



The Seattle Garden Club

eNEWS

Member of The Garden Club of America

January 2019

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Wow, what an auction! We need to recognize the hard work and incredible results of SGC Holiday Auction co-chairs **Catherine Mueller** and **Sue Brickman** and their Ways and Means Committee. In addition, the team who tabulated these fabulous results and coordinated check in/out deserve our appreciation: **Patsy Pattison, Dabney Rohrbach, Suzette de Turenne, Katie McReynolds, Wade Garretson** and **Kim Bishop**. We sincerely thank you. Community Projects will benefit from the generous contributions. Floral Design Chair Sue Ashmun with Provisional Co-Chair Sandy Hanower were instrumental in the coordination of the Provisionals' table arrangements displayed at the Christmas luncheon.

It is hard to believe that we are ushering in 2020. Our first meeting of the year will be **Horticulture** on Monday, **January 6th** and the topic will be **"Garden Tool Care and Maintenance"** **9:15am Social, 10am Program**. Don't forget to bring Hort Share to inspire ideas for our winter gardens!

The January general meeting on **January 16th (9:30am Social, 10am Program)** will feature Travel writer and author, Kim Seely who will talk about exploring the biodiversity of the Great Bear Rainforest (the largest coastal temperate rainforest in the world) and the Northern BC coast.

February is fast approaching, which means it will be time for our Annual Business Meeting on **February 20th**. Please make every effort to attend. Generally we have only two times a year to bring matters of importance to our membership for a vote. The Business Meeting is one of them.

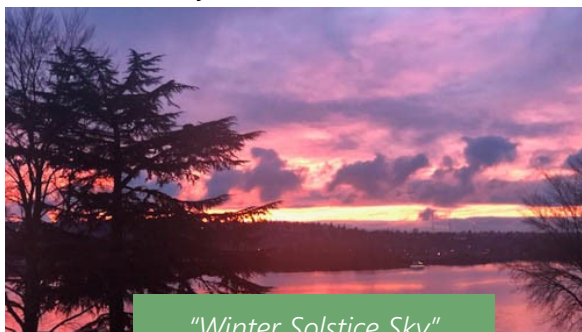
Looking farther ahead, please add these key dates to your 2020 calendar:

May 18, The Pamela Green Lecture will feature Dr, Ari Novy (the former Executive Director of the US Botanic Garden and new President & CEO of the San Diego Botanic Garden) at the new Burke Museum **6pm Cocktails, 7pm Program**

June 4, the SGC Annual Luncheon & Awards will be held at the Seattle Tennis Club **11am Social, 12pm Lunch & Program**

Happy New Year to all!

Diana Ackerley, Seattle Garden Club President



"Winter Solstice Sky"
by Suzy Titcomb



"Family Stockings"
by Jenny Wyatt

Events

For calendar details, please go to seattlegardenclub.org, then select Members, then select CALENDAR.

Seattle Garden Club Event Calendar January 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 8:30AM - 9:30AM Provisional Meeting in the Isaacson room at the Center or Urban Horticulture 9:15AM - 11:30AM SGC Hort Meeting & Hort Share 11:45AM - 1:15PM Community Projects Meeting 12:00PM Archives: 12PM @ Christine Davis' Wa Pk Home	7	8 1:30PM - 3PM Policy and Planning Committee Mtg	9 10AM - 11:30AM SGC Board meeting @ CUH	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 8:30AM - 9:30AM Community Projects Meeting 9:30AM - 12PM SGC General Mtg @ CUH - A travel writer explores the biodiversity of the Great Bear Rainforest and the Northern BC coast 12PM - 1PM Conservation Committee meeting	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 1:00PM - 2:30PM Founders Fund Committee meeting	29	30	31	

General Meeting, January 16th, 2020 at CUH

9:30am Social, 10:00am Meeting, 10:15am Program, Guests Welcome

Kim Brown Seely is a Seattle author, travel writer and editor who won the Lowell Thomas Award in Environmental Journalism and the Lowell Thomas Journalist of the Year Award in 2016. Her talk will focus on exploring the biodiversity of the Northern B.C. coast and the Great Bear Rainforest and the environmental challenges to this globally significant area. Kim's first book, *UNCHARTED*, was recently published by Sasquatch Books/Penguin Random House and she will bring copies for sale.

