



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

www.seattlegardenclub.org

March 2010



GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, March 18, 2010

"MEDITERRANEAN MEDLEY"

Flower Arranging, Horticulture and Photography

In preparation for our flower show, a pictorial visit to the Mediterranean highlighting the principles and elements of design presented by Prudence Hammett

Guests Welcome!

UWBG/CUH - 9:30 coffee, 10:00 meeting, 10:30 program

Please RSVP by Friday, March 12 - YES or NO

to Iris Wagner 206-322-7565 or

igarden@comcast.net



Following the meeting there will be a tour of Union Bay natural area ("The Fill") with master birder, Connie Sidles.

Come prepared for the weather and walking! Bring a sack lunch if you choose!

AT A GLANCE

events of note coming soon

Mar. 1 Hort Meeting @ UWBG/CUH
9:30am Coffee; 10:00 Program

Committee Chairs: Budget info due to Patsy Pattison patsy@pdrweb.net

Mar. 15 Board Meeting
Sunset Club; 10:00a.m.

Mar. 18 Flower Arranging General Meeting
@ UWBG/CUH
9:30am Coffee; 10:00 Meeting;
10:30 Program

Tour of Union Bay natural area

HORT MEETING

A treat for the senses!

Monday, March 1st

Not one, but TWO Provisional Talks!

UWBG/CUH - 9:30 Coffee/10:00 Program

Dabney Rohrbach presents

"Scent in the Garden"

Carey Abbott presents

"Sound in the Garden"

PLUS,

An all-member Photo Exhibit AND bring your camellias for a casual display!



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I just returned from the Northwest Flower and Garden Show which inspired me to start getting my garden ready for spring which is just around the corner. Time to mulch, cut back the ferns and epimedium and install some new plants.

We are very proud of our members, Diana Neely and Pam Green. Diana has been appointed Chair of the GCA Judging Committee and Pam has been chosen as the Chair of the GCA Visiting Gardens Committee. Congratulations to both of them.

Congratulations are also in order for Juliet Romano. Juliet is the author of an article explaining the nature of the SGC "Green Thumbs" Blog on our website. The article is featured in the current GCA *ConWatch* publication on page 16.

You will be receiving a ballot to vote on a Founder's Fund recipient at our March 18th meeting. This is the only GCA award that can be voted on by each and every member of the 199 GCA clubs.

In March, sign-up sheets will be passed around asking which committees you would like to join next year. Each committee is unique and interesting and I encourage each of you to join the committee of your choice and be part of the excitement of our wonderful Garden Club. Happy spring!

Hope Stroble, President

BUDGETS DUE MARCH 1ST!

Get your facts and figures together!
Committee Budget proposals due by March 1st! Send to Patsy Pattison at patsy@pdrweb.net.

GCA HAPPENINGS

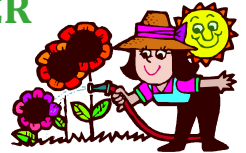


There is not a better marriage than that of butterflies and gardens. Recognizing this as well as honoring its mission to support civic, horticultural projects, The Garden Club of America gave the Smithsonian the Butterfly Habitat Garden. In 2000, a GCA Founder's Fund gift was awarded to the Smithsonian that significantly upgraded the Washington D.C. butterfly garden. Thanks to GCA this lovely interactive garden now displays plants that attract the insects and includes tasteful educational signs. There are four distinct habitats that visitors can wander through enjoying plants and butterflies that may land on arms and legs!

It's a wonderful way to celebrate spring in our nation's capital...or summer, or any season, for that matter! Tours are available, and admission is free. The garden is located not far from the National Mall.

Carey Davis Abbott

GARDENER'S CORNER



Thoughts for March

- Cut off old fern fronds and cut back epimedium to a few inches.
- Cut lavenders back halfway to dead stems
- Plant camellias, blueberries, raspberries and virus-free strawberries.
- Refresh or start lawns. Mow, thatch, aerate and apply fertilizer (that does not have weed killers in the mix.) Fill in bare spots by roughing up the soil and sowing seed.
- Divide perennials that bloom after mid-June (black-eyed Susan, chrysanthemums, purple coneflower, Shasta daisies.)
- Patrol for slugs, as always!
- Sow seeds of hardy annuals: sweet peas, bachelor buttons, larkspur, coreopsis, candy-tuft, sweet alyssum, lupine.
- February through May is the best time to fertilize trees and shrubs. Conifers, rhodies and azaleas benefit from acid-based fertilizers. Other landscape plants can generally use standard 5-10-10 formulations.

