



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

www.seattlegardenclub.org

November 2010



COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Join us!

Wednesday, November 3rd
10:00am @ Laurie Ahern's

Come see what SGC is up to
in the community!

Open to all who are interested

RSVP to Laurie at
lahern1681@gmail.com

AT A GLANCE

events of note coming soon

- 10/25 **Conservation Field Trip**
Rain Garden Tours/Carkeek Park &
Bastille Restaurant, 2:30pm-5:30pm
- 11/1 **Welcome Aboard!** Flower Show
meeting, 9-10am @ UWBG/CUH
All SGC members welcome!
Flower Arranging @ UWBG/CUH
See info at bottom, right
- 11/3 **Plant Salvage in Kingston** for East
Montlake Park, 8:20am Edmonds
ferry to Noon
**Community Projects Committee
Meeting @ Laurie Ahern's, 10am**
- 11/4 **Board Meeting** at Sunset Club, 10am
- 11/5 **Planting at East Montlake Park**
9am to Noon
- 11/6 **Plant Salvaging** at Back Diamond
and Issaquah; contact Sue Blethen
for details and to RSVP
- 11/9 **Conservation Field Trip**
Mercer Slough, 11am
Photos to Jane Harder or Sis
Woodside for General Meeting
- 11/18 **General Meeting @ UWBG/CUH**
See info at top, right

November General Meeting Thursday, November 18, 2010

Paradise Unpaved

- Soil Conservation -

Anne Bikle, Speaker



Anne and her husband, David Montgomery, are writing a book about their journey to a not-so-very-faraway place, called their backyard and what happened when they made a garden. She will share their surprising discoveries and insights about their encounters with dirt and the transforming effect it had on them as well as on their small, urban lot. The talk will cover the role of soil in making cities livable, boosting people's health and happiness and its potential to help combat climate change.

Guests welcome!

UWBG/CUH - 9:30 coffee, 10:00 meeting, 10:30 program
Includes photography display open to ALL SGC members!

**Please RSVP by Friday, November 12
with a YES or NO**

**to Hope Stroble
hopestroble@hotmail.com (206)364-6694**

FLOWER ARRANGING PROGRAM

Monday, November 1, 2010

**Barbara Hamachek,
our own teacher extraordinaire, presents**

An Ikebana Demonstration

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

Questions? Iris Wagner igarden@comcast.net or 206-322-7565



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Catherine Allan sent me a wonderful email right after our first Hort Meeting. "Wasn't that one for the memory books?" Our "veteran garden gurus' panel" exemplified the "rich resources within our club." How right she was. Lexie Robbins welcomed us into the garden that she and her husband, Zeke, lovingly planted and nurtured for decades. What a joy to listen to Alison Andrews talk about her successes and failures as a horticulturist, all the while disarmingly displaying an easy familiarity with the Latin nomenclature. Barbee Crutcher taught us so much about self-confidently injecting your own personality into a heritage garden...and reminded us how devilishly clever crows are.

After Hort a sizable group went on a field trip to the Burke Museum to see firsthand the centrality of *Thuja plicata* (western red cedar) to the culture of indigenous people in the Pacific Northwest. We viewed clothing, ceremonial masks and a vast store of baskets. Again I was dazzled by our members' scholarship and connoisseurship. Many had obviously undertaken a study of these artifacts and could look at them with a practiced and discerning eye. Barbara Snapp, Wade Garretson, Debby Smith: When and where did you learn all this? I was uncharacteristically silent, admiring but a little intimidated. True confession: I even had to email Jenny Wyatt to ask her the Latin name for western red cedar.

I own up to my insecurities in hopes that each of you will come to our meetings and classes in a spirit of inquiry, safe in our "No Dumb Questions" environment and open and generous with your own abundant knowledge. We are launched on a great adventure. Just look at the line-up of Hort Classes! Very soon you will hold in your hands the schedule for "Welcome Aboard" and another world of exciting opportunities will unfold before you. Keep in your mind's eye Traci's wonderful photograph of Lexie holding in her gardener's hands a freshly laid egg and a passion flower. It is a visual metaphor for SGC at this very moment, our potential and our passion. As Jenny said of Lexie's garden, "there's room for all, nothing is without value, make yourself at home, stay awhile."

Catherine Roach, President



MAKE YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS WREATH



Come join the fun of making
your own beautiful and
customized Christmas wreath with Judy Thomas!

Basetti's Crooked Arbor Nursery - Woodinville
Wednesday, December 8th

A light lunch will be included.
Space is limited, so sign up early!