AWARDS GIVEN AT CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Vicki Reed awarded the Seattle Garden Club Commendation of Spirited and Enthusiastic Participation



Pam Green awarded the Garden Club of America Medal of Merit

In addition, congratulations to Charlee Reed and Alex Morse who were given the Garden Club of America award for 25 years of service!

Events

The Seattle Garden Club Holiday Luncheon & Auction

With the Sunset Club decorated for the holidays and our gorgeous themed centerpieces, all was aglow for our annual Seattle Garden Club Auction and Luncheon. And glow we did! Total revenue at this point is \$54K. Donations are still coming in so stay tuned for final numbers in the coming weeks.

As the old saying goes, "it takes a village" and that village was amazing. A special huge thank you to the Auction Angels for their donations, the Provisionals and everyone who provided experiences, items and vacations and, of course, all of the volunteers. Wade Garretson was excellent as our Meeting Arrangements Chair. And Patsy Pattison, aka 'The Bank', master of the Greater Giving software and her helpers made our check-in, check-out a breeze. Special kudos to Suzette de Turenne who behind the scenes entered all of your items, created the bid sheets along with the accompanying copy.

None of this would have happened without the collaboration and long hours the members of the Ways & Means Committee provided. Charlee Reed, Burnley Snyder, Hope Stroble, Diana Ackerley, Barb Peterson, Susan Potts, Suzette de Turenne, Debby Smith, Jeannie Gravenkemper, Carlyn Steiner, Candace Lancaster, Roxanne Wiley, Sheila Noonan, Sheila Wyckoff-Dickey, Cindy Bostwick, Juliet Romano, Marianne Mowat and Laurie Riley, made our job as chairs so much easier, thank you!

As often is the case, we have some spaces available in a number of experiences. We will bring signup sheets to the meetings or you can contact either Sue or Catherine, Chairs of Ways & Means.

Sept 11	Swiss Raclette Party	7 spaces	\$75
Feb 27 th	Sip and Knit	3 spaces	\$60
April 1 st	Georgia O'Keefe at SAM	2 spaces	\$60
March 30-April 1	Indian Wells Overnight	2 spaces	\$300
June 2	Day at the Farm Lunch	18 spaces	\$50
Sept 21-23	San Juan Overnight	1	\$300

Sue Brickman susanbrickman@msn.com and Catherine Mueller Cathmueller@gmail.com



Photos



Co-chair Sue Brickman



*First Row: Karen Simmons, Kim Bishop, Dabney Rohrbach and Patsy Pattison
Second Row: Katie McReynolds, Suzette de Turenne, and Wade Garretson*



Marilee Ahalt, Carol Henderson, Barbara Feasey and Sue Ashmun



Reports

Visiting Gardens Tour—Normandy

In September, my husband and I were fortunate to join the GCA Visiting Gardens tour of Normandy, an area of France rich with history, stunning architecture, delicious food and world-renowned gardens. The 10 day tour was expertly arranged and guided. Some of the highlights were tours of Monet's garden in Giverny in late-summer bloom, a private garden created by the owner in memory of her daughter with a wonderful display of delphiniums, roses, lupins and geraniums, a contemporary garden of grasses and brightly colored herbaceous borders, an internationally recognized collection of hydrangeas, the only house and garden designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll in France, lunch at the Chateau de Tocqueville with the Count, dinner in a 17th chateau with the Countess, a tour of the expertly restored house and elaborate formal gardens at the Chateau de Champs de Bataille, and a tour of the Normandy WWII beaches and American cemetery. We enjoyed touring with GCA members from around the country and had many memorable lunches and dinners together in unique country restaurants. These overseas trips are a wonderful resource for GCA members and allow us access to very special gardens that are not typically open to the public.

Delphine Stevens



A Selection of Floral Arrangements from our Holiday Luncheon and Auction



Reports

Conservation Report

There aren't any new items to report, and details for the two site visits aren't quite worked out, so I thought I would comment on some things we might consider as a committee and as a club. With all the alarming reporting on plastic and what it is doing to our planet, I would like to suggest that you look at the link that Kim Bishop sent me, and also consider reading a very interesting book that Margi Allison has passed on to me entitled Plastic Purge, by Michael SanClements. It is very hard not to find ourselves using plastic, especially since most grocery stores wrap so many things in plastic, not to mention so many other items we use daily. However, if we are more aware, we might be able to lessen our personal use. When you shop, be sure to take your own reusable bags, and you might even take your used plastic bags for the vegetables and fruits you select.

