

THE ECHO

Hill and Dale District

A Member of National Garden Clubs & WA State Federation of Garden Clubs

#202 Oct - Nov 2021



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

My, my, how Fall has blown in with a wild roar, wind from every direction; rain coming down like crazy!!! But with all that we have beautiful colors on trees to watch blow through the sky!

Well, what a great 1st District meeting in over a year. I know it was a bit long, crazy, loud and a lot of wonderful. What a great turn out! Thank you to all of you that ventured out, brought wonderful designs and horticulture to share.

I know some of you might not have realized it was not going to be judged. With all the uncertainty still in our day to day lives we decided to err on the side of caution. Each district meeting has its hiccups, and we all work behind the scenes to fix them and make it the very best time we can. I believe we do just that. It was great just being able to see one another, have amazing speakers and know each time we meet things get better and better.

I am looking forward to our meeting Nov 30th to see what our different clubs bring to share with one another. I know notice seems a little bit short and I am sorry for that. So just to let you know November will be the same sort of meeting. So, start planning now if you want!!

I am glad to know that our clubs are meeting and getting back to as close to normal as possible. Keep letting us know that you are working to stay together and our clubs and district are strong and healthy.

Rachel Jennings
Hill and Dale District Director



District Meeting

Nov 30, 2021

Dryer Masonic Center

306 134th St S, Tacoma

10 a.m. To 2 p.m.

The morning speaker will be Jessie Karkiainen speaking on wild mushrooms.



Dates to Remember

District meetings

November 30, 2021
March 22, 2022
May 24th, 2022

Dryer Masonic Center
306 134th St S, Tacoma
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

District Board Meetings

February 22, 2022
April 26th, 2022

SE Tacoma Community Center
1614 99th St E
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Echo Deadline

February 24th, 2022
April 25th, 2022

Hill & Dale Workshop

March 29th, 2022

Dryer Masonic Center
306 134th St S, Tacoma
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

LOGGING INTO A ZOOM MEETING

If you do not already have Zoom loaded on your computer go to your browser bar (the www...etc. Bar at the top of the screen) and type in:

Join.Zoom.us

Click **Open Zoom Meeting**. If you don't see a dialog; click **Launch Meeting**

If you don't have Zoom installed click **Download Now** then click on the circle at the bottom of the screen to open the download up.

- It will now ask you for the meeting ID number which is: **622 744 7615**
- Click on **Join**
- Click on **Yes** to enter with video
- Click on **Yes** to enter with audio
- It will say 'host will let you in the meeting'

If Zoom is already on your computer go to your Zoom page

- click on join a meeting
- Enter the meeting ID **622 744 7615**
- Click on **yes** to enter with video
- Click on yes to enter with audio
- It will say 'host will let you in meeting'

If you need help please contact Kathy Johnson at 253-847-4933 or kathyj16@msn.com

You do not need a camera on your computer to participate. You will still be able to see and hear everything! While others won't be able to see you they can hear you.



GLOVE AND TROWEL

Our September meeting took the club to the Old Goat Farm to tour the gardens, shop for plants and yard art and lunch. We learned how to put our gardens to bed for the winter.

On October 5 we brought plant material from home and made Halloween bags for each member to take home. Eileen Smiley missed the meeting because she was getting a corneal transplant on the same day. Her sister will stay with her to assist during her recovery.

Our November meeting promises to be a blast with a club auction. Lots of laughs, as bids get competitive and lots of interesting items brought from home to bid on.

Six members attended the district meeting and flower show. With new designers participating, the designs were informally judged. The lunch of salad and croissant sandwich was enjoyed by all.



DOGWOOD

Greetings Gardeners! Here's the news from Dogwood since August!

Kathy Mettler hosted our September meeting on a beautiful blue sky day with 18 members in attendance. Darlene Nelson won the container growing challenge project contest. She received an autographed gardening book by Sue Goetz as her reward (I'm so jealous!). Our September program was presented by Mary Bewley on the principles of design in particular when planting containers.

In October the club took a field trip to Lakewood Gardens in Lakewood where we had a tour of the grounds by their Lead Horticulturalist, Kristine Dillinger, followed by the business meeting. It was very well attended, with 22 members participating!



Our new speaker committee has done a wonderful job putting together the speakers and events for the year. Thank you to Dee Hanson, Fawn Baur, and Katy Hoffman!