**Your \$45 check made out to Judy Thomas
will secure your reservation.**

Send check to: Catherine Parker
1823 38th Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112

ATTENTION!

PLEASE RSVP OR ACT NOW!!!

- Laurie Ahern for the **Community Projects Meeting**, 11/3 @ Laurie's, 10am lahern1681@gmail.com
- **Photograph** to Sis Woodside or Jane Harder **by 11/9 for General Meeting**
- Contact Sue Blethen about 11/6 **Plant Salvaging** sueblethen@hotmail.com
- Hope Stroble for the **November General Meeting**, 11/18 @ UWBG/CUH hopestroble@hotmail.com (206)364-6694
- **Send check** for 12/8 **wreath making** to Catherine Parker
- **Make Holiday Auction & Luncheon plans**...donate...invite your guests



**WHERE WILL YOU BE ON THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 2, 2010?**

AT THE SGC HOLIDAY AUCTION AND LUNCHEON, OF COURSE!

GUESTS WELCOME

Woodside-Atherton GC Hosts Zone XII Meeting

It was late morning on September 28 by the time I checked into my hotel in Palo Alto and went in search of the Zone XII registration desk. The temperature was soaring into the nineties. Groups of likely delegates were sitting around the pool sipping iced tea before going inside to get down to business. Right away I could spot our hostesses, members of the Woodside-Atherton GC wearing khakis, green aprons and signature scarves. For the next two days they seemed to be everywhere. Their welcome was warm and their crisp efficiency was cloaked in a genteel charm. They were organized. They spoke to us with poise and self-confidence. They had done their homework. They put on a terrific meeting. They looked like it was the most fun they had ever had. You would want to know every single one of them.

I have already told you that Alison Andrews, Noreen Frink, Diana Neely, Jo Anne Rosen and I were there from SGC and that Alison, Diana and I simply basked in Noreen and Jo Anne's reflected glory. Of course it is easy to let the Awards Banquet swallow up all that preceded it. In fact the banquet was just the celebration that put an exclamation mark at the end of an action-packed day and a half. The easy blend of Zone XII business, compelling speakers, garden tours and gracious hospitality left no doubt that GCA takes seriously its stated purpose to "share the advantages of association."

Though there were constant reminders that the love of gardening is the common bond that unites us, Woodside-Atherton chose to put conservation front and center. The theme of the conference was water and in particular its scarcity in most of the West. The keynote speaker was David M. Kennedy, a Pulitzer-Prize-winning author, native of Seattle and history professor at Stanford. (It seemed to me that the aura of Stanford illuminated all the proceedings.) With remarkably cogent graphics and a clear and affable style of speaking, Dr. Kennedy taught us how massive federal projects conquered the arid West and "made the desert bloom." But now Mother Nature is pushing back and causing us to alter our values, rethink our science and shore up the legal framework for protecting our environment. His message was sobering, galvanizing.

I cannot fail to mention that GCA's conservation ethic permeated the entire conference. Consider the food we were served. Woodside-Atherton's Barbara Tuffli (a good friend to SGC) oversaw a cadre of hostesses who at every break served up nutritious treats prepared from ingredients grown in members' gardens. Egg salad sandwiches? From a chicken that likely has a name and a Woodside address. A box lunch at a breakout session? A compostable bento box, of course. They thought of everything. It was so much fun to be there. I hope you know how proud I was to be representing the Seattle Garden Club as its president.



Noreen Frink and Jo Anne Rosen - cameras always at the ready...



...rewarded for their years and years of dedication to photography.



SGC's Alison Andrews and Catherine Roach are joined by Anne Westerfield of Hillsborough GC.

MORE CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

Congratulations to four of our members who have just received letters advising them of action by the GCA Judging Committee chaired by Sherry Dumke:

- Charlotte Reed and Juliet Romano have advanced to Prospective Judge in Photography.
- Barbara Hamachek has advanced to Prospective Judge in Flower Arranging.
- Catherine Allan has been named a Candidate in Horticulture judging.





GCA HAPPENINGS

Compost Non-Compliance

If we lived in San Francisco in lieu of Seattle, we could be fined up to \$100 for not properly disposing our food wastes into designated compost bins. Of course Seattle, as well as Portland, Oregon and Dubuque, Iowa have similar programs, but only San Francisco levies the fine.

Composting, reducing water usage and supporting the soil while not sacrificing the beauty and abundance of a garden are complex issues. Many an article has been written about this subject and much debate has occurred.

Garden Club of America came out with a simple brochure, entitled "Good Gardening Practices" that outlines simple guidelines on how to garden wisely. The brochure gives the ingredients for a detergent/oil/baking soda spray to deter bacterial and fungal diseases. It also has suggestions for eradicating various plants and an explanation of how compost aids the soil.

