

## **PACIFIC REGION GARDEN CLUBS 74<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**APRIL 18 – 20, 2017**

### **“BEST OF THE NORTHWEST, THE PAUSE THAT REFRESHES”**

The Embassy Suites, 15920 W Valley Hwy, Seattle WA 98188

Embassy Suites provides a made to order complimentary breakfast.

Embassy Suites provides two complimentary beverages and snacks for their nightly Atrium Cocktail Party.

### **We will have exciting horticulture speakers – read all about it here!**

**Kelly Dodson and Sue Milliken**, owners of **Far Reaches Nursery**, have travelled the world to bring back specimens to enhance their collection of rare plant species. Plant preservation and propagation are important to Kelly and Sue and it is evident in the quality of their botanical treasures and their extensive knowledge that they are happy to share with us. Please come and enjoy the stories of their expeditions and the work that they do in their nursery. Stay for the workshop so that you can purchase plants for your own collection.

**Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.** – Kelly and Sue are our lunch speakers.

**Plant sale** and in depth discussion of plants continues with Kelly and Sue at the **2 p.m. workshop**. **Pacific Region Flower Show Schools Chairman and NGC Instructor Marva Lee Peterschick** will discuss the newly revised **Handbook for Flower Shows** at the **3 p.m. workshop**.

**Oxbow Farm & Conservation Center's** mission is to inspire people to eat healthy, sustainably grown food and to steward our natural resources for future generations. Oxbow is situated on 230 acres of land bordering Western Washington's Snoqualmie River. We feel fortunate to have 3 key people from their staff as speakers at our convention.

**Jessica Price, Oxbow Executive Director**, who after two plus decades working in the field of global health made a career change. After completing a certificate program in agroecology she came to Oxbow where she could work on environmental impacts from modern agriculture. **Bridget McNassar, Oxbow Native Plant Nursery Manager**, heads a small nursery operations team and provides technical leadership in Oxbow's restoration and conservation research and practice. Currently the native plant inventory has 52,000 plants representing 120 different species. **Adam McCurdy, Oxbow Farm Manager**, has over 17 years farming experience in the Willamette, Methow, and Snoqualmie valleys. Adam manages a 20-person team that grows 30 acres of mixed vegetable crops and supplies product throughout the region to the CSA, local grocery and restaurant businesses, and to hunger relief organizations.

**Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.** – Oxbow Farm programs research talk followed by the first workshop discussion of local food and agriculture conservation followed by our second workshop with an Oxbow **native plant sale**.

### **Tours**

**Kubota Gardens** is unmatched in its quality of mature landscaping, streams, waterfalls, ponds, and rock features. Planted in a Japanese manner, the 20 acre garden was started in 1927. It is a City of Seattle Historical Landmark.

**Highline SeaTac Botanical Gardens** is an example of the good that can happen when communities work together to save and preserve beloved gardens that are threatened by

development. Enjoy walking the 10.5 acres including 2 relocated gardens and the work of “Partner Gardens.”

Other fun adventures, perks, and opportunities include: spouse tours, golf outing and a DIY Spa kit for everyone who registers. It is true! We have lovingly handcrafted and collected wonderful items to make your stay extra special! Our design program, “The Gallery – Portraits of the Northwest”, will feature some of our best designers showcasing special places in our state. They are great and we are proud to show off their talent.

Come spend some time with friends from across our region, support our current Pacific Region Director Kristie Livreri and welcome our incoming director Peggy Olin. We know that you will love them as much as we do!

Brynn Tavasci, Convention Chairman  
Diane Franchini, Vice Chairman