

THE ECHO

Hill and Dale District

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

#177 July ~ Sept 2015



THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Tend to the Roots ~ Together We Can

As gardeners we all know that for our trees and flowers to grow and thrive it starts with tending to their roots. Emerging from the roots growth occurs, strong, vibrant, healthy and full of life.

This is the same goal we would like to obtain in our district. Our theme, Tend to The Roots along with our motto, Together We Can, will make garden club stronger. To create the best possible experience for all of us we need to work together, learn together and have fun together.

If we Tend to the Roots (our clubs) then the next step is making the "roots" of district stronger. Having strong programs, entering your horticulture for all to enjoy, working together toward common goals, attending district meetings will help us all thrive.

I'm looking forward to the next two years and hope you are also. Remember, *Together We Can*.

Co-director
Linda Maida

Feed the soil first. if you do not, even the sun and water of the most vibrant Spring will bring forth only a poor seedling.

UPCOMING EVENTS

District Meeting.

Sept 22 10 a.m.

Registration: Rosie Trujillo, Rachel Jennings

Flower Show: Dogwood

Table Decorations: Glove and Trowel

Morning program: **All About Gourds**

Afternoon program: **Let's Start Designing** with
Caroline Erickson

Registration **must be** to Karla Hiers by Sept 16
Please include # attending and # buying lunch
253-927-1247 hiersong@juno.com

Hill & Dalers Design Guild

Oct 1 10 a.m.

Midland Community Ctr
1619 E 99th St, Tacoma

Gardening Study School

Oct 13-15

21 acres Education Center
13701 NE 171st St Woodinville
see www.elwd.org for more details

Hill & Dale District Board Meeting

Oct 27 10 a.m.

Midland Community Ctr
1619 E 99th St, Tacoma

WFSGC Holiday Show

Nov 4 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Nov 5 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Red Lion Olympia
2300 Evergreen Park Drive SW Wednesday

CLUB NEWS!

ROOT N' BLOOM

What would our District do without Larry Owens? Last May Root & Bloom members were scheduled to take a field trip to the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden and Pacific Bonsai Museum in Federal Way. Inclement weather (remember that?) forced a change of plans; the field trip was moved to June and in May Larry came out and talked about all kinds of edible beans, and gave seeds to those who wanted them. Then in June, we went to Enid Roberts' home.



Last September Enid, designer of Dawn view Gardens, a "thirty-acre destination" on Totten Inlet, south of Olympia, spoke to the club on agapanthus. She also invited us to visit her home. Enid and her husband have lived there since 2007 when they relocated from Cooper Point because their three-quarters of an acre garden didn't keep Enid busy. For the last six years, and with the help of a gardener who comes three days a week, Enid worked to create five separate gardens at their home: English Cottage, Northwest, Alpine Rock, Ornamental, and vegetable. To access them, paths radiate from a statue of Bacchus pouring water from his wine urn. The paths make the gardens accessible to the elderly which is important to Enid. Both the *Olympian* and *The News Tribune* had articles on this amazing garden, and the Roberts welcome visitors.

Since not all the Bloomers were able to make the trip, President Harriet Miller hosted an installation-of-new-officers and tour-of-her-garden picnic in July. The new officers are Karla Stover, president, Eddie Joe Fueston, vice president, Kathy Johnson, secretary, Kathy Toups, treasurer.



Once business was taken care of, the main topic of conversation seemed to center around who has lost what plant so far in this summer's heatwave.

Weather.com has the lowest temperature between now and next May as 46 degrees. One of our District horticulture speakers also told me our planting zone is now 8.5. Nurseries next year should do a booming business selling replacement plants and things that fit our new zone.

Karla Stover, President

COUNTRY GARDENERS

It's been a Long hot summer for all of us - . trying to keep the plants and trees alive and stay cooled off. We have a new President, Gail Harte, and Vice President, Sandy Walker, who led us at our first meeting of the new year on August 31st at member Marilyn Goddard's home in Spanaway. We enjoyed a delicious pot-luck, planned some events and projects and looked around her yard. Teresa Hopper shared horticulture.

Our past president, Linda Maida recently attended a design symposium in San Francisco.

Our October meeting will feature a speaker on bees. In November we will see a powerpoint program about a gardening project in Guatemala that member Sandy Walker's granddaughter is very involved with.

The Pierce County Fair was a highlight of the summer for us. Despite the hot weather there was a lot of horticulture and design participation from our club. The Hill & Dale District really puts a lot of hard work and time into this event.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the next district meeting.