The pamphlet is brief, but there is a full list of sources for further information on the subject. The GCA website, www.gcamerica.org, includes this brochure.

Carey Davis Abbott



This Glorious Earth

Wafa 10TH WORLD FLOWER SHOW

FIRST TIME IN THE U.S.!

The 10th World Flower Show will be held in Boston in June 2011. The show promises to be fantastic, with 600 entries from as many as 30 countries. ***This is the first time that a world show has come to the U.S. and we all have a chance to enter, volunteer or just attend.*** The level of competition is high, diverse and very exciting.

You can view the brochure and show schedule at their Website, as well as current and upcoming information.

www.wafausa.org

By the Orchard

Rushing through leaves, they fall
Down, abruptly down
To the ground, bumping the branches,
The windfall apples falling
Yellow into the long grass and lying
Where they have fallen
In the tree's shadow, the shades
Of their soft bruises sinking, opening wide
Mouths to the mouths of creatures
Who like the sun are falling
To flicker, to worm's end under
Themselves, the hatch of moons.

David Wagoner



WELCOME ABOARD!

SGC FLOWER SHOW 2011

Welcome Aboard! . . . all your friends to the
Flower Show Preview Party!

May 19, 2011 - 6:30-9pm

Maritime Event Center

Bell Harbor International Conference Center

**We are updating our lists and gathering new names and addresses for invitations.
The Maritime Event Center provides the ideal setting for SGC to be seen at its very best!**

**Invite your family and friends to this wonderful cocktail party event
showcasing our four disciplines: Flower Arranging, Horticulture,
Photography and Conservation.**

Please submit names and addresses to Charlee Reed, 308 36th Avenue E., Seattle, WA 98112
cpreed@msn.com 206-325-7033

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

At the November 18th meeting, the conservation speaker for this year will be author Anne Bikle. According to Catherine Allan, Anne's talk is entitled "Unpaving Paradise" in which she discusses the subject of *dirt* based on her experiences, with her husband (UW professor and author David Montgomery), when they built their own garden. Anne will share surprising discoveries and insights about their encounters with dirt and its transformative effect on their lives. But, dirt is not only about the stuff beneath our feet. The talk will cover the role of soil in making cities livable, boosting people's health and happiness, and its potential to help combat climate change.

Do you want to know more about our soil?

Check out these incredibly helpful Seattle Public Utilities websites (especially the last one):

Seattle.GOV Seattle Public Utilities:

[Seattle Public Utilities -- Growing Healthy Soil](#)

Get to Know Your Soil PDF:

http://www.cityofseattle.net/UTIL/stellent/groups/public/@spu/@csb/documents/webcontent/cos_003544.pdf

Growing Healthy Soil PDF:

http://www.cityofseattle.net/UTIL/stellent/groups/public/@spu/@csb/documents/webcontent/growinghe_200311261701557.pdf

ALSO...

- Congratulations to Cappy Rooks and Laurie Ahern who split the prize of reusable produce bags (no more plastic!) for naming the seven GCA Position Papers at our Conservation Meeting on October 11th. The breadth of things that the GCA Conservation Committee encompasses is amazing!
- The one-page papers on Clean Air, Clean Water, Climate Change, National Parks, Native Plants, Public Lands, and Transportation can be found on the GCA website at: <http://www.gcamerica.org/positionpapers.php3>

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS:

- October 25th from 2:30-5:30 - Rain Garden Tours: Carkeek Park and Bastille Restaurant
- November 9th, 11:00am, Flora and Fauna tour of the Mercer Slough http://www.pacsci.org/slough/map_page.html

All are welcome. Events are listed on the website. Send me an email if you need more information.

Juliet Romano, Conservation Chair julietromano@comcast.net

HOW TO BE A GARDENER

Charlee Reed shares this lovely sentiment found amongst her mother's personal papers

Lean toward sunshine -
Dig down deep -
Make peace with chaos
Grow amazing zucchinis and too many tomatoes
Raindance
Rake leaves and jump in them -
Hum along with bees
Ache, sweat and yearn -
Wear crazy hats and baggy pants
Cultivate patience - Enjoy moonglow
Stay rooted - Blossom wildly
Create shady and mysterious corners
Always mend fences
Be filled with wonder -
Make magic - Share the harvest
Be thankful

GARDENER'S CORNER

Thoughts for November



- Get the last bulbs in before ground freezes
- Rake all those fallen leaves and shred or compost them
- Withhold fertilizer from houseplants from November to mid-March
- When rains arrive, fertilize lawn with a slow-release 3-1-2 ratio fertilizer
- Mulch roses but don't prune severely now
- Move container plants into winter shelter
- Clean, sharpen and oil garden tools
- Consider garden gifts for those on your Christmas list!