We have certainly noticed lots of birds coming to our feeders lately – juncos, chickadees, nuthatches, stellar jays, doves, pigeons, quail, hummingbirds, and as Sharon Aguilar describes, her “LBBs” (little brown birds).

Ginny Phillips noted she saw her first woolly caterpillar recently who, by his width of black and orange/brown stripes, warns us of a harder winter so be prepared!

Here at my place, I'm harvesting the last of the peppers and taking pride in the fact that all the pumpkins we carved this year were grown in my own garden. November is the time to put my garden to rest. Still need to plant my garlic! Hope everyone has fun planning for next year's garden as we head into the holiday season!

~ Crystal Dorsey

ROOT & BLOOM

The Bloomers were off and running in September, putting to good use by way of floral arrangements a variety of autumn flowers. Members brought what flowers they had in their gardens— mums, dahlias, asters, etc. plus assorted leaves and other greens. Then, led by Judy Strickland we made fall designs for our homes.



In October our speaker was a lover of all-things mushroom, Jesse Karkiainen. Not only did he talk about their cultivation and benefits to our gardens, he told us about how they help clean up toxic waste, which ones make into teas in order to help ward off colds, and which ones can be turned into ointments for achy joints. He told us the best ways to cook them, (mushrooms, not achy joints) including saving the water for future soup or gravy. It was fun to learn how many of our members were familiar with going into the woods to search for the edible ones: Judy Strickland, Eddie Joe Fueston and Norman Humphreys come to mind. I highly recommend Jesse to any club looking for a speaker (and he's kinda cute, too).

October was a meeting full of riches. Member Cindy Swanberg, who recently moved to Tumwater, talked about getting to know what the things growing in her new yard are. One plant, which she said had lovely blooms, turned out to be a quince. After the fruit developed she cooked some in a slow cooker (Wikipedia says since they're really hard, they have to be cooked to soften) and added lemon juice and sugar (Wikipedia also says they need a little sugar). I couldn't find a picture of Cindy's tree in bloom but Vincent Van Gogh painted the fruit. Anyway, lucky us, Cindy made a sauce and served it to us on



crackers. Interestingly enough, the very pale fruit turns deep red when cooked. Coincidentally, Jesse Karkiainen brought a bag of them so those who wanted could take some home. I kept mine in the cool car until the next day. Even now, when I get into the car, I still get whiffs of their lovely smell.

We also had a seed exchange in Oct. with seeds that members brought them from their gardens, Norma Humphreys made packets out of old calendars and members filled the packets, labeled them and everyone got to help themselves. What a great idea.

Unfortunately, October had its share of sadness, too. For those who don't know, Doris Yuckert passed away on October 14th. She was 92 and had been a garden club member for 56 years. Anyone wanting a copy of the obituary can contact me and I will email it.

Now it's on to making items for the November District Meeting sale. Right now the weather is good for two things: new plants and for staying inside to work on projects. To quote Winnie the Pooh, autumn is "A time of hot chocolaty mornings, and toasty marshmallow evenings, and, best of all, leaping into leaves!"
Karla Stover, secretary