AWARDS PRESENTED AT CONVENTION

CONSERVATION TEACHERS - LESS THAN \$75

Root & Bloom, Garden Hour, Sunbonnet Sue

GARDEN THERAPY

2nd Root & Bloom
3rd Garden Hour

HONOR CLUB

Glove & Trowel

HORTICULTURE - Essay

2nd Kathy Johnson
Root & Bloom

GROWING PROJECT

2nd Root & Bloom
3rd Garden Hour

% Growth of membership

Root & Bloom

YOUTH

1st & 2nd - Dogwood

PUBLICATIONS - MEDIA

2nd Dogwood

YEARBOOK

2nd Root & Bloom
20-29 members
HM - Dogwood

GARDEN HOUR

"Ain't Misbehavin'" should have been our theme song down at the Edgewood fire hall for May and June. Well, I said it should have been...didn't say it was. Things were going well until **Linda Maida** gave a design program in May and volunteered "**Joltin' Jo**" **Snyder**, "**Savin' Seeds**" **Sue Miller** and "**Kalamity**" **Karla Hiers** to make fantasy flowers from corn husks and hot glue. More than once she had to remind the ladies to "behave yourselves" as glue, husks and accusations of "you're copying me!" flew about. In their defense, emotions had been running high that day after "**No Nonsense**" **Nita Huber** reported on the Lake Tapps water fiasco which led to a lively discussion concerning the legislature, Seattle consortiums, and water rights. Politics, water rights, and fantasy flowers -- a dangerous combination for rowdies.

We regained our composure and re-installed our "old" officers: co-presidents "**Digger**" **Dorothy Bean** and **Nita Huber**; treasurer "**Queen**" **Frances Nix**; and secretary **Karla Hiers**. To demonstrate we can tolerate change, we elected a new vice president, "**Mad Dog**" **Margie Van Volkenburg**.

Some of us were on our best behavior when "**Super Storm**" **Sandy Parr** chaired the Garden Therapy project at Valley Community Inn leading her band of rowdies as they helped residents create 20 sedum gardens. "It was all so wonderful," she mused adding that everyone enjoyed snacks and visiting after "working" on their gardens.

Our June meeting was all about sharing. **Sue Miller** kicked it off with her talk on saving and sharing seeds from previous plantings. The calm was broken suddenly when "**Vocal**" **Valerie Linkert** announced she saw a 30 ft sunflower on the news. Throwing her hand up as if to lead a charge into battle, **Sue** excitedly exclaimed, "OH! SAVE THOSE SEEDS!" This started quite a commotion with the rowdies. But--**Rosie Trujillo** was visiting so we quickly regrouped and moved on to our annual friendship plant exchange. Then it was off like a herd of turtles to **Master Gardener Mary Beth Ryan's** home to enjoy a potluck in her wonderful backyard garden.

So for now we rowdies "Ain't Misbehavin'" till September when it's time to fire it up again (and think of a new theme song) down at the fire hall.

"Keepin' It Kool" Karla Hiers, Secretary

GLOVE AND TROWEL

While our last formal meeting was in June at Jan Morgan's beautiful home and garden, we continued to get together several more times in July and August. These gracious ladies, Raunie Grottolo, Linda Pempeck and Sheryl Gustafson hosted tours of their own gardens. Oohs and awes with lots of sharing seemed to be the take-away theme at each place.

In July, one of our club's older members, Lori Kase, had knee replacement surgery. While she was in the rehab facility, her daughter and club member, Sheryl, arranged for a get together of Glove and Trowel members to come to the nursing home for a potluck luncheon to show their support for Lori. About a dozen of our group attended -- bringing multitudes of flowers. The food everyone brought was not only delicious, but a much appreciated break for Lori from "institutional cooking".



Everyone was asked to bring a few flowers out of their garden, which would be put together into a huge arrangement. Since Lori (an award winning designer) really loves the design aspect of garden Club, Sheryl brought boxes of vases, driftwood, and other assorted design material and everyone took their turn at putting together an individual flower design. This gathering of good friends had an enormous impact on Lori's outlook toward recovery, as well as our own from the hot days of summer. Lots of laughs, comradery, and design therapy. Fun, fun, fun!

We are looking forward to our first meeting September 15 on Anderson Island and, weather permitting, a walk on the beach.

Barbara Bias, Secretary

DOGWOOD

We left off in June, right? Everything green, blooming, guilty about not planting early enough, complaining about mowing the lawn and everything was so beautiful in all tones of green. A painters pallet. Well.....

