



The Seattle Garden Club

eNEWS

Member of The Garden Club of America

February 2020

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The start of February means our Annual Business Meeting is just around the corner. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the 2020 Business Meeting on **February 20th** at CUH. Our club will be voting on Community Projects, the Founders Fund, and some bylaw changes. We must have a quorum in order for any vote(s) taken by the Membership to be valid, so your attendance is important. Our Annual Business Meeting is planned and run by our President-Elect Shelley Rolfe, along with the Policy and Planning Committee.

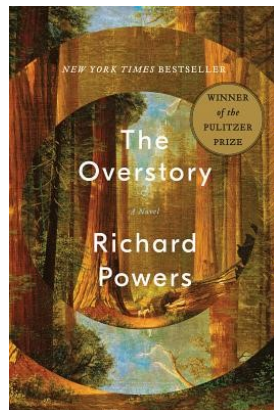
Did you know that the first GCA Founders Fund Grant was awarded in 1936 in the amount of \$700? We have come a long way since then, today the winning proposal receives \$30,000 with \$10,000 granted to each of the two runners up. In advance of our February 20th meeting where voting is scheduled, please read the three finalist proposals published in the winter issue of the GCA Bulletin or found at this link: <https://www.gcamerica.org/index.cfm/members:main.getprotectedfile?contentpagesource/500500.pdf>.

Many decisions for our club are discussed and decided at the committee level. The power of the committee is a wide range of knowledge and experience both within and outside our club. Please complete your Annual SGC member survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/V6CDQKB>) as soon as possible so you will be placed on committees that interest you next year.

Did you know that during the past year GCA clubs collectively donated \$3,216,575 to civic and community projects? Did you know that during the past year GCA clubs collectively donated \$342,150 in local grants for scholarships and internships? The collective impact of our club and the GCA is impressive!

Diana Ackerley
Seattle Garden Club President

GCA Library Recommendation, Winter 2019



The Overstory, by Richard Powers, published by W.W. Norton & Company, 2018. This is a magnificent novel about trees, people, and the conflict between the two. The stories of nine strangers, initially presented as unconnected, circle around each other, converge and finally culminate in an epic battle to save the few remaining acres of virgin forest in the Pacific Northwest. This book "leaves the reader eager to understand the lives of trees, what a forest really is, and how the human race can atone for the massacre of those trees".

Events

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

Seattle Garden Club Event Calendar February 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 8:30AM - 9:30AM Provisional Meeting in the Isaacson room at the Center for Urban Horticulture 9:15AM - 11:30AM SGC Hort Meeting & Hort Share 11:30PM - 1:00PM Flower Show Special Committee meeting	4	5 1:30PM - 3PM Policy and Planning Committee Mtg	6 10AM - 11:30AM SGC Board meeting @ Sunset Club	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 11:00AM - 1:30PM Microsoft art collection tour	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 9:30AM - 12PM SGC Business Meeting	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 6:00PM Auction Sip and Knit	28	29

SGC MEMBERS TRAVEL ACROSS THE U.S. FOR THE GCA JUDGING PROGRAM

Where in the World are our SGC Members serving in the GCA Judging Program?

Our SGC members who are involved in various capacities in the GCA Judging Program this spring will be travelling near and far as part of their commitment to the Judging Program. Here are some facts:

- Members will serve on judging panels in seven different shows this spring: Portland, Oregon; Piedmont, California; Chicago, Illinois; Memphis, Tennessee; Carmel, California; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Greenville, South Carolina
- These shows require 25 trips for our members as well as seven serving on photography jury panels requiring no travel
- We have four members who are in the Floral Design Judging Program
- We have eleven members who are in the Horticulture Judging Program
- We have ten members who are in the Photography Judging Program
- We currently have 12 members who have reached "Emeritus" status
- You do not need to be a Hort head, Floral Design guru, or Photographic genius to be in the program
- You do need to have a genuine interest and be self-motivated to increase your knowledge – it is a classic opportunity for "on the job" training

Being part of the Judging Program requires time and effort but the return is fun and educational! Does this sound interesting to you? Consult Pages 44-45 in our Yearbook for a complete list of our members involved in the judging program. Ask the Advisors about the program: Marilee Ahalt/Floral Design, Diana Neely/Horticulture, Mary Turner/Photography – or direct your questions to other fellow members involved in the program. We are all here to learn!