ASTERNOTS

In October we met at the home of Tookie Harlow. Larry Owen gave an illustrated talk on sweet peas and delphinium. We took hand outs home and are all eager to plant sweet peas.

~~~~~

## CONGRATULATIONS TO RACHEL

As part of the celebrations of getting together at our September Board meeting, the Hill and Dale District honored Rachel Jennings for her continued service to the district.

Rosie Trujillo, Past District Director, presented the National Garden Club Life Membership to Rachel. In addition to a certificate, she also received the National Garden Club Life pin.



## LOST TREASURE

Along with her family and other friends, the members of Hill & Dale District lost one of their great treasures, with the passing of our friend Doris Ann Zaharis Yuckert.

Doris Yuckert joined Sunbonnet Sue Garden Club before the Hill & Dale District was organized. Back in the day, the group was in a League. Doris served her club in the many offices she held over the years and was an active participant before and after the Hill & Dale District was organized in 1975 as well.

When the Sunbonnet Sue club disbanded, she joined Root & Bloom and continued to serve however asked. Her last duty as District Correspondence Secretary was one she performed to the delight of all who received her words of sympathy, sunshine and encouragement in the greeting cards she chose for the occasion. Even when she was in the hospital, she was directing her family to see that her responsibilities were handled.

Over the years, Doris earned the nick name, "The Energizer Bunny", which describes her willingness and desire to help in any task that called for her talents.

Doris was known for her tremendous garden and love for growing things – always willing to share her bounty and knowledge with others. She will be greatly missed and cherished as a true giver and garden club member.

Her friend and fellow Sunbonnet Sue member, Sharone Ketterman, shared that the family intends to have a memorial get together for Doris this coming Spring in the hope that Covid will be more contained and people will feel more comfortable about getting together. She will let us know when that is to happen so we may be able to share our memories of a dear friend.

Judy Strickland

## COUNTRY GARDENERS

Well, fall is fast approaching and we are beginning to feel a bit more normal. Country Gardeners attempted to have our first in-person meeting in September, but again a Covid surge happened, which resulted in a Plan B approach. It was decided that since we did not want to risk meeting inside the next best thing was to have a short informal OUTDOOR meeting. This turned out very well with 15 members in attendance, we received our new yearbooks (great job Patti I) and also the Vision of Beauty calendars. We also had a plant swap that was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone and allowed us ample time for visiting.

Also in late September, we were able to attend the District meeting in-person for the first time since the pandemic began. Turnout was awesome with approximately 50 members in attendance. We were fortunate to have speakers again helping aid us in our gardening and design projects. All this, while visiting with those we had not seen is quite awhile and enjoying a fantastic lunch served to us. This was an awesome beginning to a new 2021-2022 year!

We planned on having our next regular meeting in October at the Midland Community Center, again attempting an in-person inside meeting. This time we were able to accomplish that small task. We had a great turnout of 14 members, discussing many of our ideas for the upcoming year. We are again trying to plan for field trips, Chris S has many great ideas and hopefully has a field trip set up this month. Chris S also had a great idea for a planting project and went to great lengths to get us started. She hand collected poppy seeds and hollyhock seeds for us to plant in the spring. This was a laborious task but one I am sure Chris took delight in doing it!

Patti and I suggested that egg cartons might be used to start the seeds. We will journal the process and take pictures along the way.

So looking forward to all the results. As

Our meeting was coming to a close a question was asked about getting rid of ants, which lead to many home remedy ideas. This also lead us to a new topic to add to our meeting agenda..TIPS (all variety, gardening, home etc)

We adjourned our meeting to "decorate" faux pumpkins. There are so many different things that can be done with them besides carving. Everyone had something a little different, some using gourds, some with fresh flowers others with dried. Some folks used artificial succulents, and some used the branches from trees in brilliant color. It is wonderful to see all our creative minds at work. We all had fun in the process. Did manage to get a couple of

pictures to share.



Our next meeting will be in November and we will be preparing our contribution to the holiday "sale" table during the District Meeting the end of that month.

Country Gardeners will also have cookies to sell at the District meeting as a fundraiser for our club. The holidays are fast approaching and the weather is turning, but our minds remain in the garden.



*Winter is a time of promise because  
there is so little to do - or  
because you can now and then permit  
yourself the luxury of thinking so.*

*Stanley Crawford, A Garlic Testament:  
Seasons on a Small New Mexico Farm, 1992*

Kathleen Muckian  
Secretary

# A GARDEN SNAPSHOT

## PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL ROSE TEST GARDEN



1920 Vintage postcard of the Rose Garden

The Portland International Rose Test Garden is the oldest official continuously operated public rose test garden in the United States.

The space features more than 10,000 roses featuring 610 different varieties and occupies 6.9 acres.

The idea was conceived by the Oregon Journal editor, Jesse A Currey, in 1915 and approved by Portland Parks in 1917. It started as a safe haven for hybrid roses grown in Europe during WW I to ensure the roses from being destroyed by bombing.

In 1921, Florence Holmes Gerke, a landscape architect, designed the layout of the garden which was officially dedicated in 1924.

The garden entertains hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world each year and offers spectacular views of downtown Portland and Mount Hood.

If visiting Oregon the Rose Garden is a 'must see' destination! It is open to the public daily at no charge for visitors to stroll through and enjoy. It also has ADA access.

Anne Hartman, Editor  
8717 210th St E  
Graham, WA 98338



### SPREAD A LITTLE SUNSHINE!

Do you know a member who could use a cheerful note or card? Let **Chris Sherrill** know and she will send out a card. [smittywalt@centurylink.net](mailto:smittywalt@centurylink.net) or 253.820.5907

### MISSION STATEMENT

***National Garden Clubs, Inc.*** provides education, resources and national networking opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility.