



# The Seattle Garden Club

# eNEWS

Member of The Garden Club of America

May 2020

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During these unprecedented times, our Seattle Garden Club gatherings scheduled in May and June have been cancelled. Due to the cancelation of the June luncheon, we are planning to honor new active members, new provisional members, and award winners at the September Picnic that will take place on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at the Seattle Tennis Club.

We are finding new ways to stay strong and connected. We thank **Kim Bishop** for creating our Private Seattle Garden Club Facebook Group so we can share pictures of our gardens and other information about horticulture, photography, floral

design, and conservation. If you would like to be added to this group, please let Kim know.

Please check your profile on the GCA website <https://www.gcamerica.org>, search on your name, above your picture select the green tab that says "Edit Publication Notifications" and select the GCA publications that you would like to have delivered digitally. Hopefully, every member will receive GCA publications delivered to their email.

Our SGC Board met via videoconference for the first time in April and we will hold another online meeting in May. We discussed challenges and concerns that each committee is facing during this unprecedented pandemic. It was wonderful interacting and seeing everyone online.

At a time when we face so many uncertainties, I hope you are inspired by the spring blossoms that abound in the garden. We are all under orders to stay at home. But thank goodness gardening can lift our spirits.

I send best wishes for your good health and well-being.

Diana Ackerley, Seattle Garden Club President

**It is time to pay your Annual dues and Meeting  
Arrangement Fees! Due May 31st**

**Please print the appropriate form on the website**

Dues and Fees are for Fiscal Year June 1, 2020 - May 31, 2021:

- Active, Provisional and Sustainer Membership Dues: \$230 ([LINK](#))
- Active and Provisional (mandatory) Meeting Arrangements Fee: \$175  
The fee is optional for Sustainers ([LINK](#))
- Total due for Active and Provisional members: \$405
- Non-resident Membership Dues: \$110 ([LINK](#))

Send one check, payable to Seattle Garden Club, to: SGC Treasurer Dabney Rohrbach, 3237 East Morley Way, Seattle, WA 98112

# Events

For calendar details, please go to [seattlegardenclub.org](http://seattlegardenclub.org), then select Members, then select CALENDAR.

## The following May activities have been cancelled due to COVID-19

- May 4th Hort Meeting
- May 12th, Duwamish Boat Tour
- May 18, Pam Green Horticulture Lecture
- May 21, SGC General Meeting

## Ways and Means!

We have been busy dealing with the impact COVID 19 has had on our 2019 Holiday Auction events. The following events have been cancelled or rescheduled:

### Cancelled Events:

- Georgia O'Keefe, April 1
- Bingo Night, April 29
- Birding Adventure, May 1
- Heronswood, May 19
- Day at the Farm

### Rescheduled Events:

- Bridge luncheon, TBD
- Palm Desert trip, TBD
- Trillium Farm, April 20, 2021
- Watercolor Class, October 1, 2020
- Herban Feast, TBD

We hated to cancel any event. These were not easy decisions to make. There is a finite amount of time available on the SGC calendar and rescheduling every single event into our fall, winter and spring just wasn't possible.

Thanks for your understanding as we navigate this complicated season in our lives. Please contact Sue Brickman [susanbrickman@msn.com](mailto:susanbrickman@msn.com) and Catherine Mueller [Cathmueller@gmail.com](mailto:Cathmueller@gmail.com) if you have any questions.



THE GARDEN CLUB of AMERICA



Join us as we make  
**LEMONADE**  
on the afternoon of  
**MAY 6th**

On the afternoon of May 6th, you will receive a very special invitation to the GCA's 2020 Annual Meeting, virtual style! All nearly 18,000 club members will gather around their respective computers to enjoy an annual meeting like none before.

We will learn who the Founders Fund winners are. We will get a glimpse of the GCA national medalists and honorary members. We will celebrate our recent achievements, and we will look to the future.

**How to participate?** You will need to login to the GCA website to participate in the fun, so in the meantime, please take this time to get set. If you have never logged into the Members Area, it's as easy as mixing lemons, sugar, and water — 1, 2, 3!

1. Go to [gcamerica.org/members](http://gcamerica.org/members)
2. Enter your email address and your password. *Unsure of your password?* Click the Forgot my Password link right below the password field, and it will be sent to you.
3. If it doesn't recognize your email address, email staff at [websupport@gcamerica.org](mailto:websupport@gcamerica.org) for personalized assistance.

# Reports

## Conservation Report

Each of the reports you receive must be filled with the same regrets and hopes. We regret our planned site visits had to be postponed.

We had a great walk planned for March 20, that had been put together by Shelley Rolfe. It can easily be reinstated when we are not so cautious about walking in groups.