Suzy Titcomb sent a good article on Sustainable Holiday Shopping that really can apply year round. If we are going to make a dent on our deplorable climate warming, we will all have to contribute in many ways, and be thinking about overuse and needless consumption. It is a habit that we can train ourselves to consider as we make choices. With a positive attitude it isn't a form of deprivation, but rather a gift we are giving to the planet and to our future families.

Kim has attached the link, regarding plastic, to the Conservation section of the SGC website, so if you have time to watch it, do try to see it. I will also send the Sustainable Shopping article to my committee.

Sis Woodside is organizing our volunteer clean up at the Wetherill in Bellevue for Earth Day, April 22. She always makes it fun, so do plan to help. By doing this every year, we honor one of our cherished former members, Marge Baird, who was instrumental in creating this woodland park, and it is greatly appreciated. Sis will let you know more as the time is closer.

I would like to have a Conservation Committee meeting after the January 16 General Meeting. I'll announce the room at the Hort meeting earlier in January.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Martin

Conservation Chair



Hort Report

Back by popular demand, Drew Foster, arborist for the UW Botanic Gardens, (who spoke about pruning back in November) is going to speak at our January 6th meeting about how to sharpen and maintain your gardening tools. He is also going to finish up his discussion on pruning, as there were so many questions in November that he didn't have time to answer them all. Please come with your questions and be prepared to have wonderfully sharp garden tools from now on, once you learn the proper techniques. Hope to see you all at our January meeting.

We are also going to demonstrate a fun Hort project you can do with your grandchildren.

Now that we are starting 2020, please go to the SGC website and sign up to bring treats for the meetings through the rest of the garden club year. You will see there are a lot of empty slots! Feel free to contact Roxanne or me if you would like us to sign you up for something, but it is easier to use the link [HERE](#).

Roxanne Wiley & Susan Potts, Co-chairs, Hort

Reports

Information from the October Judging Workshop in Portland

At the October Workshop, a master rosarian spoke and provided a list of fragrant roses.



DOUBLE DELIGHT – An oldie, but goodie. This red and white 4-foot hybrid tea is absolutely beloved because of its prolific bloom and intense fragrance. One of the first roses I grew. I have

always loved it. It can get mildew if you don't give it at least 6 hours of sun.



FRAGRANT CLOUD - I once had a woman tell me that this rose was actually "too fragrant"....go figure. It is a shorter, stocky orange red hybrid tea. One bloom will perfume an entire room. That was an unintentional rhyme,

by the way.



JUST JOEY – A gorgeous apricot 3 to 4 foot hybrid tea with tremendous disease resistance and heavenly fragrance. The blooms are large with frilly edges. In the winter cover the base of the rose with extra compost

because it doesn't like winter very much.



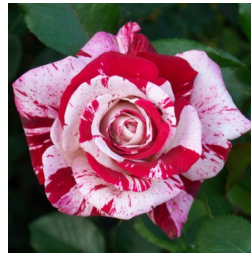
MR. LINCOLN – This red hybrid tea is what other reds are compared to. Mr. Lincoln needs full, full sun here in our climate and needs to be watched for mildew during the spring, but this stately beauty named after Abraham

Lincoln is amazingly fragrant.



NEPTUNE – Lavender is the weakest color in the rose world, often succumbing to disease and early death during a rough winter, but always fragrant. However this 5-foot luscious hybrid tea is a delightful exception. Tons of

exhibition style blooms (typical of a hybrid tea) that carry a lovely perfume and superior disease resistance. Yummy!



SENTIMENTAL – A three foot red and white striped floribunda that has incredible fragrance. She looks beautiful next to any red rose and even right next to Double Delight because they have the same colors. The two in a vase would

be something



SECRET – A James Gamble Fragrance Award winner this pink 4-foot hybrid tea sports deep pink edges and an intensely sweet, spicy fragrance. We didn't get this beauty in the store, but

Heirloom Roses (on line) and Edmunds (on line) both have it.



SUNSPRITE – A much beloved bright yellow early blooming 3 foot floribunda with deep green shiny disease resistant foliage. The first rose to bloom for me in my first rose garden 30 years ago on Mother's Day.



