



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

www.seattlegardenclub.org

February 2010



February General Meeting

Thursday, February 18, 2010

JANA DILLEY

Growing Seattle's Tree Cover

Jana Dilley works for the City of Seattle's Office of Sustainability and is a graduate student in the dual Master's program between the Schools of Forest Resources and Public Affairs at the University of Washington. Her interests are in working with local governments and communities to develop an urban sense of place through sustainable green infrastructure, including trees. Currently she is engaged in developing programs and policies to increase the number of trees planted on residential property in urban areas. Jana was awarded a GCA Fellowship in Urban Forestry funded by the Casey Tree Endowment Fund in 2009.

Guests Welcome!

UW Botanic Gardens, Center for Urban Horticulture

9:30 coffee, 10:00 meeting, 10:30 program

Please RSVP by Friday, February 12 with a YES or NO

to Trudy Baldwin - 206 849-6792 or

tgarden@hotmail.com

AT A GLANCE

events of note coming soon

- Jan. 26 **Hort Committee Meeting**
Debbi Wilson's - 10:00am
- Feb. 1 **Hort Meeting**
"In Love with a Hillside Garden"
Anne, Dan and Benjamin Streissguth
UWBG/CUH
9:30am Coffee; 10:00 Program
- Feb. 3 **Saxon Holt @ The Sunset Club**
9:30am; \$20
Contact Jane Harder to register
- Feb. 8 **Board Meeting**
Sunset Club; 10:00am
- Feb. 18 **SGC General Meeting**
UWBG/CUH - Guests Welcome!
Speaker Jana Dilly; 9:30 Coffee;
10:00 Meeting; 10:30 Speaker

PLEASE NOTE PROGRAM CHANGE

Monday, February 1st

"In Love with a Hillside Garden"

Love, n., an intense feeling of deep affection or fondness for a person or thing; great liking

The Horticulture Committee is pleased to invite you to join us in welcoming Anne, Dan and Benjamin Streissguth, former recipients of the SGC Community Award, who will be our guest speakers at our Hort Meeting on Monday, February 1st, 9:30a.m. at UWBG/CUH. They will speak about their well-known urban hillside garden. Additional information in the Hort Committee report in this issue.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

We have begun our wonderful presentations to the Club by our Provisionsals. Gayle Harris gave a fun talk in January on "Sight in the Garden" which included many members' gardens. Our theme this year is "Sensuous Sustenance: Feeding the Five Senses". The next few months will bring the remainder of the Provisionsals to the forefront at our Hort meetings with taste, sound and scent.

Congratulations to Eleanor Nolan for her wonderful article in the Dec/Jan *GCA Bulletin*. She wrote about our Symposium last spring "Toward a Healthy Puget Sound". Many thanks to Eleanor for all of her hard work and for putting SGC on the map of GCA!

During January, several standing committees have been working diligently. Dinah Hutchinson, Membership Chair, has been working with her committee to provide us with new Provisionsals for next year. Burnley Snyder, Nominating Chair, and her committee have been creating a new slate of officers and Board members for next year. Catherine Allan, Program Chair, and her committee are planning our programs for next year. Stay tuned for the exciting announcements.

In early January, Catherine Roach organized a Past Presidents luncheon which was interesting and inspiring for all who attended. A week later, Catherine held a strategic planning meeting where many aspirational goals and directional objectives for our membership were considered. You will be hearing about these ideas in the future.

Plans for our Club Flower Show are moving along with Vicki Neumann leading the effort. Soon we will have to put on our thinking caps to adorn Pam Green's home with our creations. This will be a one day show with a cocktail party in the evening. The schedule should be out soon for your perusal.

Although we are in the dregs of winter, many surprises await us in the garden...fragrances of sarcococca and daphne, and blooms of the hamamelis and helleborus. What a glorious and hopeful time of year!

Hope Stroble, President

GARDENER'S CORNER

Thoughts for February



- It's never too early to bait for slugs!
- Plant primroses and pansies for winter color.
- Prune roses after President's Day. Before purchasing new plants, check rose varieties for disease resistance.*
- Shop for berries, rhubarb, bare-root artichoke and flowering shrubs such as witch hazel, daphne, and sarcococca. Plant in your garden as soon as you get home to prevent roots from drying out.
- Cut off tall yellowed stems of all perennials, especially ornamental grasses.
- Prune fruit trees and blueberries.
- Rejuvenate houseplants: cover the soil around them with plastic and rinse in a lukewarm shower. Then nip off yellowing leaves and leggy branches.