Janet Footh

CONSERVATION REPORT

Spring Cleaning It's that time of year again. When you get the urge to clear out clutter this spring, refer to this list of resources which will help you **give, sell, or recycle** your unwanted 'treasures', so that none of them end up in the landfill in Arlington, Oregon near the banks of the Columbia River.

In that vein, learn the GCA's position on "**Responsible Waste Reduction**" – another Position Paper from the NAL and Conservation Committees of the GCA. It's what your club is advocating for in Washington, DC!



- 1) **Give: -Freecycle** – <http://www.freecycle.org/> A worldwide gifting movement that reduces waste, saves precious resources & eases the burden on our landfills while enabling 'members' to benefit from the strength of a larger community. As a result, we are currently keeping over 500 tons a day out of landfills! Joining (free) allows you to give and get things for free.
- 2) **Sell: Craigslist** <http://seattle.craigslist.org/>
- 3) **Recycle:**
 - **King County Take-it-Back Network:** The Take it Back Network is a partnership among government agencies, retailers, repair shops, charitable organizations and recyclers that provides consumers with options for recycling certain wastes – and their hazardous components – in a safe and cost effective manner.
<http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/takeitback/index.asp>
 - **E-Cycle Washington** - Washington has a FREE, convenient and environmentally responsible recycling program for computers, monitors, laptops and televisions. <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/eproductrecycle/>
 - **Real Simple Magazine: How to Recycle Anything** <http://www.realsimple.com/home-organizing/organizing/tips-techniques/recycle-anything-00000000006117/index.html>
 - **Goods for the Planet (Recycling electronics, etc AND responsible shopping!)**
<http://www.goodsfortheplanet.com/> 525 Dexter Avenue North Seattle, WA 98109 (206) 652-2327
- 4) **Reduce! - Come hear Annie Leonard**, creator of The Story of Stuff at Town Hall on Wednesday, March 24th at 7:30. www.thestoryofstuff.com
 - **Reduce your junk mail** <http://environment.about.com/od/greenlivingdesign/a/junkmail.htm>

Position Paper:

GCA SUPPORTS RESPONSIBLE WASTE REDUCTION

The Garden Club of America supports legislative initiatives that will encourage conservation of this country's natural resources and reduce our industrial and municipal waste. GCA advocates legislation to encourage environmentally safe and cost effective toxic source reduction as a key strategy for reducing U.S. dependence on increasingly costly waste disposal options: landfills, incineration and inappropriate ocean dumping.

GCA supports legislation that will encourage businesses to make safe and long-lasting products from renewable sources and legislation that will promote recycling, emphasizing development of new uses and markets for recycled materials.

The Garden Club of America advocates legislation that would:

- Establish guidelines at all levels of government that promote reduction of waste at the source by favoring minimum or reusable packaging, fewer disposables and less toxic, more durable products.
- Reduce tax deductions and government subsidies to logging, mining, petrochemical and other industrial users of depletable resources in order to remove the price advantage given to virgin materials.
- Provide incentives to encourage industries to reuse and recycle the products they produce.
- Establish guidelines for the minimum recycled content of newly manufactured paper, plastic, glass, metal products, packaging and fertilizer.
- Establish uniform labeling standards and definitions for recycled content and hazardous components
- Encourage identification and proper disposal of toxic materials, and provide adequate funding for cleanup.

Announcements

- Everyone is welcome to join the guided tour of the 'the fill' after our general meeting on March 18th, beginning at 12:30. Our guide will be Master Birder and author Connie Sidles.
- Save the Date: The Wetherill Work Party will be on April 22nd, Earth Day!