Again, we also have just now decided to postpone a marvelous boat trip that was planned on the Duwamish River on May 13. (This conversation about a possible boat trip started over two years ago with Elisa Davidson's suggestion, and went through several asks of members who have boats, but without any luck.)

The Duwamish was used for about 100 years as an industrial dumping ground. There has been a massive effort to neutralize some of that negligence, and though it will take a very long time to fully accomplish, it is being done, one section at a time. With the generosity of one of our Port Commissioners, George Blomberg, who talked the Port into paying for a boat that would carry 47 passengers, we managed to have sign-ups to completely fill the boat. George was planning on narrating the trip, since he has been very involved with the restoration that is ongoing, and that has already succeeded. It is a hugely important effort and one that benefits communities that have long lived along that waterway, not to mention benefitting the Puget Sound water quality itself. Commissioner Blomberg has indicated that they might be willing to postpone it until next year, so again our new Conservation Chair, Suzy Titcomb, will have another good site visit to add to her list. I plan to take her to meet Commissioner Blomberg in the fall, since I have only "met" him myself by many, many conversations on the phone, and want to thank him in person.

It has been a great privilege to have this job and work with my excellent committee members, and with Susan Uydess, the Zone XII Conservation Chair for GCA all whom are inspiring and supportive. In my reports to our club I have noted that everyone who has a chance to attend NAL should jump at the opportunity, since it will inspire them to be more involved with this dynamic, purposeful organization both here in Seattle and nationally. I only regret that it took me so long to find that out! Thanks for a great term, and all the best to Suzy Titcomb, who will be a dynamic Conservation Chair for the next two years!

Respectfully submitted,

Bev Martin, Conservation Chair

## Green Book

Please take 1 minute to check the Green Book. Is your listing correct? If not, please send corrections to Jill Crutcher @ [crutcherfamily@comcast.net](mailto:crutcherfamily@comcast.net). Thank you!

## Photography Report

Audrey Hepburn famously said, "To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow." Much the same applies to capturing life and nature through the lens of a camera. Once taken, a photograph is there for perpetuity. As social distancing continues to separate us, sharing our experiences through photography is a wonderful way to stay connected.

Kim Bishop has set up a "COMMUNITY & PHYSICAL DISTANCING GALLERY" on our website. To all SGC members: please upload your photographs and keep in touch! Here's the link to do so:

<https://digitalgarden.smugmug.com/2019-2020SGC/PhotoCmtee/2020NatureEtcPhysicalDistancing/n-WjSB96/i-zvfXq8L>

Jolie Roze, Chair



# Reports

## Horticulture Report

Unfortunately the April 6 Horticulture Meeting had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ann Blume's long-awaited Provisional Talk, "This Presentation is to Dye For!" will be rescheduled for a meeting next year.

Many other items, of course, have had to be delayed and/or cancelled. The Bingo Party that was being planned by the Horticulture Committee for April 29 at Pam Green's house has been cancelled. All individual contributions that were collected from the Hort Committee members will be held in safekeeping until it is decided whether this event is held at a later date, or whether the monies will be applied towards a Hort Committee auction event for next year.

The University of Washington Greenhouse tour set for the May Horticulture Meeting has been cancelled by the University until a possible date in the fall.

It is our sincere hope that all of you are staying well and are able to use your gardens as a safe place to spend quality time. With our stay-at-home directives, we can use this month to do things we have always wanted to do but never had the time. And let's not forget all of the good advice that our January speaker, Drew Foster, gave us about taking care of our garden tools!

We are all so lucky to have gardening as a hobby. All that stands between us and our gardens is the weather.

Roxanne Wiley and Susan Potts, Chairs



"If it's drama that you sigh for, plant a garden and you'll get it. You will know the thrill of battle fighting foes that will beset it. If you long for entertainment and for pageantry most glowing, plant a garden and this summer spend your time with green things growing."

Edward A. Guest, [Plant a Garden](#)



# Photos

"Queer things happen in the garden in May. Little faces forgotten appear, and plants thought to be dead suddenly wave a green hand to confound you."  
W. E . Johns



*Vicki Reed out and about @  
Physical distance!*



*Megan Smith working in her  
garden on Easter, Kim Bishop*



*Magnolias in the Arboretum on  
a lovely long walk 6 feet apart  
from my friend. by Bev Martin*



*Full Rainbow—The incredible game changing  
view, Jolie Roze*



# Reports

## Public (Fragrance) Garden Fund is abloom with donations!



Photo by Suzette de Turenne  
April 2020

### Reserve account reaches total of \$37,039 in first year

Our Public (Fragrance) Garden fund to support maintenance of the Fragrance Garden at CUH was established in 2019 with a \$5,000 grant approved by the membership on recommendation from the Community Projects Committee. Generous contributions, including a gift of \$30,000 from a member who wishes to remain anonymous, have added \$32,000 to the fund, leaving a balance of \$13,000 needed to reach the amount required to establish another SGC endowment with the Seattle Foundation. Annual distributions from this future endowment of \$50,000 or more will help cover maintenance and improvements in the garden.

