



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

www.seattlegardenclub.org

April 2010



SEATTLE/TACOMA JOINT MEETING

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

"PAUL STAMETS"

DEDICATED MYCOLOGIST

This visionary man will share his passion for fungi; discuss the evolution of mushrooms in ecosystems; how fungi can help heal environments by replacing insecticides and breaking down toxic wastes; and how medicinal mushrooms have the power to heal.

10:30 Coffee; 11:00 Speaker; 12:00 Luncheon

Tacoma Country and Golf Club

13204 Country Club Dr SW, Lakewood, WA 98498

(From I-5 South, take Exit 124 for Gravelly Lake Drive;
turn RIGHT at Gravelly Lake Drive SW/Nyanza Rd SW;
continue to follow Gravelly Lake Dr SW;

Take the 1st LEFT onto Country Club Dr SW; destination will be on the left)



Please RSVP by Friday, April 14th - YES or NO

to Sis Woodside (206)324-1928 or sischet@comcast.net

If you do not subscribe to the hostess fund, please send \$22 to Sis at
1527 Shenandoah Drive E. - Seattle, WA 98112

Carpools will organize at 9:30am at three separate locations:
Seattle Golf Club, Seattle Tennis Club & BJ Anderson's

AT A GLANCE

events of note this month

Apr. 5 **Hort Meeting**
UWBG/CUH
9:30am Coffee; 10am Program

Apr. 7 **Children's Play Garden Field Trip**
10:30am

Apr. 8 **Community Projects Meeting**
10am @ Laurie Ahern's

Apr. 12 **Board Meeting**
10am @ The Sunset Club

Apr. 14 **Photography Meeting**
9:30am @ Juliet Romano's

Apr. 21 **Tacoma Joint Meeting**
(note change from date in Yearbook)

Apr. 22 **Wetherill Work Party**, 9:30am
Potluck lunch following



FROM THE PRESIDENT

The garden club is percolating with all kinds of activities this month. I believe all of us are itching to see some warmer weather and do some major digging in the dirt!

Catherine Roach, Barbara Anderson and I met with the staff of UWBG to renegotiate our office lease which expires in June after 25 years of rent-free usage. We also discussed our maintenance contract for the Fragrance Garden which expires this June. In the next month or so we should conclude these negotiations.

I am pleased to announce that Iris Wagner has been designated as the GCA National Chairman of the Visiting Gardens Committee. Congratulations, Iris!

Catherine Allan has been busy getting commitments for wonderful speakers and Trudy Baldwin is securing meeting venues for all of our general meetings next year. Dinah Hutchinson presented to the Board a great list of new provisionals and the invitations have been sent. Burnley Snyder did a stellar job of creating a new slate of officers and standing committee chairs for next year which you all will have the opportunity to vote on at the Annual Meeting. The complete list is presented in this Newsletter.

Many thanks to Prudence Hammett for an outstanding program at our March General meeting on the elements and principles of design to be considered when doing a flower arrangement or creating a photograph. I hope all of you flower arrangers and "to-be" flower arrangers and photographers are excited to participate in our flower show in May and June. Prudence makes it look so simple and fun!

Hope Stroble, President

RELAXED AFTER A JOB WELL-DONE!



*Member Betty Bottler, left, with
Provisional Carey Abbott*



*Member Carol Eland, right, with
Provisional Dabney Rohrbach*

ANNUAL YEARBOOK UPDATE "the green book"

- You will soon be receiving a mailing from Patsy Pattison requesting your annual dues, as well as any updates to the Yearbook regarding address, phone, cell or e-mail address.
- We are still mailing 59 copies of our newsletter to our members. We ask that those of you who have e-mail addresses, but currently receive the newsletter by U.S. Mail, consider changing to e-mail in order to reduce waste and expense!
- Also, in this cell phone era, please consider listing your cell phone in the Yearbook as well. Thank you!

HORT MEETING

(please note change in Program)

Monday, April 5th

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

Chris Caviezel

(recently featured in the Seattle Times)

"How to Attract Hummingbirds"



CONSERVATION REPORT

Annual Wetherill Clean Up and Potluck '10 on Earth Day!
Please join us on **Thursday, April 22nd from 9:30-11:30.**



Michael O'Byrne is all set to have us arrive at 9:30am, 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. Come dressed for the weather and **bring your own gloves and tools** (pruners, loppers, etc) as well as a dish to share afterwards.

Background on Wetherill for newer members: In 1989 Marjorie Baird (member SGC...and creator of the 'Baird' board!) and her sister Sidonia Foley bequeathed sixteen acres of prime property - originally purchased by their grandfather, Seattle financier Jacob Furth - to the towns of Yarrow Point and Hunts Point to protect, in perpetuity, the land from development and to preserve its wildlife and native plants. The sisters dedicated the Preserve to their mother, Sidonia Furth Wetherill, and their father, Army Colonel, Alexander Wetherill. Marjorie Wetherill Baird died October 30, 2004, at the age of 92.