CRITTER PROBLEMS:

1st: Seems, everyone had a rabbit or two. Cute until they got into your garden eating all the chives, flowers and all. (No reports of Diana's chive eating dogs this year.)
2nd: Strange burrowing animal/rodent in garden. Big holes, no mounds of dirt.

BAD WORMS / GOOD WORMS

3rd: Deer ate all the neighbors green beans and ate all the young tips off the Cypress trees meant to be a view block of the neighbors yard. Trees now look like Ice cream cones.

4th: Elk in the orchard and on the lawn scooping out the future apple crop. Very destructive animals. Yes, confirmed that Elk do eat prunes, seeds and all. The droppings proved it.

5th: Digging dog!!! in the flower beds. Those angry thoughts can not be publicized.

6th: Domestic free roaming ducks looking for greens and using succulents as a salad bar. Haven't found any slugs in this dry weather though. Where are they hiding?

7th: AND THE LIST GOES ON.....Heard about some humming bird fights!!!

JULY: "ART IN BLOOM" = Summer event in Eatonville.

All booths sold goods related to gardening. Money raised went to Eatonville Community Center Food Bank. Dogwood's successful booth sold painted mail boxes used for garden storage, cement leaves, and beautiful cut flowers. (Booth near an exit so people couldn't resist buying some flowers to take home.)

AUG: PIERCE COUNTY FAIR = Graham

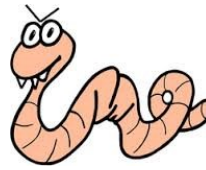
Jr. gardeners were outstanding this summer. A leader said that one young boy was not interested until he reluctantly started to help his little sister pick flowers and weeds. He then found some crazy wire frames, put the flowers in a design, etc, etc, etc....He was hooked. He won most of the first place prizes and more than the little sister. This was his first year and can't wait till next year.

OBSERVATIONS: The dry season has had many consequences on gardening and animals. Toasted lawns, droopy weeds and yellowing shrubs are the obvious.

It has been a video moment watching the Elk drink out of the cow trough. Most of their water sources are dried up, too. Rabbits eating the remaining green ground cover in the flower beds and the ducks are now tasting the leaves on the phocxs stems. Animals need greens. They like salads!!

Another video moment when the ducks were playing in the sprinkler one hot, dry day like a bunch of little kids. This dry season will be compared to a winter ice storm. What will be damaged and what will survive?

Sharon Aguilar reporting.



Once upon a time, a good portion of the eastern seaboard consisted of temperate, deciduous (broad-leaf) forests. The forests' primary nutrient sources were the carbon, phosphorous, and nitrogen found in thick layers of decomposing organic matter. Enter Europeans who brought with them little bits of home, including bulbs packed in soil containing worms. Into the ground they both went; the bulbs bloomed and the earthworms began breaking up the decomposing matter on the surface of the dirt, and carrying or mixing it into the surrounding soil where it leached, causing a loss of water-soluble, plant nutrients. Also, some of the nutrients ended up so deep down, saplings and other young plants had trouble reaching them. By redistributing nutrients, mixing soil layers, and creating pores in the soil, the worms changed the characteristics of the dirt and, thus, the rest of the ecosystem. It's a toss-up what was hardest on the hardwood forests: timber companies or worms.



The west coast's conifer forests fared better. They never had many earthworms and didn't want them, either. Though the accumulated organic material was, and is, fertile ground for worms, their presence changes the native compost. The new environment favors the growth of some plants over others and puts added pressure on some native species. Luckily for the conifer forests, frost, acidity, and the harsh environment discourage the worm's presence.

Just as in most of nature, nothing is hated by everyone, after all, monkeys socialize by picking fleas off each other, and ducks enjoy a fat slug. And so it is with worms. Gardeners call them nature's plows. They push or eat their way through the soil, (the worms not the gardeners) creating interconnected burrows which can be several feet deep. In turn, the burrows loosen the dirt, letting air and water in and helping roots grow. As a worm inches along, organic matter passes through its body and is excreted as granular dark castings rich in nutrients.

In 1998, Ten Speed Press published *The Worm Book* by biologist, entomologist, and zoologist Janet Hogan Taylor and eco-journalist Loren Nancarrow. It is advertised as "full of wormy fun and helpful facts." One fact is that in North America, worms were all but wiped out during The Little Ice Age and Europeans most likely re-introduced them to areas where they had thrived in prehistoric times. Interesting to think that almost every earthworm in most of the United States had relatives that came from elsewhere.