Juliet Romano, Conservation Chair

GARDEN HISTORY & DESIGN

On January 27th I was fortunate to attend the Garden History and Design Committee Zone Meeting in Pasadena, held at the Huntington Gardens. We were reminded of the wonderful resource book, Landscape Design, A Cultural and Architectural History written by Elizabeth Barlow Rogers, who spoke recently at a GCA Annual Meeting, and created the new New York Conservancy Garden in Central Park.

We were encouraged to visit the website of The Cultural Landscape Foundation - <http://tclf.org/>. The Foundation identifies and works to save landscapes that "provide a sense of place and identity...that map our relationship with the land over time...and are part of our national heritage and each of our lives." Freeway Park in Seattle is featured on the website.

We were also given a link that takes you directly to a page of the Smithsonian's website where garden features are organized together – for example, you can click on "Sundials", and see all the photos in the archives that include sundials; or you could check out "Woodland Gardens". It's a great resource. Here is the link: <http://sirismm.si.edu/siris/aagtop.htm>

Our GH&D Committee has been working hard to complete our first book of documented gardens of SGC members – this book will consist of those gardens that have been previously documented for the Smithsonian. Photographers are teamed up and ready to take portraits of each gardener. Simultaneously, photographers are scheduling photo sessions with a dozen members and their gardens for our second book, to be ready by June 2011. The goal is to make this an annual project, eventually recording all our members and their gardens.

Deborah Cheadle, Chair

VISITING GARDENS

SGC VISITING GARDENS PRESENTS

A Field Trip to the Portland Garden Club's Major Flower Show "INSPIRATIONS 2010"

Please join us for a day trip by car to Portland
on Saturday, May 1

The show has a western theme, honoring 100 years of the Pendleton Round Up and will be held at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland. Every class has a clever western name and the exhibits promise to be equally clever!

For more information, please contact Laurie Riley,
laurieriley@msn.com, 206-325-2514
or Hope Stroble hopestroble@hotmail.com, 206 364 6694 or
sign up at upcoming Hort and General meetings.

WETHERILL WORK PARTY

Our next Wetherill Work Party is scheduled on Earth Day, **Thursday, April 22, 2010.**

Michael O'Byrne is all set to have us arrive at 9:30 a. m., work for two hours and then go to the Hunts Point Town Hall for our potluck lunch. He has invited the Mayor of Yarrow Point and is going to also ask the Mayor of Hunts Point. He is delighted we want to come work again.



Currently Showing in a Garden Near You!

Wade Garretson shares these photos from her garden: *stranvaesia*, species undulate (red berries), and *helleborus orientalis*.

Be alert for any sudden, hard freeze and protect your plants if necessary!

Share your photos - they are appreciated!

Suzette de Turenne

sdeturenne@comcast.net



PHOTOGRAPHY NEWS

PHOTO EXHIBIT MARCH 1ST
JUST-FOR-THE-FUN-OF-IT!
FOR ALL SGC MEMBERS!!

Photo exhibit on March 1st at our HORT meeting!

Depending on when you are reading this, you may still have time to submit your mounted favorite photo to Noreen Frink by February 24th

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

Next photography event will be in conjunction with our "Mediterranean Medley" Flower Show

The Photography portion of the show will be held on June 3rd at our Annual Meeting.

Registration opened on February 19th for your choice of one of three categories:

- Class 1: The Mystique of the Market
(Mary Turner, Class Consultant)
- Class 2: Wonders of Water
(Suzette de Turenne, Class Consultant)
- Class 3 & 4: Explorations of Light : Color & Monochromatic
(Charlee Reed, Class Consultant)
- Class 5: Plants of the Mediterranean
(Catherine Allan, Class Consultant)

For those who wish to enter a 2nd category, registration will open on March 18th for any remaining openings.

You need not be a member of the Photography Committee.

As space limitations will not be an issue at this show, ALL SGC MEMBERS are encouraged to participate!