*Bareroot roses need phosphorous to promote root growth. Spread superphosphate (0-20-0) or bone meal (3-18-0) in the soil around the root zone. After pruning established roses, apply liquid or granular fertilizers to provide nutrients for new leaves and flowers.

Janet Footh

TACOMA JOINT MEETING DATE CORRECTION!

We have recently received word from the Tacoma Garden Club that the date stated in our "green book" for the annual joint meeting between our two clubs is incorrect.

The actual date
for the SGC/TGC meeting is
Wednesday, April 21st.

The meeting will be held at Tacoma Country and Golf Club with lunch immediately following their speaker, **Paul Stamets**, dedicated mycologist for over 30 years and author of several books.

Please mark your calendars with the correct date.



VISITING GARDENS

SGC VISITING GARDENS PRESENTS

THE FABULOUS GARDENS OF PASADENA AND HANCOCK PARK

May 4 - 6, 2010

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED, SPRINGTIME GARDEN TRIP TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA!

Our trip will begin with a late afternoon flight on Monday the 4th to Burbank, transferring by cab to the Westin Hotel in Pasadena where we will spend three nights. Tuesday and Wednesday will be spent touring gardens in the Pasadena area and Thursday we will visit 3 or 4 special gardens in the Hancock Park "village" in Los Angeles before returning to Seattle on Thursday evening the 6th.

The cost for the tour is \$750 per person, double occupancy. Singles are available at a higher rate. This includes three-nights' accommodations, lunches and dinners, bus transportation, garden admission fees, taxes and gratuities.

Not included...round trip air, shared cab from Burbank airport, daily breakfast, Monday night dinner, and beverages.

Your deposit check in the amount of \$200 will secure your reservation.

Please call or e-mail Laurie Riley 206-325-2514 or laurieariley@msn.com to add your name to the list! Your check should be made out to Laurie Riley and sent to 1721 39th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122.

Laurie Riley, Visiting Gardens Chair

Currently Showing in a Garden Near You!

Have you taken time to see what's happening in your yard lately? Or visited the Arboretum? It always amazes me to recognize our temperate climate by paying attention to the garden. Though frosts may damage some things, there are always others ready to burst forth that bring new joy. Jo Anne Rosen has contributed these photos of various plants from her recent saunterings at home and in the Arboretum's Winter Garden. Her unidentified camellia sasanqua was in full bloom in early December, took a hiatus during the severe frosty days, and has resurrected now that temperatures have warmed. Thank you for sharing, Jo Anne!



Unidentified camellia sasanqua in Jo Anne's yard



Mahonia



Hellebore foetidus



Corylus maxima 'Purpurea'



Corylopsis, Witch Hazel

Share your garden interest, new discoveries, color combos, survivors, visited gardens, surprises or disappointments. Your photos will be appreciated! **Suzette de Turenne** sdeturenne@comcast.net

CONSERVATION REPORT

What do conservation minded gardeners do in the middle of the winter? Lobby!

"Gardening is a Way to Say You Believe in the Future" is the memorable quote from the December meeting of the Conservation/NAL Committee meeting in New York. The committee meets four times a year, twice in New York, once in D.C. in February, and once elsewhere in the country (this year was Oregon). Diana Neely, Pat Fitzgerald, Hope Stroble and I will attend the D.C. conference in February where we will be immersed in three days of conservation and legislative issues. On the fourth day, we will descend upon our Congressmen with our newfound knowledge and encourage them to agree with and vote according to the positions of the GCA. I am excited to add 'lobbyist' to the list of new things that I have experienced since becoming a member of the Seattle Garden Club!



What is the NAL/Conservation Conference all about?