The following members have made donations to the fund, many to honor SGC members or family:

**Catherine Allan** *To honor the May birthdays of Diana Neely and Diana Ackerley*

*To honor the March birthday of B.J. Anderson*

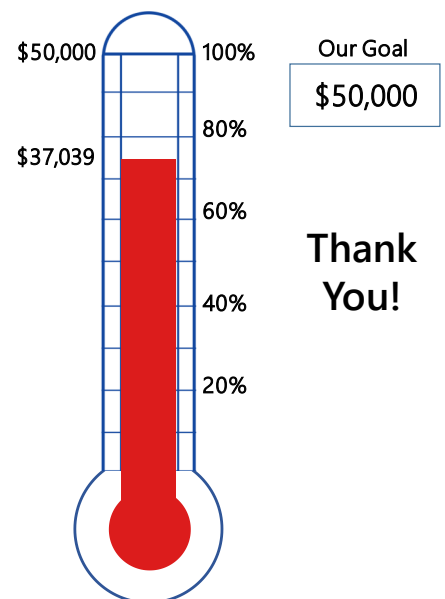
*To honor the leadership of Diana Ackerley, and to celebrate her daughter, Annabelle, on her graduation*

*To celebrate my Mother, Carol-Anne de La Chapelle, on her 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday*

**B.J. Anderson** *"A tribute to the dedicated ladies of the SGC – you all make a difference and I am proud to be a part!"*

*In memory of Bill Bain*

**Shelley Rolfe** *To honor Diana Neely*



As you prepare to pay annual dues, please consider adding a donation to support the Fragrance Garden fund. Fully funding the endowment now will help ensure our Fragrance Garden blooms with fragrance long into the future!

Barbara Feasey, Immediate Past Treasurer



THE GARDEN CLUB of AMERICA

## ON THE NEXT TWO PAGES FIND GARDEN CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR WHEN YOU CANNOT MEET

*Recommended by zone chairmen and club members*

Make the most out of social distancing and create new experiences. Here are some ideas compiled by the GCA's zone chairmen to enlighten, amuse, and keep engaged in GCA-related and non-GCA pursuits. Stay safe and healthy!

# GCA Tales and Tidbits

## Garden

- Share photos of your plants/garden with club members and loved ones as spring unfolds.
- [Read the Seed Your Future blog](#)
- They give people 5 ideas of things they can do right now.
- Create a site plan for your garden using Google Earth Pro. [See GH&D video guidance](#).
- Get out and get some exercise by picking up pine cones/debris, pruning and weeding, and hand watering anything in containers.
- Start a dialogue about gardening successes and failures with your club members - maybe you use the [Club Member Showcase](#) as a means to this end.
- Contribute to Smithsonian Gardens [Community of Gardens](#)
- Download the app [Plant Snap](#) to find out the names of unknown plants or those you are going to enter in your next flower show.
- Follow [Laura LeBoutillier's blog](#) "The Garden Answer" with many how-to videos and solid advice.
- Check out the [American Public Gardens Association](#) for ideas.

## Enjoy Nature

Bike, Hike, Walk and Explore

### [Forest Bathe](#)

Go in one's own yard, or neighborhood, or park, and take a photo of an interesting, stunning, beautiful flower, tree, or shrub which exemplifies nature in spring.

## Community

[Teleconference](#) with your club members or other clubs

Consider undertaking oral histories with longtime members by phone or video. Many services allow you to record. Include questions about their gardens over the years when interviewing them. Family stories in or out of the garden as well as members' pride of place and their awareness of time are invaluable resources. [See the Historian's guidance](#).

Encourage your club members to reach out via phone or text, to elderly members or anyone they know in a nursing home/ skilled care facility. One zone chairman did a crossword puzzle, over the phone, with a dear friend of her late mother's. "IT WAS SUCH A REWARDING EXPERIENCE. We now have a standing appt, she added it to her EMPTY calendar. Had to smile - she said she put it in PEN!!!"

## Watch

There are endless programs, shows, and movies to enjoy. Just explore! Start with the [Media Guide](#) maintained by the Program Committee.