THÉRÈSE BUGNET – A hot pink rugosa rose with disease resistance is its middle name. It hates pesticides so don't spray any on its beautiful lime green foliage. It's very thorny, very fragrant and supposedly deer resistant, at least in some places

of the country.

Provided by Catherine Allan

"Little January
Tapped at my door today.
And said, "Put on your winter wraps,
And come outdoors to play."
Little January
Is always full of fun;
Until the set of sun.
Little January
Will stay a month with me
And we will have such jolly times -
Just come along and see."
Winifred C. Marshall, *January*

Reports

The Queen of Winter, Debbi Wilson

Hamamelis, (Witch Hazel, or Winterbloom), in the Hamamelidaceae family, is a deciduous winter flowering shrub or small tree, that creates the welcome bright spot in the winter garden. Its name means, "together with fruit," because this showy plant hosts its flowers, fruit and next years leaf buds simultaneously. Its fruit is a horned capsule containing 2 shiny black seeds. There are four species, and a hundred cultivars of such diversity, that some could be espaliered against a wall, or trained as a small tree, or grown as a vase shaped shrub.

Noted for its visual beauty, and scent, this shrub is among the best of the winter list. Its petals have been described as crumpled, like shredded coconut, or spiders, but they provide lovely long lasting fragrance. Its fall foliage turns bright colors, of oranges to russet reds, drops, leaving bare stems upon which the interesting blooms emerge.

Hamamelis is best if planted in organic soils, sun or part shade, with summer water and mulch. It is largely disease and insect resistant and grows 8'-20' tall and wide, depending on the species.

The list below includes a few of the late winter bloomers for our area.

H. vernalis, Ozark Witch Hazel, is native to the southern U.S. It sports small but profuse yellow red flowers, in January through April.

H. japonica, Japanese Witch Hazel, has yellow to reddish flowers, January into early spring, with lovely fall foliage of reds, purples and yellow.

H. mollis, Chinese Witch Hazel, has yellow blooms in January, excellent stems for arrangements, especially, 'Coombe Wood', and showy leaves of yellow, red and orange in the fall.

Native Americans used *H. virginiana* its bark, roots and young shoots, as a medicinal herb: to staunch bleeding, soothe the skin, and relieve pain in the joints to keep them limber. It is used today most commonly as an astringent in cosmetics to soothe and cleanse the skin. (*H. virginiana*, from England, is popular on the East coast.)

If you are looking for a colorful focal point or need winter fragrance along your sidewalk or pathway, plant the Queen of Winter - she'll brighten even the darkest January days.



H. japonica, Japanese Witch Hazel

Photography Committee

Monday, January 6th is the deadline to submit a photo to our Annual Photo Critique. Bring your photo to HORT on Jan 6th or deliver it to Jolie Roze. Photos submitted will be evaluated by our SGC Photography judges, and participants will meet in February (date TBD) to discuss their comments. Always a fun event and open to all SGC members!

Saturday, December 21st is the Winter Solstice marking the shortest day of the year. Get out your camera or iPhone, take a shot and upload it to the SGC website. A great way to share this special day with everyone!

Questions? Contact Jolie at jsroze@comcast.net Photography Chair

Reports

New Year's Tips from Floral Design Pros

Go Bold & Branch Out



*Forget prim & proper

The new way to style your blooms is to leave things a bit untamed. "I think people are looking for looser, lush compositions that feel more natural, minus the gimmicks." Lewis Miller - NYC.

*Think Greens First, Then Flowers

"Begin building the shape of your arrangement with your greens. From there, start filling in with your flowers." Beth Zemetis - Madison, CT.

*Keep Things Off Balance

"Use odd numbers of any particular stem to avoid the look of 'pairs,' which can make an arrangement seem boxy and unnatural. Also, group similar flowers together at different heights. This helps prevent the stuffy, traditional look." Mairead Travins - Hudson, NY.

*Go Big & Bold

"I like to push proportions to their max sometimes. Let things fall, soar, mass and group in a way that feels natural but not exactly right." Lewis Miller. Or you can also stick to one color palette but play with various shades as well as sizes of blooms." Denise Porcaro - NYC.