The National Affairs & Legislation Committee (NAL) was created in June of 1969 to "bring to the attention of the membership important legislative proposals in Washington which fall within the fields of our endeavor." (Mrs. T. Waller, a primary founder). The work of the committee enhances the stated GCA purpose "to restore, improve, and protect the quality of the environment through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and civic improvement." Through committee reports, the Legislative Update, The Current Legislative Status Chart, Conservation Watch and the annual Washington DC meeting, the NAL Committee carries out its primary directive (listed in the website, <http://www.gcamerica.org/>). Although NAL and Conservation Committees meet together, their purposes and functions are different. NAL was created to follow, *in detail*, legislation that ultimately affects the above purpose while the Conservation Committee educates the membership on the environmental issues themselves. The focal issues for the NAL committee are explicitly detailed in the eight GCA position papers created by the NAL and Conservation Committees and approved by the Executive Committee.

How can I learn what the NAL/Conservation Committees are up to?

Through three fabulous resources produced by some pretty smart GCA members that can all be easily accessed through: the GCA website: <http://www.gcamerica.org/> or the SGC website: http://seattlegardenclub.org/Garden_Club_Public/Welcome.html

- **The ConWatch Newsletter:** Produced by the Conservation Committee four times a year. Informative and useful articles from members on timely conservation topics.
- **The Legislative Update:** The purpose of the *Legislative Updates*, prepared by a member of the NAL Committee, is to give members a brief background summary and overview of a current issue and a rundown of recent and upcoming legislative or administrative actions. The Updates offer members specific options for taking action if they wish to do so. GCA members can sign up to receive *Legislative Updates* by email on the GCA website.
- **The Current Status Chart:** *The Current Status Chart* is another tracking tool that attempts to provide, in a single table, a quick snapshot of all the issues being tracked by the NAL Committee. It includes bill numbers, links to websites for further information, and a brief overview of the state of play on a couple of dozen issues.

FOR LOCAL EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS, VISIT THE BLOG! (Through our website, see above!!)

Juliet Romano, Conservation Chair

PLANT EXCHANGE



From time to time, members offer plants from their yards when they are dividing or changing their gardens.

Make arrangements with the member to dig up/pick up the plant(s).

Be aware that the offerings were made at the last Hort meeting as well, so availability may be limited.

Judy Phillips has *Ophiopogon planiscapus 'Nigrescens'* (black mondo grass) 206-325-3838

Alison Andrews has *Hakonechloa aureola* (Japanese forest grass) 206-364-0715

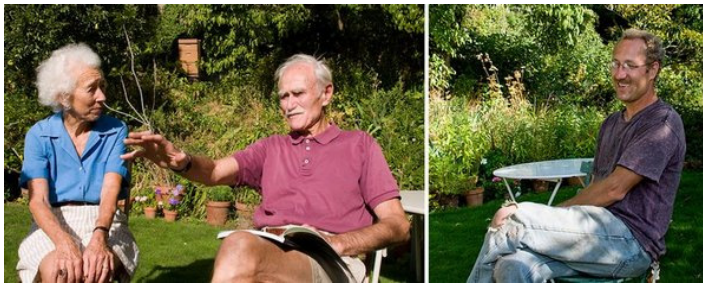
HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE

What a delight to see the photos of our members' gardens in Gayle Harris' talk on, *Sight in the Garden*, at the January Hort meeting. She highlighted the importance of plant shapes, color, textures, and their structural places in the gardens; emotion is an essential ingredient for the creation of an outstanding garden. Thank you to Gayle for a colorful and educational talk, and to Traci Tenneson, for her technical expertise.



Provisional Gayle Harris (center) with sponsors, Jane Harder (left) and Gretchen Hull (right)

As noted on the front page of this issue, there has been a change of program for the February Hort Meeting on February 1st.



Guest speakers, Anne, Dan and Benjamin Streissguth

The Horticulture Committee is pleased to invite you to join us in welcoming Anne, Dan and Benjamin Streissguth, former recipients of the SGC Community Award, who will speak about their well known urban hillside garden. During the past several years, they have renovated their west Capitol Hill garden, donated part of it to the city parks, and have written a book.

In Love with a Hillside Garden is really a love story about two U.W. professors (Ann, Professor Emeritus, Department of Psychiatry, UW School of Medicine; and Dan, an architect on the UW faculty). They lived next door to each other in the early 1960's when they met and shared a love of gardening on a steep hillside setting on Capitol Hill. They were married in 1968 and continued to share many years of their labor of love together with their young son, Benjamin. Together, they tamed this hillside garden, creating a greenbelt for neighbors, joggers and fellow gardeners to enjoy as a touch of Eden in a big city. We hope to have books for purchase at the meeting.