Directions: The Wetherill Nature Preserve, located between Hunts and Yarrow Point, can be entered from a path leading from NE 33rd Street on Yarrow Point and from the Town Hall and Fairweather Park on Hunt's Point Lane off of 84th Ave NE, Hunts Point, WA.

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&hl=en&saddr=&daddr=Hunts+Point+Lane%2C+Hunts+Point%2C+WA+98004%2C+us>

NAL Highlights

(GCA's annual National Affairs and Legislation Conference):

The conference consists of two full days of learning followed by a morning of meetings that we each prearranged with our legislators or their aides.

The focus this year was on:

- Urging the Senate to pass similar **legislation on energy and climate change** that was passed by the House last summer (HR 2454 America Clean Energy and Security Act). There is a possible new bill being generated by Senators Kerry, Graham, and Lieberman this spring. GCA wants to support clean, safe, renewable energy production. The GCA also supports the EPA's budget needs and its ability to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act.
- Urging legislators to support a possible impending executive order by President Obama to protect, **maintain and restore the health of our oceans**. (I kept thinking about our symposium last spring!) For more information on this, and a form to send to President Obama showing your support for an executive order, go to: <https://secure.nrdonline.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=1745> Click on: "Learn more about this issue" for a succinct summary! GCA supports ratification by the US of the United Nations Law of the Sea Treaty. The US is the only country that has not signed it.
- Urging legislators to fully fund the **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**. LWCF is the premier federal funding source for land conservation. Since it was enacted in 1965, the LWCF has been fully funded only once (during the Clinton years). President Obama is committed to reaching the \$900 million full funding level over the next five years.

We heard from a wide range of speakers: John Broder, reporter for the NY Times, Rob Perks from the NRDC (National Resource Defense Council), two members of the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative, three congressmen, three senators, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, author Larry Schweiger (and Pres. of National Wildlife Federation)...and my favorite – Gina McCarthy from the EPA. My head is still spinning!

Don't forget to check out the blog, GREEN THUMBS for conservation news and stories, including an update on The Great Sunflower Project to help protect our native honeybee population. http://web.me.com/julietromano/SGC_Conservation_Blog/Green_Thumbs.../Green_Thumbs....html Or go to our website and click on Green Thumbs from there. http://seattlegardenclub.org/Garden_Club_Public/Welcome.html

Juliet Romano, Conservation Chair

PHOTOGRAPHY COMMITTEE

"SHOOTING FOR COMPETITION"



MANY THANKS to our photographers who participated in our "just-for-the-fun-of-it" photography exhibit. We had some wonderful photos to share with the members.

All are welcome to join us at **JULIET ROMANO'S on APRIL 14TH** to "RE-view" our exhibit. We will start at 9:30 and conclude around Noon. We will have time to talk about our photos AND enjoy special guest speaker, Dave Johanson, from the Mountaineer Photography Committee. Dave will give a slide presentation, "**Shooting for Competition**", offering photography tips for our show on June 3rd at the Annual Meeting.

PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW SIGN UP: Registration is now open for any photographer who would like to sign up for a 2nd entry in any class other than the one in which you have already entered.

There are openings in:

Class 2: The Wonders of Water (color)

Class 3: Explorations of Light (color)

Class 4: Explorations of Light (monochromatic)

Email: janeharder@comcast.net to enter.

Jane Harder, Chair

HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE

Once again, we had an outstanding Monday Hort Meeting of two Provisional talks. Dabney Rohrbach presented an historic and colorful talk on, "*Scent in the Garden*," complete with fragrant specimens from the garden. Our second speaker, Carey Abbott, gave an audio/visual presentation to highlight the, "*Sounds in the Garden*." Both shows were well researched and delivered with poise and humor. Adding to the spirit of the morning, our refreshment volunteers brought flowers and delicious food for our enjoyment. FYI, the UWBG scheduling coordinator, Clara Peterson, has been immensely helpful to our presenters and me this year.

For our APRIL 5 meeting, we have a special treat: Chris Caviezel will speak on "*How to Attract Hummingbirds*" to our gardens. He was featured in the Seattle Times last April. For more information about Chris, visit his website: www.hummingbirdsonly.com You will find the link to the article there.

April is the time that many of our daffodils will be in bloom, so I encourage you to bring your blooms in a container for our Show and Tell table.

Our final Monday Hort Meeting, MAY 3, will have a full agenda: Provisional, Kristi Ratzlaff will speak on, "*Taste in the Garden*," AND, the Hort Committee will entertain you with an abbreviated workshop on "*How to Put your Best Bloom Forward*."