Janet Footh

HORT STARTS

Nearly every seat was taken for our October 4th Hort meeting, "Earth on Our Hands," and no wonder! Lexie Robbins, Alison Andrews and Barbee Crutcher described their gardens through a power point show expertly assembled by Traci Tenneson. Presentations were followed by a question/answer session, with the room periodically erupting into joyful laughter. Many thanks to our presenters for a fun, informal and informative meeting.

Following the Hort Meeting, a group of about 20 SGC members attended a special tour of The Burke Museum. Highlights included learning about uses of the Western Red Cedar (one of our Centennial Trees) by indigenous people of the NW; going behind the scenes to see the extensive basket collections; and a guided walk through the Erna Gunther Garden, a nicely maintained native garden that SGC has supported throughout the years.

QUIZ QUESTION OF THE MONTH: Name this plant (information from Pojar and Mackinnon): Fruits of this plant were highly regarded by all indigenous groups and were dried into cakes for storage. The Haida called them 'sweet berries.' Horticulturalists have developed several varieties for commercial and garden use, but SGC is interested in the native plant.

Answer to October's Quiz: Pumpkin plants produce yellow male and female blossoms that stay open for: b. One day.

Jenny Wyatt, Horticulture Committee Chair



Presenters Barbee Crutcher, Alison Andrews and Lexie Robbins



The Burke Museum's tour was enjoyed by all who attended

PHOTOGRAPHY COMMITTEE

RIOT OF COLOR



The Photography Committee invites ALL SGC members to display their favorite color photograph at our November 18th General Meeting:

- Preferably 8 ½ by 11
- No mounting or matting required
- Plant material not required
- For display only...no judging

This is just for fun.
These photographs will not be judged!

Please deliver your photograph to Sis Woodside or Jane Harder by November 9th.

ECO TIPS



It's time to review what items can be recycled as many new items have been added to newspapers, scrap paper, jars, bottles, milk cartons and cans. You should now be putting leftover food, pizza and pie boxes, take-out containers and used paper napkins in the food and yard waste containers; Check www.seattle.gov/util -"How do I get rid of this?" to find how to dispose of other common household items.

Last year more than 26,000 tons of food was collected and turned into compost for local gardens instead of filling our landfills. Happy composting!

Cappy Rooks

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

There is nothing like group effort in making each of our programs successful throughout the year. In this spirit you are each asked to help gather ideas for future speakers and/or programs that might interest you. Please submit names of potential speakers and topics that you may have heard of, know about, or hope exist! Contact Catherine Allan with your suggestions. Note new e-mail: jardinsroyaux@gmail.com or call 425-454-1076.

Catherine Allan, Program Committee Chair

SGC AT WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

Seattle Children's PlayGarden

The Seattle Children's PlayGarden (SCPG) has had a tremendous summer. The SGC contributed \$10,000 this June to help get the garden ready for summer classes, play dates and lots of visitors. On a recent afternoon I visited with Liz Bullard, the Executive Director, and toured the now finished kitchen building, inhabited rabbit hutch and chicken yard, vegetable gardens and office. Liz reports that over 400 children took part in classes this summer where they planted, tended, harvested and cooked with an abundance of produce grown on the lot. There were play dates which are advertised on their website and by neighborhood mothers' blogs. Twelve high school and college students were hired to provide a staff ratio of one staff per two students. Asked what has surprised her the most over the last year, Liz responded that the SCPG has become a whole community resource. Not only families with challenged children, but also groups of seniors, teens playing basketball and neighbors drop by to bask in the creative green spaces. Indeed a small day care group came by while I was visiting.

Next on the agenda is to install a 30,000 gallon cistern, which will collect rainwater from the roofs and will use gravity to water the garden all summer long. The wild zone is now under construction to feature a vegetated bioswale decorated with three large animal topiaries. Seattle is extremely fortunate to have the SCPG as part of its park system. This is community cooperation and collaboration at its best!