Suzette de Turenne

SGC Judging Chair 206-465-9317 sdeturenne@comcast.net

Events

Portland Flower Show SHOW "FLORATOPIA" A GCA Major Flower Show The World Forestry Center—Portland, Oregon May 14 TO 16, 2020

Your Chance to Exhibit!

It isn't often that SGC members have the opportunity to exhibit in a flower show within driving distance of Seattle. Here's your chance! Make plans to exhibit in Portland.

Take a look at their show schedule readily available at this link: <https://www.theportlandgardenclub.org/flower-show/show-schedule/>. You'll discover that photography, a juried show, is open for registration until February 15 and that there are several Horticulture classes that may still be open as well. Cut specimen classes, as is typical, require no pre-registration. Share what is growing in your yard! Pack your cuts carefully, and drive to Portland to show them our Seattle garden splendor.

Not able to exhibit? Head down to support Portland's efforts by seeing the show when it is open to the public on May 16th. Mark your calendar now! See their schedule for specific details.

Suzette de Turenne

SGC Judging Chair



SNOWDROPS

Snowdrops bow their heads
angelic unlock of wings
white winter bouquet.



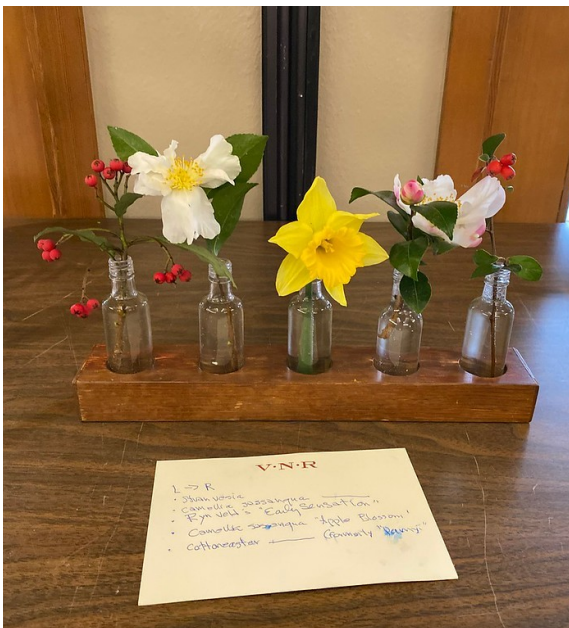
The Seattle Garden Club Holiday Luncheon & Auction

Please consider joining one of the upcoming auction experiences with available spots!

Feb 27 th	Sip and Knit at Laurie Rileys'	2 spots
March 30 th – April 1	Indian Wells Getaway Trip	1 spot
April 1 st	Georgia O'Keefe tour at SAM	1 spot

If you are interested in buying one of these spots please contact Sue Brickman susanbrickman@msn.com or Catherine Mueller Cathmueller@gmail.com.

Hort Meeting Photos



Reports

Hort Report

Our January Hort meeting was very informative, with another excellent lecture by UW arborist Drew Foster. He told us all about how to sharpen and maintain our garden tools and how to decide on the proper tool to use for different pruning jobs. There were many questions from the audience and several people came up afterwards to say they thought they knew all about pruning but learned a lot of new things. We will get some of what he said up on the SGC website.

For our Hort short this month, Roxanne Wiley presented the 'soil your undies' challenge as described in the GCA newsletter this past month

<https://www.gcamerica.org/members:news/get?id=2143>

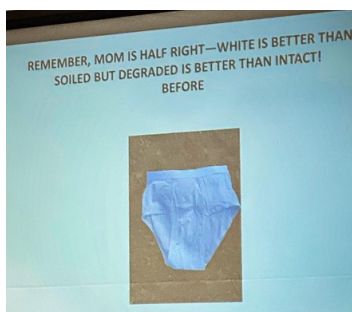
We gave out six pairs of undies to members, and they will record their progress and report back in two months.



Susan Potts, Drew Foster
and Roxanne Wiley



Suzy Titcomb



Suzette de Turenne

We also presented a quick and fun project to do with grandkids – to use food coloring to dye cut flowers. It is an easy way to show how flowers bring water up from their stems. [HERE](#) is some additional information from Scientific American if members want to try this at home AND describe the science behind it.

Roxanne Wiley & Susan Potts, Co-chairs, Hort

Heart in the Garden, Provided by Debbi Wilson

The month of Valentines and roses can bring awareness, not only to love and friendship, but to our natural world: to the trees and blooms that we see but may not notice. The heart is there.