*I urge you to plan now to enter the May 20 Flower Show. It is a casual affair, and a perfect opportunity for you to practice entering a show. There are places open for entries in *Baird Boards* and *Pot et Fleurs* Classes. All other Classes are unlimited and waiting for your wonderful specimens. We need your support in order to host another spectacular Show. Horticulture Class registration forms will be available at the Monday Hort meetings.*

I spoke with the vendor for the beautiful GCA Centennial Daffodil. The cost of a single order is - 10 bulbs for \$15 plus \$9.00 shipping and handling. If there is an order totaling an amount greater than \$75, the shipping cost is 15% of the value of the order, a better deal. I can take a bulk order for the club members, but will first consult with my committee and let you know how best to accomplish this. If we order and pay before JULY 1, we can get 10% off.

This month's Quiz Question:

What fruits are traditionally blended with ground meat, melted animal fat, kneaded into a paste, and packed into sausage casings for a high energy camping snack?

a. lingonberries b. jonathan apples c. serviceberries d. plantain bananas

Debbi Wilson, Hort Chair

SGC IN THE COMMUNITY

The grant request made by The Bloedel Reserve was unanimously approved at the February general meeting of the SGC. The request was for \$20,000 to restore and improve their Japanese Garden and surrounding areas. That landscape is overgrown or thinning, paths are inaccessible to some guests and crucial restoration work is needed to return the garden to its former splendor. The initial endowment given by our own former members Virginia and Prentice Bloedel has diminished over the years. The Reserve as a whole is undergoing a change in direction opening with no reservations, engaging the Bainbridge community, sponsoring lectures, concerts and school groups. This is a pivotal time for the Seattle Garden Club to be involved.

I have received hearty thanks from the Associate Director, Edward Moydell and Acting Director, C. David Hughbanks for our grant. They will be keeping us updated as the work (mostly done in-house) proceeds this spring and summer. They look forward to hosting the SGC this fall to celebrate a revitalized and renewed Japanese Garden.



SEATTLE CHILDREN'S PLAYGARDEN

The SGC has received a grant proposal from the Seattle Children's PlayGarden to help with the installation of their final phase of construction: ornamental gardens. The SCPG is Seattle's newest public garden and it's a garden for kids!

Its goal is to improve the lives of all children, especially those with physical or mental disabilities by providing them with full access to a safe indoor/outdoor recreation space and offering inclusive programs that encourage their potential in a beautiful public garden. Whether on two feet, with a walker or wheelchair, and those who communicate differently, all are able to enjoy digging in the dirt, swinging in the sun or chasing butterflies.

The proposal will help with the creation of a living fence that will encircle the entire site, a butterfly border, turf and shade trees, a large urban orchard, planters and a wild zone garden. Come visit the SCPG with members of the Community Projects Committee on April 7. The tour will begin at 10:30 am at the SCPG at 1740 23rd Ave. S., Seattle. Those who want to carpool will be meeting at Laurie Ahern's at 10 am, 1100 38th Ave. East, Seattle. Please let Laurie know if you are planning on attending: 206-322-6723 or lahern1681@gmail.com.

Note: The Seattle Children's PlayGarden is having an auction on May 22, 2010, from 5-9 pm. Go to www.childrensplaygarden.org for more information.

Laurie Ahern, Chair



VISITING GARDENS

**Reminder: A One-day Field Trip to
Portland Garden Club's
Major Flower Show**

Saturday - May 1

Please contact Laurie Riley,
laurieriley@msn.com, 206-325-2514
or Hope Stroble hopestroble@hotmail.com,
206 364 6694 .

In response to the request from members at our last Hort meeting for information regarding the meadery owned and run by Gretchen Hull's son, Gordon, visit www.heidrunmeadery.com or call toll-free 1-877-HEIDRUN.



"When at last I took the time to look into the heart of a flower, it opened up a whole new world - a world where every country walk would be an adventure, where every garden would become an enchanted one...." **Princess Grace of Monaco**

SGC Nominations Slate for 2010-2012

The Nominations Committee is pleased to present the following slate of Officers and Chairs:

President..... Catherine Roach
 President-Elect..... Laurie Riley
 Recording Secretary..... Traci Tenneson
 Treasurer..... Barbara Anderson
 Flower Arranging..... Cathy Parker
 Horticulture..... Jenny Wyatt
 Meeting Arrangements..... Charlotte Reed
 Photography..... Sis Woodside
 Ways and Means..... Sheila Noonan

Burnley Snyder, Chairman
Phoebe Andrew, Trudy Baldwin, Sis Woodside
Jane Yerkes

IN MEMORIAM



Sustaining Member, Mary Fleming,
was an enthusiastic participant at the
2009 Holiday Luncheon and Auction,
and a member since 1977.



GCA HAPPENINGS

Has over-enthusiasm in the garden this early spring brought aches and pains to your house? Thank GCA for the remedy!!