*Branch Out

"Make a project your own by including unusual textural items like berries, dried pods, or sculptural branches. I like to use everything from blackberries and dried grass to citrus branches and big exotic flowers. Get creative and do it your own way." Mairead Travins - Hudson, NY.

*Remove the Excess

"The biggest mistake people often make is adding too many different elements. Let the stems or branches speak to you, don't overwhelm them with noise." Julio Sales - Greenwich, CT

*Contain It Creatively

Consider your container. Hearty stems look best in an equally hearty earthenware jug or old galvanized pail. Fragile flowers need a delicate porcelain or glass vase. Consider using a footed compote-style bowl and allow your flowers, vines and berries to overflow. Beth Zemetis - Madison, CT

But most importantly, *"Have Fun"*. Committee Members -Zone I to XII

Happy 2020 - The Floral Design Committee

"To read a poem in January is as lovely as to go for a walk in June."
- Jean-Paul Sartre

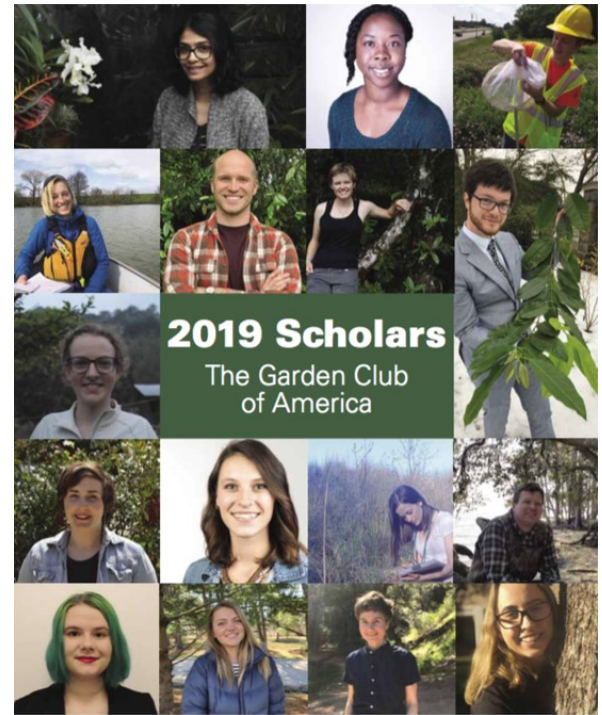
GCA Tales and Tidbits!

GCA Scholarships

Since 1928 when the Rome Prize Fellowship in Landscape Architecture was established, The Garden Club of America has funded more than 1,300 recipients. The Garden Club of America offers 28 merit-based scholarships and fellowships in 12 areas related to conservation, ecology, horticulture, and pollinator research. In 2019, \$377,500 was awarded to 73 scholars.

The Garden Club of America contacts universities, arboreta and botanic gardens to encourage them to advertise our scholarships to their students and interns. Twelve of the scholarships are managed by GCA staff and volunteers. Selection committees, comprised of the GCA and community volunteers, read applications and recommend candidates to be voted on in March each year.

For fifteen of the GCA scholarships, the specialized level of knowledge necessary to choose the most compelling research projects requires that we collaborate with a variety of associations, gardens and universities.



December 14th Starts The National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count

The Garden Club of America club members pulling on their boots and grabbing binoculars to be a part of The National Audubon Society's Annual Christmas Bird Count which begins December 14th and culminates January 5th, International Bird Day. Setting a record last Christmas, there were 81,000 volunteers who took to the field or watched feeders, as part of the world's longest-running wildlife census (120 years), collecting invaluable data for research of bird populations and their habitats. Each individual count takes place within a 15-mile wide circle and is led by a compiler who organizes that count and reports the findings. Last year over 48 million birds were tallied representing 2,600 different species. Approximately five percent of the land mass in North America was surveyed.



The Garden Club of America clubs have a long tradition of conservation efforts to improve, restore, and protect the habitats critical to bird populations. In June 2015, The Garden Club of America entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the National Audubon Society. The MOU invited mutually agreeable projects at the club and zone level between GCA clubs and the local Audubon organizations. And this past May, The National Audubon Society celebrated the legacy of female leadership in environmental conservation at its annual Women in Conservation luncheon. The prestigious Rachel Carson Women in Conservation Award was presented to The Garden Club of America and Rose H. Harvey, former Commissioner of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.