## Plant

- [BLOOM! Online Learning Module](#) With so many families looking for fun and educational things to do with their children, this plant-focused module is I deal. It includes video, a trivia game, a matching game to pair plants with the community challenge they can solve, and a dissection tool to teach key elements and functions of plants.
- Propagate from cuttings.
- Plant seeds for pollinators—try milkweed and sunflowers for starters.
- Join the [Great Sunflower Project!](#) Watch them grow, share photos and document visiting pollinators!
- Plant seeds to start your vegetable garden.
- Schedule a club horticulture challenge class to be "judged" or shared at the club's opening meeting in September. Or, how about a Photography "contest" or challenge? Makeup FUN awards!
- Share outdoor activities in the GCA's [Club Member Showcase!](#)

## Conservation

Watch "[The Story of Stuff](#)", "The Story of Plastic" or [others](#) - animated shorts and documentaries that chart a path to a more just and sustainable future.

## Have Fun and Remember to Laugh

- Create a garden club "Trivial Pursuit" or Jeopardy game
- Bad joke: "There's a new drink called a 'Quarantini' — It's a Martini that you drink alone!"
- Another bad joke from a zone chairman's spouse: "World Health Organization has exempted dogs from the quarantine protocol. Therefore, WHO let the dogs out?"

## Armchair Travel - Explore Gardens

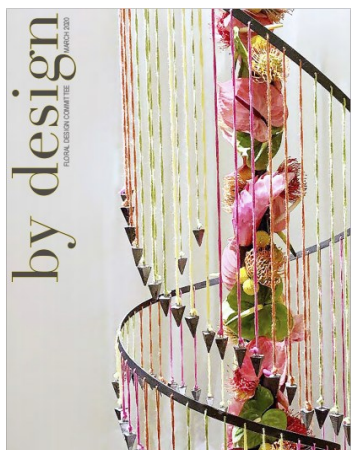
Monty Don O.B.E. is the UK's leading garden writer and broadcaster. He has been making [television programs](#) for over twenty years on a range of topics, principally, gardening. He has been lead presenter of the BBC's [Gardener's World](#) since 2003 and since 2011 the program has come from his own garden, Longmeadow, in. Monty has also made acclaimed primetime series such as [Around the World in 80 Gardens](#), [Monty Don's Italian Gardens](#), [Monty Don's French Gardens](#), [The Secret History of the British Garden](#), [Monty Don's Paradise Gardens](#) & three series of [Big Dreams, Small Spaces](#).

## Music

The Met Opera will host free "Nightly Met Opera Streams" of past performances. The encore presentations will begin at 7:30 p.m. EST each night on and will be available for 20 hours thereafter. For each showcase log onto [Met Opera on demand apps](#).

# GCA Tales and Tidbits

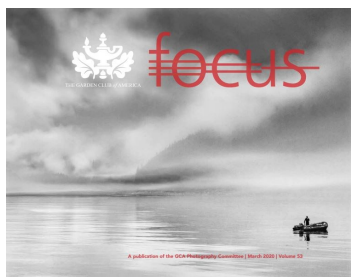
While we are all at home in isolation as a result of COVID-19, now is an opportunity to catch up on our reading, and the GCA provides a vast collection of publications for us to enjoy!



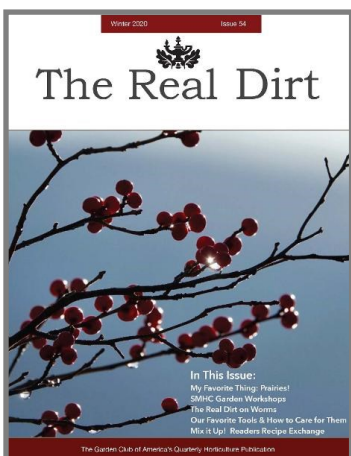
[By Design](#) is a quarterly magazine produced by the Floral Design Committee, once a sub-committee of the GCA's Flower Show Committee. It includes information gathered in the United States and throughout the world on current shows, events, educational articles, and photographs of the latest styles, trends, and materials used in floral design.



[Conservation Watch](#) (ConWatch) is the quarterly newsletter published by the GCA's Conservation Committee. Each edition includes a series of articles drawn from the research by members of the committee, conservation news from individual clubs across the country, and a reading list of books on various environmental topics. *ConWatch* articles inform members on a wide range of topics such as sustainable agriculture, billboards, plastics in the environment, and climate change



[Focus](#) is a quarterly online newsletter produced by the Photography Committee. The journal encourages both contributors and readers to explore their creative and artistic impulses through the lens of a camera. GCA members are constantly inspired, submitting award-winning images taken in their backyards, on their travels, or in carefully-staged scenes.



[The Real Dirt](#) (TRD) is an online, quarterly newsletter produced by the Horticulture Committee for GCA members. Featuring in-depth articles and handy tips for gardeners of all levels, *The Real Dirt* has something for everyone. From a treatise on the benefits of off-season gardening to the how-to's of espalier, *The Real Dirt* digs into the heart and soul of the GCA, sharing wisdom from one gardener to another.