Like most gardeners, the first blushes of spring in the Pacific Northwest are irresistible and I often find myself digging and clipping, pruning and transplanting with great zest. I am so thrilled to feel the sun on my soggy shoulders and so love to be among the colors of early bulbs and Lenten roses that I ignore my aches or sore back. But when I'm back inside, I often head for the aspirin bottle and maybe a good garden book for the rest of the afternoon!

I was amazed to learn that my aspirin cure is thanks to The Garden Club of America!! The main active ingredient in aspirin is salicylic acid which derived its name from the *salix alba*, or the white willow tree, as it is more commonly known. The ancient Aztecs used the bark of that tree to combat fevers and the flu much like we use aspirin today.

In 1931, a manuscript written by two Aztec doctors, educated in Mexico City at the Santa Cruz College, was discovered in the library of the Vatican. The book was written in 1552 and included both Aztec and Latin text as well as illustrations and medicinal uses of flora, including cures for aches and pains. This incredible manuscript was the first known medical text of flora from the western hemisphere. It became known as the Badianus Manuscript. The Garden Club of America recognized the tremendous importance of this writing and presented the very first Founders Fund Award to the Amateur Gardener's Club of Baltimore to assist in the printing of an English version of the manuscript.

Of course aspirin was already popular in the 1930's and the pills can trace roots from other sources. In addition, salicylic acid is no longer made from willow trees. Yet, there is something very soothing to know GCA had a significant role in the history of those tablets we take for gardening soreness!

Carey Davis Abbott



PLANT EXCHANGE

I have numerous seedling volunteers in my garden that need new homes or else they will be "shovel pruned":

- *Tradescantia virginiana* 'spiderwort' - blue flowers, perennial
- *Styrax japonica* - 4' tree seedling
- *Alchemilla mollis* 'ladies mantle' - perennial
- *Ajuga reptans* - blue flower, ground cover
- *Rubus* - ground cover
- *Katsura* tree - 2' seedling
- *Cornus* 'kousa' dogwood - 3' seedling
- *Hemerocallis* 'daylily' - yellow/orange 3' perennial
- *Crocsmia* - yellow/orange corms

I would like *Acanthus mollis* 'bear's breeches' seedlings, *Campanula* 'carpatica' blue clips and white clips and other low growing campanulas!!

Bring your shovel and some plastic bags! Call or email **Sue Blethen** first! 425.455.5284 or sueblethen@hotmail.com

UWBG CHILE GARDEN TOUR

**WITH DAN HINKLEY &
DR. SARAH REICHARD**

Explore with the best! UWBG presents a "Chile Garden Tour", January 15-30, 2011, led by Dr. Sarah Reichard, Head of Conservation at UWBG & Daniel J. Hinkley, Plantsman: Author, plant collector, lecturer.

Information available on our web site at www.seattlegardenclub.org or call 1.800.451.7111.

YEARBOOK UPDATE

Please update your Yearbook to reflect the following:

Address change: **Mrs. Stanley Minor**
900 University St., #1902
Seattle, WA 98101

Currently Showing in a Garden Near You!



Jane Harder shares her photos from a recent visit to Dunn Gardens. Crocus! The harbingers of spring!

Share your photos - they are appreciated!

Suzette de Turenne
sdeturenne@comcast.net

GARDENER'S CORNER



Thoughts for April

- Finish cleaning up and fertilizing the garden. Weed beds, then spread compost
- Check soaker hoses and irrigation systems.
- Bait, bait, bait! A new crop of slugs and snails are already on the march and hungry!
- Mow the lawn, leaving the clippings on the lawn to break down and add nitrogen. Fertilize late in the month using a 3-1-2 ratio slow-release or a natural organic formulation.
- Plant early outdoor crops of peas, lettuce, beets, leeks, carrots, spinach and onions. Also plant heat-loving annuals of cosmos, asters, marigolds, and zinnias.
- Pot up containers of annuals and perennials. Be sure to use a slow-release fertilizer.
- Blueberries, roses and vegetable gardens need fertilizer (5-10-10) now. In late April, work the fertilizer into soil where you will be planting dahlias in May.

Janet Footh

Looking Ahead...

- May 1 **Day trip to Portland Flower Show**
- May 3 **Hort Meeting @ UWBG/CUH**
Provisional Talk by Kristi Ratzlaff &
Horticulture Entry Preparation for the May
Flower Show; 9:30 Coffee; 10:00 Meeting
- May 17 **Board Meeting @ the Sunset Club; 10:00am**
- May 20 **"Mediterranean Medley" Flower Show at**
Pam Green's - **Hort & Flower Arranging only**
(note change from date in Yearbook)

- June 3 **Annual Meeting & "Mediterranean Medley"**
Photography Show
11:00am @ Broadmoor Golf Club
- June 10 **Annual "In and Out"**
Board Meeting
10:00am - Sunset Club



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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