CENTER FOR URBAN HORTICULTURE - OF INTEREST -

Anna Pavord, Author of "Bulb"

Tuesday, March 23, NHS Hall @ CUH
3501 NE 41st St. Seattle, WA 98105

Fee: \$15

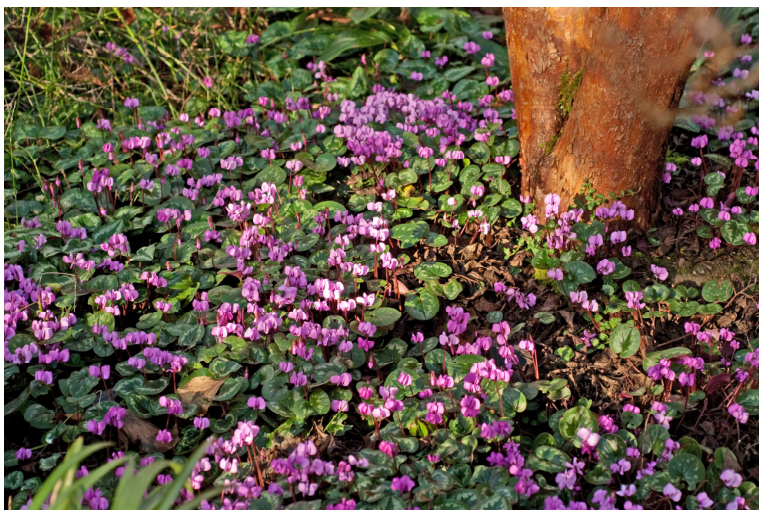
Pre-register to reserve your space
206-685-2590

Anna Pavord has written the A - Z of bulbs, covering more bulbs than most gardeners can grow in a lifetime. *Publishers Weekly* says Pavord's new book is "an astonishing bouquet of economic and cultural lore, grand historic trends and horticultural exotics." In this talk she will introduce some of her favorites and suggest how they might be used in a garden. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

SGC Photographers in the Field...



Sun Valley sunrise by Charlee Reed



Cyclamen carpet by Mary Turner



Brooklyn Botanical Garden by Debby Smith

HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE

The "GCA" daffodil, named in honor of the GCA's Centennial, is being offered for sale at special bulk order prices prior to July 1. Our Committee felt that it would be a lovely addition to our Fragrance Garden as well as to our own gardens. **Watch for the opportunity to order yours as part of a SGC bulk order!**

All members are encouraged to bring camellias for a *Just For Fun* display. It will be a meeting of variety: scent, sound, and ...sight - the Photography Committee's photo show. Don't miss it.

Debbi Wilson, Hort Committee Chair

SGC IN THE COMMUNITY



In 2006 the SGC made a three-year pledge to the Seattle Art Museum's Olympic Sculpture Park Vivarium Nurse Log for \$50,000. After three years the log is healthy and thriving, indeed slugs are reproducing and a salamander was found just recently making its home on the log. Each year a group of volunteer's returns to the site where the log was originally found and picks up leaf litter, moss and small plants to rejuvenate the log. The Vivarium has a rain collection system for watering which has reduced their dependence on city water by three quarters.

Visiting hours are from 10 am - 4 pm Tuesday thru Sunday and is now fully staffed by eager volunteers. International visitors, school groups and conservation organizations visit often, but the majority of visitors just wander in while visiting the Sculpture Park. Midge Williams of the Seattle Art Museum urges our members to visit and to consider volunteering. She can be contacted at 206-332-1308 or midgew@seattleartmuseum.org.

Laurie Ahern, Chair

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



REMINDERS:

- *Mediterranean Medley* will be held Thursday, May 20th, at the home of Pam and Jay Green (Flower Arranging & Hort only)
- Cocktail party for members, husbands and guests following show
- The Photography division will be held separately at the Annual Meeting at Broadmoor Golf Club on June 3rd.

Garden from the Ground Up with New Book

Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, WSU's Extension Urban Horticulturist and Associate Professor in the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, spoke at a SGC General meeting in October 2008, delving into the scientific basis for practices such as fertilizing, mulching and root washing prior to transplanting. Along with 20 of the area's most respected authorities in the field, she has just produced a new book titled *Sustainable Landscapes and Gardens: good science - practical application*.



