trudy Baldwin

Holiday Luncheon & Auction Fast Approaching

Our Holiday Auction is our biggest fundraising event. Proceeds support SGC's projects and grants to community organizations. We hope each of you will dream up a zany, witty, worthy or delicious item to donate. This is such a fabulous event.



Diana Neely and Mike Hayes, Judge Emeritus

Seattle Garden Club

Holiday Luncheon & Auction

SAVE THE DATE

December 4, 2008

A marvelous luncheon and auction are being put together by your fellow Garden Club members! We are excited and want you to share our excitement, so take a peek at a few of the wonderful Auction items we have collected, procured, devised for our (*financially necessary*) fundraiser:

- Hawaii Vacation Home
- Girls Having Fun in Sun Valley
- Islandwood Tour & lunch for Grandchildren
- Painting by Cary Jurriaans
- Special tour of Dan Hinkley's Garden & Picnic Lunch
- Foster Island Canoe Trip (with Lisa Anderson & Michelle Burton) followed by dinner at Mary Jane's
- Four Nights at the Sherry Netherland (2Bdr-2B) Apt. overlooks Central Park
- Decorated (re-usable) Christmas Tree

HOW CAN YOU HELP? *Donate BY OCTOBER 15TH and eliminate the need for us to call you! Attend! Bring Guests! Bid!*

We Need Some Specific Help:

- One more CANOE for the Foster Island Paddle: To seat 2 or 3
- Food "to go" for several day trips: Volunteer to provide a picnic lunch or dinner (we have several meals to gather)
Prepare it! Cater it! Or underwrite it!

Please, consider contributing a *QUALITY* item to our *MAJOR SGC FUNDRAISER!!*

We have created a "wish list" (on the reverse of this page), to help inspire you.

Be creative! Offer your talents! Dream up something zany, witty, worthy or delicious to donate!

(See reverse for Wish List)

AUCTION WISH LIST

Excursions/Experiences:

Do you photograph, hike, bike, canoe, kayak, rock hunt, etc?
Buying opportunity at gift show, or "open to the trade" only outlets?
Private gardens, art collections, glass blowing
Special "Behind the Scenes" adventure: Propagate at Molbaks? Make chocolate with Fran!
Vacation spots – near & far

Entertainment:

"Hard to get" tickets to arts, music, sports (Tyee Club, Mariner's Box, a "Ring Cycle" Opera;
U.S Open; Kentucky Derby!)
Boating/Sailing/Cooking Classes
Music anyone?
Dinner parties; neighborhood progressive dinner (in the gardens?)
Bridge party, Mah Jong lessons and lunch

Share your Expertise (teach a class or donate a labor of love):

Flower arranging
Sculpture, painting, photography
Jewelry design
Computer or Blackberry (PDA) tutoring
Sewing, knitting, crocheting
Cooking, baking, candy-making

Gardening:

Containers – indoor and out
Outdoor paraphernalia: furnishings/lights/pots/plant i.d. tags
Hypertufa workshop
Garden décor (stakes, bird baths, bird houses, pots)
Specialty plants (Bonsai, rarities, etc...)
Garden tools/books – new or antique
Landscape clean-up or design
Pruning lesson or service
Compost, mulch, Zoo-Doo (delivered)!

Specialty Items:

Gourmet food or wine baskets
Yule Logs: decoration or dessert
Gift wrapping service Christmas '08
Christmas gift wrap basket
Flower arranging necessities: tools of the experts

Collectibles:

Antique furnishings, decorative China, containers, unique vases
Antique ornaments
Silver, porcelain, glassware or goblets

Services – Spa and Other:

Manicures, pedicures, massages & facials
Cater a dinner party (your home or theirs)
Quarterly car care services: wash, wax, detail

Conservation Report

"Nobody makes a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little." Edmund Burke. Let's do every little thing we can to conserve our natural resources!

From the GCA Conservation Watch Summer 2008

If you purchase cut flowers, read about the conditions where they are grown.

Learn about a Vermont dairy farmer who has made his farm completely self-sustaining by growing seed oils, then making his own biodiesel.

Good Gardening Equals Good Conservation: Rebuilding your soil with fewer chemicals.

Information from three sources: "How to Have a Green Thumb Without an Aching Back," by Ruth Stout; "Making Vegetables Grow," by Thalassa Cruso; and "Malabar Farm," by Louis Bromfield. Each author states that healthy plants require organic matter and nutrients in the soil. Each book has ideas to replenish your soil's health and thus vitality, fight disease and aid bug resistance with healthy plants in your garden!! 2-21/2 inches of compost **renewed annually** is key!

Green has gone mainstream! Smile every time you see green products around you and continue to do your small but important part. Benefit the planet, save money and protect the good life we know for future generations! You do count!

Great news: The EPA has vetoed, under the Clean Water Act, the controversial Yazoo Pumps Flood Control Project on the Mississippi Delta. This effectively protects vast wetlands, saves \$220 million in construction costs plus \$2 million a year to operate. It finally recognizes some of the richest wetland and aquatic resources in the nation, which serves as critical fish and wildlife habitat.

EPA officials concluded the project would create unacceptable damage to valuable resources used for wildlife, economic and recreational purposes. "The Yazoo Pumps would have seriously damaged up to 200,000 acres of wetlands that have the capacity to store roughly 200 billion gallons of floodwaters," Rebecca Wodder, President of American Rivers, said. "To eliminate this free natural flood protection would have been unconscionable, especially when we know that climate change is causing more frequent and intense storms and floods." **Let the EPA know you support this decision!**

Other news:

Read your water company's utility report: Many are offering rebates for irrigation system upgrades, water-wise high-efficiency washers, and other savings!

The final "closed" trail signs are down at Mt. Rainier, thanks to many volunteers, Student Conservation Association, National Parks Conservation Association and others.

Remember Islandwood, the school in the woods that helps children understand and appreciate the amazing natural world around us. Plant the seed of interest with children and they might take better care of it than we have!

Remember to take your own bag when you head to the store! (BYOB)!!

Sue Blethen, Conservation Chair



EcoTips

Farmers Markets will continue into the fall. If you haven't already, check out the location and hours of operation of your "neighborhood" market and shop locally. It's an easy way to "go green," support local farmers and get the freshest, tastiest vegetables.



Membership Change

Since her main residence changed to Hilton Head, SC, Susan Hilpert is now a Non-Resident Member. She has become an active member of The Trustees' GC in Savannah. We expect to maintain our connection with Susan and see her as often as possible.

FYI: A Non-Resident Member may vote on all SGC matters at meetings. According to our by-laws, she may also serve on committees, hold office as a chairman and serve on the Board. She can propose or second candidates for membership.

Looking Ahead...

Thursday, October 2

Board Meeting
9:30 am
Sunset Club

Thursday, October 2

Ways and Means Committee Meeting
12:00 noon lunch – 2:00 pm
Sunset Club

Monday, October 6

Horticulture Meeting
Propagation Workshop
9:30 am coffee, 10:00 demonstration
Swanson's Nursery

Thursday, October 16

General Meeting
Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, author of
"The Informed Gardener"
9:30 am coffee, 10:00 program
UWBG/CUH
RSVP: Laurie Ahern
lahern1681@gmail.com
(206) 322-6723

Monday, October 20

Ways and Means Committee Meeting
9:45 am – 11:45 am
Home of Carlyn Steiner



Seattle Garden Club

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