Some of the most splendid trees have heart shaped leaves.

Cercis canadensis, (Fabaceae), Redbud, is found throughout the country. It has spectacular clusters of pink blossoms that attract butterflies and pollinators in the spring, and boasts heart shaped leaves. The variety, 'Forest Pansy' has purple leaves, that turn to bronze in the fall.

Tilia cordata, (Tiliaceae), Linden, is widely grown, with heart shaped green leaves green with a silver underside. It produces an egg shaped green fruit in summer, which browns but remains on the tree until early spring.

Catalpa speciosa, (Bignoniaceae), Cigar, Catawa, Indian Bean Tree, has very large (12' x 8") heart shaped leaves, and takes seven years to produce its white trumpet flower in the spring. Its seed pods are cigar shaped. The tree is native to the central US and provides shade in park spaces.

Reports

Paulownia tomentosa, (Bignoniaceae), Empress Tree, is native to China. It hosts 12" long velvety heart shaped leaves. Its blooms are fragrant upright lilac clusters that produce small seed capsules that remain on the tree until next season.

A favorite heart-shaped flowering plant, the Bleeding Heart, is a welcome sight in the garden.

Lamprocapnos spectabilis, (Papaveraceae) also known as *Dicentra spectabilis*, formerly of the Fumariaceae family, is the Bleeding Heart that we all know and love. Its name comes from 'dis' (twice) 'kentron' (spur). *Dicentra* is native to Siberia, China, Japan and Korea. A rhizomous herbaceous plant, it has lovely loquets of twenty red or pink flowers with protruding white petals that dangle on arching slender stems. It has upright three lobed compound leaves and grows best in part shade or a woodland garden. This delicate plant can be deer and rabbit resistant.

Dicentra canadensis, (Papaveraceae) Squirrel Corn, has a, racemes of white to pink heart shaped flowers with dainty fragrance and fern- like foliage. The clustered bubblets look like kernels of corn. It blooms in spring and lies dormant in the summer. 'Goldheart' has yellowish green leaves, and pink flowers; 'Alba' has white flowers.

A new cultivar, 'Valentine' is a robust plant (30" clump) of bright red blooms and stems in early spring. It has lobed grey green leaves best grown in shade to part shade.

Whether it be heart shaped flowers or leaves, Nature inspires and enriches us.

Conservation Report

The Conservation Committee met on January 16 after our excellent General Meeting with Kim Brown Seely. Our Conservation meeting was well attended by our enthusiastic members. We had two main subjects to finalize. First, we confirmed the date of our walk on March 20. We will meet at CUH at 9:30am and begin the walk, to include bird identification, possibly with Burnley Snyder if she is in town. Then, on to the two shell houses, Conibear and the original shell house where the Boys in the Boat began, where Shelley has arranged tours, and on to Montlake Park where Sue Blethen will give us a brief history of how we got started there, and Megan Smith will fill us in on the changes going on now. We'll end up at the Centennial Garden. Cars will be arranged so we'll be able to get back to CUH. We will discuss whether you might like to have a no-host light lunch at a nearby restaurant after our walk.

The second site visit to the Duwamish River is coming nicely into shape. A covered boat has been hired for May 12. We will leave Pier 66 promptly at 1pm. Port Commissioner George Blomberg, who has a long relationship with the Duwamish, will accompany us and will point out all that has been accomplished on the river's clean-up and projects on the docket for the future. This is an unprecedented, first come, first serve, educational opportunity made especially terrific by the Port generously providing the boat. Seats not spoken for will be given to friends of the Port and to students interested in seeing this important area. First and foremost, this is for our members, and for your friends as well. Plan ahead! Do come! The tour will be about 2 hours. There will be snacks and non-alcoholic drinks. Here is the sign-up for Duwamish River Tour:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4cada92baa8-may12th>

Let us know soon!

As announced at the General Meeting, we hope you will also contribute photos by e-mail of ways you help avoid using plastic. Here are Mary Turner's good ideas. Show us yours. You can send them to me at mckoin_martin@mac.com. Thanks so much!

Beverly Martin, Conservation Chair



Reports

Planning for the Future of SGC

We need your voice as part of the
Annual Business Meeting on Thursday, February 20th at CUH
And we all have some homework!

If you haven't done so already, please take the membership survey now. It's easy! Just click [HERE](#) to go to the first question. We'll review the results at the Feb. 20th meeting as part of our roundtable discussions about member engagement and satisfaction.