Bloedel Reserve

Seattle Garden Club awarded the Bloedel Reserve \$20,000 last year to renovate the area surrounding its award winning Japanese Garden. Overgrown upper story trees were blocking sunlight, plantings were depleted and the gravel path very difficult to navigate. Under the leadership of Director of Horticulture, Andy Navage, and the Buildings and Grounds Committee, Bloedel Reserve arborists removed several competing and non-essential trees from the bank separating the Japanese Garden from the natural forest. A stump grinder and mid-sized excavator were used to remove large tree stumps and re-contour the Japanese Garden bank. Rock artisan Dan Blossom set 20 tons of moss-covered stone into the bank and surrounding areas, and staff regraded soil around the stonework in preparation for planting. Plant orders are being placed for high impact plantings of rhododendrons, azaleas, mahonias, ferns and other plant material that repeat design elements within the existing Japanese Garden.

Staff removed the pea gravel trail surface throughout the Japanese Garden and rerouted some sections, making the path a uniform width, as some sections had become too narrow. The trail will be resurfaced with a type of decomposed granite late in the fall.

Ed Moydell, the new Executive Director, is eager for the SGC to visit the Bloedel Reserve to view the new Japanese Garden this spring. Stay tuned for field trip information in the January newsletter.

Laurie Ahern, Community Projects Chair



SGC Holiday Luncheon and Auction

HO! HO! HO!

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Seattle Golf Club

10:30 Auction and Social Hour/12:00 Lunch

Support SGC'S major fundraiser,
our "ways and means" to raise funds
for our community involvement.

Your participation is vital!

A sampling of exciting offerings...

Fish & Game Dinner

Photography Outing

Clamdigging & Picnic

Little & Lewis Tour & Lunch for 12

Bowman Camp

Share your talents! Be creative! Use our four disciplines
(Hort, Flower Arranging, Photography & Conservation)
to inspire you!

Please send your donation forms to Sheila Noonan
or contact her at sbnoonan@gmail.com OR (206)860-7662
with any questions.

YOU ARE
INVITED

Seattle Garden Club's
annual
Holiday Luncheon



Thursday
December 2, 2010

10:30 Social &
Silent Auction

12:00 Luncheon

The Seattle Golf Club
Seattle, Washington

RSVP & ANGELS



Mark your calendars and invite your guests!!
You may arrange your own tables.



PLEASE RSVP (YES or NO) BY NOVEMBER 25TH

For guests and members not subscribing to the Hostess Fund,
the luncheon cost is \$40.

ARE YOU AN ANGEL?

If you are unable to attend but would like to contribute to our
fundraiser...you can be an Angel!

If you are attending but would like to make a contribution in
addition to your luncheon fee...you can be an Angel!

Choose to be an Angel at the \$100 or \$250 level!

All checks and reservations should be sent & made payable to
The Seattle Garden Club
Carlyn Steiner, 613 - 33rd Avenue E., Seattle, WA 98112
carlyn@e-steiner.com (206)322-3435

WHERE MAY I DROP OFF MY AUCTION ITEMS?

For your convenience, we have identified
several locations for donation drop-off

Catherine Allan

7919 NE 28th St., Medina 98039
425.454.1076

Barbara Anderson

12275 NE Country Club Rd, Bainbridge
98110; 206.842.0552

Patsy Pattison/Invisible Fence Office

2827 80th Ave. SE, Mercer Island 98040
206.940.9901

Judy Phillips

1216 38th Avenue E., Seattle 98112
206.325.3838

**SEATTLE GARDEN CLUB
AUCTION PROCUREMENT FORM**

2010

***DONOR(S) - Name, address & contact info for ALL donors involved.**

***VALUE: (Please estimate value of each item/service)**

***MINIMUM BID REQUESTED:**

ITEM:

ITEM DESCRIPTION (Details, limitations, dates, etc...):

NOTE: Please provide display materials/photographs, if available, for non-tangible items.

DONOR SIGNATURE:

DATE:

PROCURER:

PHONE:

Does item need to be picked up? Yes No

Looking Ahead...

Dec. 2 **HOLIDAY AUCTION & LUNCHEON**

Seattle Golf Club - Guests Welcome!
10:30 Auction & Social;
12 Noon Lunch

Dec. 15 **NEW MEMBER PROPOSALS** due to
Vicki Reed

Jan. 3 **HORT MEETING @ UWBG/CUH**
9:30 Coffee; 10:00 Program
Speaker: Heidi Bohan, Ethnobotany of
Western Washington

Jan. 20 **BIENNIAL MEETING - Members Only**

UWBG/CUH @ 9:30 Social;
10:00 Meeting

***"Even if something is left undone,
everyone must take time to sit
still and watch the leaves turn."***

Elizabeth Lawrence

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



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

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE CHANGED TO E-MAIL THIS YEAR!

If you are currently receiving this newsletter via U.S. Mail, and are able and willing to receive it via e-mail, please let me know.

Suzette de Turenne, Communications Committee Chair



Seattle Garden Club

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