Answer to last month's quiz question:
What is a definition of *ranunculus*? c. from a frog's place

I had many requests for a copy of the poem I read at last month's meeting, thus, in lieu of a quiz question this month, the poem follows is printed for your enjoyment to the right of this article.

Red evokes the colors of Valentine's Day - the perfect day for all of us to paint them red.

Debbi Wilson, Hort Committee Chair



I SHALL PAINT MY NAILS RED (Carole Satyamurti, b.1939)

Because...
a bit of colour is a public service.
Because...
I am proud of my hands.
Because...
it will remind me I'm a woman.
Because...
I will look like a survivor.
Because...
I can admire them in traffic jams.
Because...
my daughter will say 'ugh.'
Because...
my lover will be surprised.
Because...
it is quicker than dyeing my hair.
Because...
it is a ten-minute moratorium.
Because...
it is reversible.

SGC Flower Show "Mediterranean Medley" Thursday, May 20th



We are very excited about our spring flower show.

Mediterranean Medley will be held Thursday, May 20th, at the home of Pam and Jay Green. The flower division and horticulture division will be held at that time.

Following the show will be a cocktail party, so that husbands and guests will be able to enjoy the exhibits, as well as our members.

Mark your calendars, and make the change in "the green book" -
Thursday, May 20, 2010!

In a new departure, the photography division will be held separately at the Annual Meeting at Broadmoor Golf Club on June 3rd.



Vicki Neumann, Flower Show Chair

A VERY SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY!

SAXON HOLT
landscape photographer

February 3rd

9:30 AM – Coffee & Danish

10:00 – 11:30 AM – Presentation
SUNSET CLUB (LIBRARY)

\$20

Presentation to our group will highlight his photographic work. He will present some of his own favorite photos of gardens and discuss why they work for him, along with discussing his techniques.

janeharder@comcast.net (206-361-7675)

Please send check for \$20 to:

Jane H. Harder
500 NW 137th Street
Seattle, WA 98177
(payable to Jane H. Harder)

PHOTOGRAPHY NEWS

JUST-FOR-THE-FUN-OF-IT!
FOR ALL!!

“VISIONS OF A WINTER GARDEN A WINTER LANDSCAPE”

We are hoping to see lots of “point & shoot” photos for our
JUST-FOR-THE-FUN-OF-IT
photo exhibit on March 1st at our HORT meeting!

If you have a “point & shoot” camera, just select landscape or close-up on your camera's program, and click away. Choose your favorite image at your local photo kiosk and ask for an 8x10 enlargement. Information regarding required mounting will be available at this month's General Meeting. If you need additional help, contact Jane Harder or any member of the Photography Committee.

Submit your mounted photo to Noreen Frink
by February 24th.

“Point & shoot” photos by those not on the Photography Committee will be displayed on a special board. Images by Photography Committee members may be monochromatic or in color and will be displayed separately.

Questions? Jane Harder (206-361-7675)
Sis Woodside (206-324-1928)

SGC Photographers in the Field...



HAVE FUN & GET CREATIVE WITH YOUR PHOTOS! Kathy Lea shares photos from the desert. The beautiful cactus photo speaks for itself. The La Quinta “fantastical garden” photo on the left has been computer manipulated. Kathy has used many photo programs to achieve a variety of results. Save a copy of your photo and then experiment with an editing program. You needn't purchase an elaborate program. Many cameras and computers come with photo editing software. Google Picasa 3 <http://picasa.google.com/> is highly rated and is FREE and easy to download to your computer. The secret is to be willing to experiment with it. If you've saved a copy of your photo, there is no reason to worry that you will lose it during the process. Try it! You may discover a new talent!

MILLER LIBRARY AT UWBG/CUH

We have a wonderful resource at our fingertips! You need not have any special borrowing privileges to enjoy the fabulous collection of horticultural books and references at the Miller Library. They have a wide variety of books, videos, and DVDs, as well as other resources, programs, and services both in the library and at www.millerlibrary.org.

The Miller Library serves both the public and the UW community, but less than 10% of their operating budget comes from state funding. They rely on their patrons and other private donors to support Story Time family programs, the Plant Answer Line, and a collection of over 15,000 books and 500 magazines on horticulture. As was announced at our last Hort meeting, one way you can support them is donating your gently used gardening books for their early April book sale.