Our Feb. 20th Business Meeting will be full of exciting information and your opinions will be needed at every step of the way. You'll vote on SGC's choice for the GCA Founder's Fund project (please review them on your GCA Bulletin); get an update on our own future Founder's Fund project; and best of all - hear about our Community Projects proposals and vote on the SGC Community Projects grants.

We'll also get a report from our Treasurer and we'll need to do some 'housekeeping' regarding the following by-law amendments. There will be discussion, but please note that these changes were suggested by the committees involved and have been approved by Policy & Planning and the full SGC Board. **The changes are noted below in red.** Please read and call the committee chair or Shelley Rolfe 206 546 3294 if you have any questions.

Article III – (found on Green Book pages B-4 and B-5)

Section 2. Provisional Members.

2.1 Qualifications

1. They shall demonstrate knowledge of and interest in horticulture, conservation, floral design, landscape design, **photography, and/or** active participation in the work of a garden.

Section 3. Active Members.

3.1 Qualifications

3. Active participation in the work of a garden or demonstrated knowledge of and interest in horticulture, conservation, floral design, **photography,** or landscape design.

Article V – (found on Green Book pages B-11 and B-12)

Section 1. Election of Officers and Chairmen of Standing Committees.

- 1.1 Nominations. The Nominating Committee shall nominate from the Active Membership, the Officers and the Chairmen of the Standing Committees. **In addition, the Nominating Committee shall nominate the Treasurer-Elect to serve a one-year term concurrently with the 2nd year of the Treasurer's 2-year term; and further to provide that the Treasurer-Elect shall assume the position of SGC Treasurer for the two years following her one-year term as Treasurer-Elect.** Members of the Nominating Committee are not barred from becoming nominees for office.
- 1.4 Nomination by Members. Active members may nominate additional candidates for the offices of **President***, President-Elect, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, **Treasurer,** Treasurer-Elect, or any Standing Committee Chairmen.....

Section 2. Term. The President-Elect will serve a one (1) year term and then automatically assume the office of the President the following year, for a one (1) year term. **The Treasurer-Elect will serve a one (1) year term and then automatically assume the office of the Treasurer the following year, for a two (2) year term.** All other members...

Shelley Rolfe, Chair Policy and Planning Committee

GCA Tales and Tidbits!

20 U.S. Postal Service Stamps Feature American Gardens

News from [Garden History & Design](#) on January 14, 2020



Since 1847, the Postal Service stamp program has celebrated the people, events, and cultural milestones unique to the history of the United States. This year, the Postal Service will release a pane of 20 Forever stamps recognizing the importance and beauty of American Gardens. The stamps feature ten different photographs of botanic, country estate, and municipal gardens, taken between 1996 and 2014, by photographer Allen Kokach.

Deborah Edwards, President of The Garden Club of America, remarked on the significance of this new stamp collection: "I am delighted that the Postal Service has chosen to include a stamp collection celebrating American gardens in its 2020 Forever stamps program. This is one more acknowledgement of the importance that gardens play in our national landscape and psyche."

The Garden Club of America has appreciated gardens as a part of American history and culture since its founding and has sought to preserve this history in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution. Six of the gardens, in the stamp series, are part of The Garden Club of America Collection at the Smithsonian's Archives of American Gardens. They are the Biltmore Estate Gardens (North Carolina); Brooklyn Botanic Garden (New York); Chicago Botanic Garden (Illinois); Dumbarton Oaks Garden (District of Columbia); Winterthur Garden (Delaware); and The Huntington Botanical Gardens (California).

Other gardens included in the Forever panes are: Alfred B. MacLay Gardens State Park (Florida); Norfolk Botanical Garden (Virginia); Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens (Ohio); and Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens (Maine).

Art director, Ethel Kessler, designed the stamps.

Make a New Year's Resolution to Go Native!

Over the past century, urbanization has disrupted functioning ecosystems by replacing native plants with concrete, chemically treated lawns, and exotic ornamental plants and displacing essential wildlife. The Garden Club of America is leading the way back to beautiful and healthy gardens, that sustain birds, butterflies, and essential pollinators. The GCA is encouraging its 201 member clubs to "Go Native." [LEARN](#) how the Garden Club of Palm Beach, along with the Town of Palm Beach, Florida, took action by assuming roles as advocates and educators.

If "Going Native" is on your agenda this year, head to the National Audubon Society's [Native Plant Database](#). It provides a list of native plants according to zip code and identifies local nurseries selling natives.

