

Dogwood Garden Club  
Meeting Minutes January 10, 2013

**BUSINESS MEETING**

- Meeting called to order 10:40 a.m. by President Diane Mettler, at the Eatonville visitor's center. Thank you Helen and Mayumi for hosting and bringing dessert.
- 15 garden club members and no visitors were present.
- December minutes approved as read.
- **Treasurer's report** was presented.
- **Chairman Reports**
  - CeaCea stepped down as Sunshine chair; Diane and Debbie will fill in but we need a replacement. Duties include calling members who do not have email, sending cards to members who have had surgery, and checking in with members who have not attended in some time.
  
- **Unfinished Business:** none
  
- **New Business:**
  - Diane has reserved the Eatonville visitor's center for the Garden Tour July 21-22, 2013. Use of the visitor's center is picking up so reserve early; it is free for Eatonville groups.
  - Town of Eatonville is looking for volunteers to plant the towns hanging baskets this spring. Diane will contact the mayor for number, dates, and ask Dawn for how/when she did it in the past. May need greenhouse space initially.
  - Our next meeting will have a presentation on staking plants by Diane. She will bring orange baling twine for us to "Reuse" as part of our recycling theme. There was discussion of brown, orange, and hemp baling twine and the merits of each.
  - Members discussed the Christmas Tea at the Old Goat Farm. There was a proposal to attend the Christmas Tea next December for our December meeting and Christmas party; tabled for later discussion in the spring.
  - Chase Garden asked permission to add our member emails to their mailing list, and the club voted to do so. Their emails, like all advertising email, will have an "opt out" option at the bottom. Any members who expressly do NOT wish their email to be given to Chase Garden are asked to contact Diane Mettler or Anne Hartman.
  - The Northwest Garden Show is Feb 20-24, 2013 at the Seattle Convention Center.
    - Parking is difficult so carpooling is recommended. Diane will research if there is bus or Sounder service to the center.

- **Hill & Dale District Business:**
  - Mary Bewley discussed the next District meeting, March 26, 2013. We need another great Dogwood club turnout!
  - The District design guild meets once a month, and includes club members Mary Bewley and Sharon Burlingame. Each meeting has a theme and this year they are movies:
    - January “African Queen”
    - February “Star Wars”
    - March “True Grit”

The club discussed ways to represent these themes in design and it was suggested the design guild photograph the designs and we can share them at our club meetings. The guild is always looking for new members!
  - Each year the junior garden club members make “mug” designs which are taken to the State garden club holiday show in Everett. If you have any old coffee mugs to donate, please get them to Mary Bewley, or bring them to club meetings.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.
- Raffle
- Lunch
- Program: Greg from the Old Goat Farm brought photos of the various “rooms” throughout his garden, and shared with us some of the elements to consider when creating rooms in our gardens. Some tips to consider:
  - Design the space to add mystery to your garden - you walk around a corner and a new space opens up.
  - Consider the many uses of outdoor “rooms” – relaxing, dining, playing and working.
  - Combine verticals and horizontals in a space.
  - Verticals can be building walls, fences, or a couple of taller trees in a bed – your eye “fills in” the space between and sees it as a “wall.”
  - “Windows” can be created with an open trellis and airy plants
  - “Entrances” can be symmetrical vertical plants, an arbor, pillars of art or rock “gabions”, or simply a path leading away, lined with planting beds.
  - Be sure to include furnishings, to invite people to relax and spend time enjoying it!
  - Surfaces should be simple, don’t mix too many different elements (lawn, gravel, bark, patio)
  - Plants should be the LAST element to be added, after the structure is established.