



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

www.seattlegardenclub.org

March 2012



March 5

Provisional

Carolyn Kitchell

Gertrude Jekyll

Color in the Garden

UWBG-CUH

9:30am Coffee,
10am Meeting

AT A GLANCE

events of note coming soon

3/1 **BOARD MEETING** - The Sunset
Club 10:00am

ANDREA WULF @ MOHAI

FOUNDING GARDENERS

7pm - Tickets from Sheila

Noonan, Brown Paper Tickets or
at the door based on availability

3/5 **PROVISIONALS**
@ CUH at 9:00am

HORT Meeting @ UWBG/CUH,
9:30am per info this page

3/15 **GENERAL MEETING**
See information this page

General Meeting

Thursday, March 15, 2012

UWBG/CUH - 9:30 Social, 10:00 Meeting

VANESSA NAGEL

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Min Zidell Healing Garden

(Originally scheduled for the May meeting)



The acclaimed author, landscape designer and interior designer will speak about the Min Zidell Healing Garden. The garden, located at the National College of Naturopathic Medicine in Portland, Oregon, serves as an educational garden and a mediation and healing garden. Ms. Nagel, the author of The Complete Handbook for Aspiring Designers, is a popular lecturer and inspired landscape architect. For further information about Vanessa and her projects, visit her website:

www.seasonsgardendesign.com

Please reply, YES or NO

by Sunday, March 11

to Vicki Reed - (206) 588-0363

vreed616@gmail.com

GUESTS WELCOME



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings, everyone! Our January business meeting, postponed until February due to the snow, was the culmination of Seattle Garden Club's 95th Anniversary. At our meeting we reviewed several areas of our club operation, followed by enlightening table discussions that were reported upon by table captains. It was well attended and productive.

SGC (95 years and going strong!!!) was incorporated on April 13th, 1917, at 11:20 a.m. by eight co-founders. We were accepted into GCA in 1923 as a result of our first civic project – the planting of 1200 Elm Trees along Des Moines Way, in memory of Washington State soldiers who gave their lives in World War I. Some of those trees remain today along what is now called Memorial Way South.

We are a club filled with historical events of which we can all be proud. You'll find many of them listed in our Green Book under Community Projects and Contributions.

Did you know that four of our early members were responsible for establishing fabulous Northwest gardens that are world renowned?

- **Virginia Bloedel's Bloedel Reserve** on Bainbridge Island is one we all love and support - 150 acres of natural woodlands, beautifully landscaped gardens, a Japanese Garden and a large reflection pool.
- **The Miller Garden**, former home of Betty Miller in the Highlands is a fine specimen garden, with a year around, naturalistic approach to texture and form.
- **The Wetherill Preserve** in Yarrow Point, Bellevue, established by Marge Baird is one we visit and work on every spring where trees and plants thrive in their natural habitat.
- **Eulalee Wagner's Lakewold** in Lakewood, Tacoma, is a beautiful ten-acre estate garden on the shores of Gravelly Lake containing many rare natives and state champion trees.

If you haven't been to these fabulous gardens, I encourage you to plan an outing this spring. The Miller Garden is the only one requiring a reservation.

Speaking of history, our Pamela Green Lecture, on March 1, will feature Andrea Wulf, award winning and best selling author, who will enlighten us on the development of early historic gardens in our country. She will give a presentation based on her latest book, Founding Gardeners at MOHAI at 7 p.m. on Thursday March 1. Please plan to attend and bring your families and friends. She is a very engaging speaker and I guarantee you will be entertained. This is a fund raising event and proceeds will go towards our projects in the community. If you haven't purchased your tickets (\$20), they are available on line through Brown Paper Tickets (brownpapertickets.com), the SGC website or at the door based on availability.

Thank you to all who voted for the Founders Fund finalists at our Annual Meeting. Our Club voted for the Serenity Park project in Jacksonville, Florida. The winner will be announced at the GCA Annual Meeting in April.

Looking ahead, we have two great speakers in March. Carolyn Kitchell will present her provisional talk on Gertrude Jekyll, Color in the Garden at Hort on March 5 and Landscape Designer, Vanessa Nagel will speak to us on Portland's Min Zidell Healing Garden at the General Meeting on March 15 (guests invited). I'll look forward to seeing you there!

Spring is just around the corner...There is much in the garden to do...The robins chirping in the early morn...Tell me that it's true!

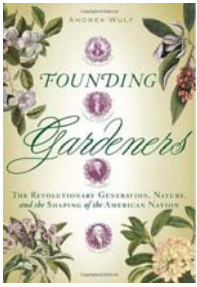
Laurie Riley, President

ATTENTION!

Requiring your immediate action!

- **GET YOUR TICKETS & INVITE FRIENDS TO the Andrea Wulf presentation at MOHAI on March 1, 7pm**
- **RSVP to Vicki Reed for the March 15 General Meeting - (206) 588-0363 vreed616@gmail.com**

THE 2012 PAMELA GREEN HORTICULTURE SPEAKER/SERIES PRESENTS



ANDREA WULF

Bestselling author of *Founding Gardeners*

7:00pm Thursday, March 1, 2012 @ MOHAI

Tickets: \$20.00/general \$10.00/students



We are 2/3rds of the way to our goal of at least 175 attendees.

If you are considering buying tickets, please do so now!

Tickets available at various locations:

- Our SGC web site www.seattlegardenclub.org
- Brown Paper Tickets www.brownpapertickets.com
- Sheila Noonan (206) 860-7662

WAYS & MEANS

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES - DON'T MISS OUT!

- **Fabulous Sun Valley**

August 8 – 11, 2012 \$500

Four spaces available. Be wined, dined, and toured by hostesses Laurie Ahern, Pam Green, Barbara Hamachek, Alex Morse, Catherine Parker and Charlee Reed!

An unforgettable 4 days and 3 nights!

- **Live KUOW Greendays Gardening Panel Broadcast**

April 17, 2012 \$40

One space available. Host, Steve Scher and panel members Marty Wingate, Greg Rabourn and Willi Galloway answer listeners' gardening questions on the air. Entertaining and informative. At KUOW studio, 10 – 11am including lunch with panel members after the broadcast. Bring your questions!!

DON'T MISS OUT!

If you are interested in either of these great opportunities, contact Sheila Noonan at (206) 860-7662 or sbnoonan@gmail.com

CONSERVATION REPORT



**Jenny Wyatt, Jeannie Gravenkemper,
Sis Woodside, Carlyn Steiner,
Sheila Wyckoff-Dickey, Carolyn Kitchell**

The Seattle Garden Club sent six strong voices to the legislature in Olympia on Lobby Day, January 27, 2012. The carpool left Seattle at 7am and went to the assigned meeting place, a church in Olympia. There they were briefed on how to lobby - "be brief, tell your position like a good story, be profuse in your appreciation of the legislator both at the start and finish of your time."



There were several speakers at the church, both from state offices and conservation groups, stating the cause and the three positions espoused this year: *Clean Puget Sound, Clean Energy, Toxic-Free Kids*. After a box lunch, they met with the 34th District Legislator Pettigrew, then moved to another building to hear about the three House bills on the three subjects.

Our wonderful women then left at 3pm in order to return home in advance of late afternoon traffic. All six women traveled in one car so they were able to continue the conversation about what they learned and how they would do it a little differently next year. It was well worth the trip. They learned a lot and are inspired to return for Lobby Day next year.

Thanks to Sis Woodside coordinating the trip, Jenny Wyatt driving, and all who went to speak in favor of the well-being of our natural world and ourselves.

Hotie Hard, Conservation Chair 206-524-1346 or hotieh@aol.com

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Community Projects Committee appreciates and very much respects members' discussion at both the 2010 and the 2011 Annual Business Meetings. Decisions by the Committee immediately following the business meeting include:

- The Committee approved having no time restrictions for a funded organization to apply for another grant.
- After learning answers to questions from the Committee to Bellevue Botanical Garden, the consensus was that the BBG request for \$20,000 should be declined because their plans are not "ready" for the expenditure of SGC monies at this time. Submitting a grant at a later time is welcome. A "point person" for BBG is Susan Potts.
- The CP committee approved a \$7,500 request from the Bloedel Reserve to complete its Japanese Garden. The SGC Board will act on this recommendation, and if approved, the recommendation will go to the membership for its decision. The "point person" is Carlyn Steiner.
- The Committee reviewed and expanded information on the SGC website regarding SGC's grants process, including the external and internal proposal forms on the members' portion. It is agreed that information about SGC's process should be accessible on the public portion. Exact content is being studied.
- The Committee has responded to Dunn Garden to submit a formal proposal to continue their Heritage Tree Project begun last year with a \$2,500 grant from SGC. Having completed a scientific survey of trees planted by the Olmsted brothers in 1915 "to better understand their health and cultural needs", the new proposal will include engaging professional expertise to "develop a strategy for eventual replacement or reforestation."
- Please continue to inform us of community needs. We will always thoroughly examine each proposal in accordance with the SGC pledge and guidelines.

Eleanor Nolan, Chair

HORTICULTURE STARTS

"There is no spot of ground, however arid, bare or ugly, that cannot be tamed into such a state as may give an impression of beauty and delight."

Would you like to learn more about the author of this intriguing notion?

Come to our March Horticulture meeting to hear provisional Carolyn Kitchell speak on "Gertrude Jekyll: Color in the Garden." Artist, gardener and writer, the British born Jekyll influenced color theory in the garden for generations to come.

The meeting will be held March 5th at UWBG/CUH, 9:30 social, 10:00 program.

Please participate in Hort Share! Do you have a wonderful new plant in your garden? Is an existing plant performing in an interesting new way? Has a struggling plant come back to life because of a change you made? For our March Hort Share, bring in your "newest favorite" in your garden.

HORT QUESTION OF THE MONTH

The common Dandelion (*Taraxacum Officinale*) a) will eventually go away with continued weeding; b) derives its name from the Old French "Dent-de-lion," meaning lion's tooth; c) has very shallow tap roots; d) is largely inedible, except for its leaves in late summer. Read up on Dandelions and be amazed!

Answer to February's question: One version of this rhyme is "Sedges have edges; rushes are round; and grasses are hollow right up from the ground."

Jenny Wyatt, Hort Chair



SEATTLEITES LEAD GCA'S VISITING GARDEN COMMITTEE

If you are boarding an airplane this spring, chances are pretty good that you will encounter Pam Green with her GCA papers in hand. Pam chairs the GCA Visiting Gardens Committee. In this role she's traveling to Austin, New York City and Maryland. And that's just this spring. Visiting Gardens offers two domestic trips and one international one yearly. It is the group's responsibility to organize every detail of these trips including researching suitable gardens, lodging and transportation. The trips, which last from five to ten days, have become so popular with members that interest and waiting lists have been formulated. That's where our Iris Wagner, as Vice Chairman, Trip Interest List Communications, comes in. Once GCA makes mention of an upcoming trip, Iris keeps scrupulous accounts of those who indicate interest so they will have the first opportunity to reserve a spot.

This year a spring trip to Maryland's Eastern Chesapeake Bay area as well as an early summer voyage to England's Cotswolds are planned and filled to capacity. Last year Pam and her committee took a group to Argentina, Virginia Hunt Country, the wilds of Alaska and the Italian lake country. Pam maintains that not only are the gardens spectacular but also the opportunity to meet GCA members from around the United States is a great reward in itself. Look for information on upcoming trips in GCA publications both on and offline.

Carey Davis



Garden from the Virginia Hunt Country trip

SURVIVORS...neither snow nor sleet...



Nancy Bain reports that her collection of potted plants survived the harsh weather, with nary a loss.



Susan Torrance's apple tree refused to let go of its fruit and seemed to shrug at the weather.



Charlee Reed's Witch Hazel peeked out from the ice and looked good as new when the ice melted.



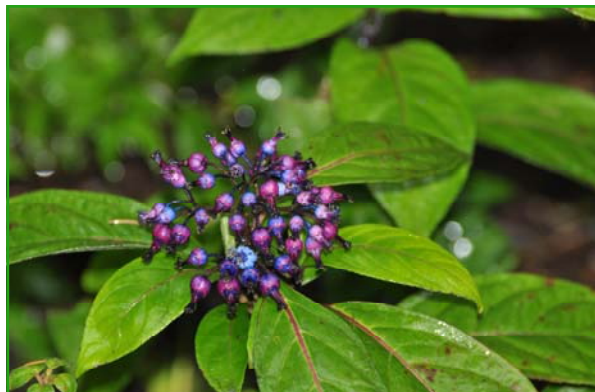
Debby Smith was pleased that her potted primroses looked hale & healthy after being buried in snow.



Traci Tenneson's Don Juan rose lived up to its name with perseverance.



Catherine Allan reports that her Windmill Palm, Trachycarpus fortunei, bounced back without a care.



Expecting the worse, Suzette de Turenne was happy to see that this 'rare and tender' winter blooming Dichroa Fibrifuga (Chinese evergreen hydrangea) survived.

The Hardy Garden

Now let forever the phlox and the rose be tended
Here where the rain has darkened and
the sun has dried

So many times the terrace, yet is love unended,
Love has not died.

Let here no seed of a season, that the winter
But once assails, take root and for a time endure;
But only such as harbour at the frozen centre
The germ secure.

Set here the phlox and the iris, and establish
Pink and valerian, and the great and lesser bells;
But suffer not the sisters of the year, to publish
That frost prevails.

How far from home in a world of mortal burdens
Is Love, that may not die, and is forever young!
Set roses here: surround her only with such maidens
As speak her tongue.

Edna St. Vincent Millay

FLOWER ARRANGERS COMMITTEE

The Flower Arrangers Committee will be offering a free workshop on Wednesday, June 6, 2012, the day before the June Annual Luncheon. Time and location to be determined.

The Committee will design an arrangement that will complement the theme of the photography club show. We will demonstrate and guide the workshop participants in how to put the design together giving them practice in flower arranging mechanics in a fun and non-threatening way. The containers, mechanics and plant material will be provided.

Participants may take their own arrangements home after the luncheon the following day.

Signs-ups: email Catherine Parker @ chparker3@gmail.com

The WAFA (World Association of Flower Arrangers held last summer in Boston) slide show which Jo Anne Rosen and Carol Henderson were to present on February 6 will be given at the April 2 Monday Hort meeting.

WAFA is a not-for-profit non-partisan organization of international floral societies in 30 member countries. The WAFA flower show moves from country to country every three years where the host stages a world flower show and organizes and holds other educational events.

Catherine Parker, Chair

Garden History & Design Brief Overview

Each garden has a story to tell and one way to preserve it is with pictures. Spring is a perfect time to document a garden, especially in Seattle. Begin by taking pictures of your own garden before engaging in the exercise of photographing someone else's garden. Take high-quality descriptive pictures of a garden setting, not a flower close-up. Capture the BIG PICTURE instead of the individual plant. Take several pictures from different viewpoints, i.e., from the second story window, in order to gain an overall feel for the garden. Frame the flowering plants in the context of the garden, allowing your viewer to better understand the garden setting.

Include a list of the plant material allowing the viewer to better understand why the picture is important to the owner.

In essence, photographing your own garden helps you to look at the design more objectively, to make some corrections or to stand back and admire the successes. It's a rewarding exercise!

Catherine Allan, Chair

GARDENER'S CORNER



Thoughts for March:

- Cut off old fern fronds and cut epimedium to a few inches.
- Cut lavenders back halfway to the woody stems.
- Look for new growth on indoor plants. Increase watering and apply half strength fertilizer only after they begin to grow.
- Sow seeds of hardy annuals the latter part of the month: sweet peas, bachelor buttons, larkspur, coreopsis, candytuft, sweet alyssum, lupine.
- Plants need nutrients now during their growth spurt. Rhododendrons, azaleas and conifers benefit from acid-based fertilizers. Other landscape plants can generally use standard 5-10-10 formulations.
- Prepare vegetable garden beds by digging deeply, adding compost and organic fertilizer. In late March sow beets, chard, lettuce, onions, peas, potatoes, radishes and spinach.
- Lawn care: mow, thatch, aerate. Sharpen mower blades. Rake and overseed bare spots with seed mix such as perennial ryegrass and turf-type fescues.
- Clean and disinfect birdhouses and feeders. Dispose of old seeds.
- Keep up the good work baiting for slugs and snails.

Janet Footh

Looking Ahead...

Apr 2 **PROVISIONALS @ CUH at 9:00am**
HORT MEETING @ UWBG/CUH,
9:30am Coffee, 10am ; Provisional
Susan Potts presents "Beatrix Farrand,
Landscape Architect"

Apr 5 **BOARD MEETING**
The Sunset Club - 10:00am

Apr 18 **SEATTLE/TACOMA JOINT MEETING @**
Tacoma Country & Golf Club
9:30am Social; 10:00 Meeting;
10:30 Program: "From Seed to Skillet"



IF YOU CURRENTLY RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER VIA U.S. MAIL, and would prefer e-mail, please let me know. In keeping with GCA policy, we are always happy to reduce waste and expense.

Suzette de Turenne, Communications Chair



Seattle Garden Club

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