Initially conceived as a text book for the Master Gardener program, the book is well organized and clearly written with excellent illustrations and photographs.

Available only through Chalker-Scott, more information on the authors, contents and instructions for ordering it are available at: www.sustainablelandscapesandgardens.com.

Priced as a text book, it currently sells for \$39 (plus tax and shipping) and will increase to \$49 after April 1.

Jenny Wyatt

**Now 'tis the spring,
and weeds are shallow-rooted;
Suffer them now and they'll
o'ergrow the garden.**

William Shakespeare

FOUNDERS FUND AWARD FINALISTS - BE PREPARED TO VOTE!

The information below was distributed at our February General Meeting to those in attendance. On March 18th, at our next General Meeting, we will all be asked to vote for the recipient of our choice. This is important to GCA and the Finalists, so please take time to acquaint yourself with each. **"All are encouraged to read the longer description of each Founders Fund Project as they are more fully described in the GCA Bulletin, February, March 2010 Edition."** Thank you - Sue Blethen



2010 FOUNDERS FUND AWARD FINALISTS

~ Vote for One ~

To be voted on by each and every GCA clubs' members.

Each club's results are due to GCA Headquarters no later than April 1, 2010.

The award of \$25,000 will be presented to the winner at the Annual Meeting in New Brunswick, NJ, May 14, 2010. Runners-up will receive \$7,500 each.

Training + Trees: Restoring New Haven's Urban Canopy

New Haven, CT Zone II

Proposed by The Garden Club of New Haven Seconded by The Litchfield Garden Club

The objective is to plant 1,000 trees in New Haven in 2010, where approximately 500 trees are lost per year. The Founders Fund Award would provide salaries for a GreenSkills Manager who will oversee the program and its expansion, for Yale Forestry Graduate Students skilled in species selection who will conduct the training, and for stipends for apprentices and high school students. An at-risk population will be stabilized and the tree canopy will be restored, greatly enhancing the urban community as well as improving the beauty and health of the environment.

Planting Native Trees at *Storm King Wavefield*

Storm King Art Center, Mountainville, NY Zone III

Proposed by Ulster Garden Club Seconded by Garden Club of Orange and Dutchess Counties

This project combines issues of conservation and horticulture with the opportunity to participate in the completion of an earth-work sculpture – *Wavefield* - by the acclaimed artist and environmentalist Maya Lin, designer of the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in Washington, DC. The 11-acre *Wavefield* is comprised of 7 monumental rows of undulating hills evoking 15' ocean waves. The Founders Fund Award would provide for the purchase and planting of trees to transform a bare field overlooking the *Wavefield* into a forest canopy. All trees will be native to New York and appropriate to the upland site.

The Urban Farm and Produce Stand

Wilmington, DE Zone V

Proposed by Garden Club of Wilmington Seconded by West Chester Garden Club of PA

In its first year (2009), the urban farm provided the opportunity for 13 families, bridging 3 generations, to grow and harvest their own fresh organic produce. The produce stand is managed by *Camp Fresh* inner-city youth who are community spokespeople for healthy lifestyle choices. The Founders Fund Award would provide essential dedicated resources for staff and volunteers to expand food production by building more raised beds to involve more families, to build a hoophouse to extend the growing season and enable farmers to start their own seedlings, to build a tool shed and to develop a business plan for the farm's produce stand.

Looking Ahead...

- Mar. 1 **Hort Meeting**
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**
Prudence Hammett
Guests welcome!
9:30am Coffee; 10:00 Meeting; 10:30 Program
Tour of Union Bay natural area ("The Fill")
with master birder, Connie Sidles

- Apr. 5 **Hort Meeting**
Provisional Talk: Kristi Ratzlaff
"Taste" in the Garden; UWBG/CUH
9:30am Coffee; 10:00 Program
- Apr. 21 **Tacoma Joint Meeting**
(note change from date in Yearbook)
- Apr. 22 **Wetherill Work Party**, 9:30am
Potluck lunch following
- May 1 Day trip to Portland Flower Show
- May 20 **"Mediterranean Medley" Flower Show** at
Pam Green's (note change from date in
Yearbook)



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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