For more information about the Library and upcoming events, please take a look at this link:
http://depts.washington.edu/hortlib/calendar/news_events.shtml

Her Garden

Not at the full moon will she pick those flowers
For sudden shade indoors would make them wilt.
The petals would drop down on polished wood
Adding another element to decay
Which all her old rooms are infected with.

Only outside she can put off the course
Of her disease. She has the garden built
Within high walls so no one can intrude.
When people pass she only hears the way
Their footsteps sound, never their closer breath.

But in her borders she observes the powers
Of bud and branch, forgetting how she felt
When, blood within her veins like sap, she stood,
Her arms like branches bare above the day
And all the petals strewn along her path.

No matter now for she has bridged the pause
Between fruition and decay. She'll halt
A little in her garden while a mood
Of peace so fills her that she cannot say
Whether it is the flowers' life or her death.

Elizabeth Jennings

YEARBOOK UPDATES

Please update your Yearbook to reflect the following:

E-mail change: **Mrs. Hugh J. Fitzgerald - seattlefitz@gmail.com**
Address change: **Mrs. William R. Plunkett, 900 University St.,
Apt. 11E, Seattle, WA 98101
deirdreplunkett@gmail.com**

MEMBER NAMETAGS

**If anyone is in need of a nametag,
please contact Hotie Hard,
our new Nametag Supervisor.
206-524-1346**

GCA HAPPENINGS



New Year's Resolution?

Often I make the resolution this time of year to eat more fresh vegetables and fruit, breathe more fresh air and drink lots and lots of fresh, clean water. If this is part of your new outlook for 2010, The Garden Club of America's pamphlet about "Drinking Water Safety" may be of interest to you. It outlines pollutants and chemicals that can get into water systems, offers ideas that gardeners can do to deter pollution in drinking water, as well as avenues for testing both urban and rural water systems. It also addresses the complicated issue of bottled water. The pamphlet is available on the GCA website. Click on "pamphlets" and you will easily find it. Happy drinking in 2010!

Carey Davis Abbott

Also, of note: The GCA web site has been undergoing quite a renovation. If you haven't visited it lately, please do!
www.gcamerica.org

EcoTips

Whatever goes down your drain eventually ends up in Puget Sound. Not all storm and waste water enters the treatment center. Even if it goes through the treatment center, harmful chemicals are not completely filtered out. Three easy things for you to do to help preserve our Sound:

1. Don't use chlorine bleach in your washing machines
2. Don't throw unused medicines down your toilet
3. Don't use detergent that has phosphorous in it



Cappy Rooks

Looking Ahead...

- Jan. 26 **Hort Committee Meeting**
Debbi Wilson's - 10:00am
- Feb. 1 **Hort Meeting @ UWBG/CUH**
9:30am Coffee; 10:00am Program
Streissguths - "In Love with a Hillside Garden"
- Feb. 3 **Saxon Holt, Landscape Photographer**
Sunset Club, 9:30am; \$20
Contact Jane Harder to register
- Feb. 8 **Board Meeting**
Sunset Club; 10:00am
- Feb. 18 **SGC General Meeting @ UWBG/CUH**
Guests welcome!
Speaker Jana Dilly
9:30 Coffee; 10:00 Meeting;
10:30 Speaker

- Mar. 1 **Hort Meeting**
Provisional Talk: Dabney Rohrbach
"Scent" in the Garden; UWBG/CUH
9:30am Coffee; 10:00 Program
Committee Chairs: Budget info due to Patsy Pattison
- Mar. 15 **Board Meeting**
Sunset Club; 10:00a.m.
- Mar. 18 **Flower Arranging @ UWBG/CUH**
Guests welcome!
Show preparation
9:30am Coffee; 10:00 Meeting; 10:30 Program
Following the meeting there will be a tour of Union Bay natural area ("The Fill") with master birder, Connie Sidles.



ARE YOU READY TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL?

If you are currently receiving this newsletter via U.S. Mail, and are ready to receive it via e-mail, just let me know. We are always happy to reduce expenses!

Suzette de Turenne, Communications Committee Chair



Seattle Garden Club

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