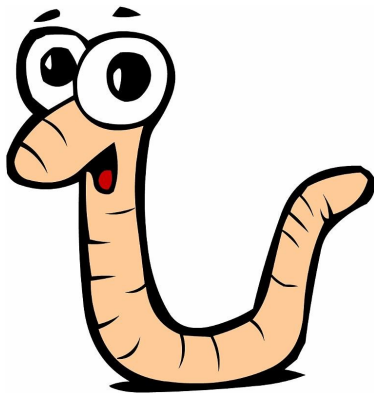
We are all worms but I believe that I am a glowworm.
Winston Churchill

**PIERCE COUNTY FAIR
Aug 6-9, Frontier Park, Graham**

The Floral building was overflowing with horticulture, floriculture and designs. The youth that participates grows each year, 132 flower, fruits and vegetables plus 35 designs is incredible for a country fair. The hours spent helping the kids make Mr. Potato heads was very rewarding, the creativity was great.

Adults entered 535 specimens of horticulture and 29 designs, truly an unexpected bounty. Thankfully because of the amount of help we had on entry day it went smoothly. Just to put a perspective on what it takes to make these four days happen: 45x2 hours of hosting, 12 hours x2 children's project, 10 hours of prep and clean-up, and 7 hours x a minimum of 12 getting everything entered. **The total man hours was 158!** That is why it takes all of us working as a team to accomplish this undertaking.

Thank you for all of your work and support for this gigantic project.



*One rainy day on my way home from school
I found a big worm and thought it was cool.
I picked up the worm with my bare hand
Held it up high thinking how grand.
Mom was in the kitchen when I showed her what I'd found.
She screamed, "No way! Put back in the ground!"
I laid him in the dirt and let him go free.
I guess that my pocket was not the best place to be.*

DISTRICT BUS TOUR

On May 20, 2015, the much awaited Hill & Dale District Bus Tour got off to a slow start. District Director Rosie Trujillo had been planning for some time on this tour, and just when it was nearing the finish line, Rosie was taken ill and had to miss the trip. Rosie's best laid plans were carried on by other district members, Linda Maida and Judy Strickland.



Forty-eight members climbed aboard the charter bus at the Elks Lodge parking lot on May 20, 2015, and headed for the Bellevue Botanical Gardens. Pastries and liquid refreshments were served going through the "S" curves on Highway 405 with no spills noted. Upon arriving at the Gardens, we were met by docents that split us up in groups of vigorous walking & strolling members, allowing us to tour the gardens at our own pace. After the tour, we enjoyed lunch in a building on the grounds.

We again boarded the bus and set out for Soos Botanical Gardens in Auburn. At Soos Gardens, we were again met by docents that were able to divide us up in groups for better ease in providing plant identification etc. and we all were quite pleased with the different structure of the 2 gardens and wishing for more time. Some had spare time to purchase plants at Soos Gardens before we were "forced" to leave.



A good time is never a thing you want to see end but we have pictures and memories to recall this event and wish to thank Rosie for her planning. Hopefully, she will be able to get on board next time.
Judy Strickland

New address for Smoke Signals

(Washington Garden and Design)
Subscriptions to Dianne Franchini
153 Greenvale Drive
Ellensburg WA 98926

MY GARDEN PRAYER

The kiss of the sun for
pardon,
The song of the birds for
mirth,
One is nearer God's heart
in a garden than any place
else on Earth.

I love this poem and I know
it's true, 'till I dig in my
garden and find kitty pooh.

I never know where it will be;
that little bonus meant
just for me!

I love the Lord, (you know
I do);
I love my garden, and kitty,
too.

But this seems wrong,
so out of place; pooh in
God's Garden, and in my
face?!

Please hear me Lord when
this I pray; "May I *not* dig up
kitty pooh today."

~Karla Hiers



Sept 22, 2015 Dryer Masonic Center
Dogwood Garden Club

Entries 8:45 a.m. - no later than 9:45 a.m.

DIVISION - 1 - HORTICULTURE

Horticulture entries must be grown or in an exhibitor's possession for three months. All plant material must be properly groomed, conditioned & named. More than one entry may be made in each class or sub-class if of a different variety or color. Wedging is permitted; a small inconspicuous piece of material may be used in the neck of the container only to prop or wedge the exhibit upright.

*Each Exhibitor will furnish their own transparent containers.
Put your name and club name on each entry tag.*

Rosette of Bronze ribbons: Best of Show. Classes 1—8

Rosette of Orange & Brown ribbons: Harvest Award Class 9

Rosette of Orange ribbons: 2 Awards of Merit Class 1 and Class 4

Class 1. **ANNUALS/BIENNIALS** - 1 stem if large flower, 3 stems if small flowers

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a. <i>Asters</i> | d. <i>Helianthus</i> , Sunflowers |
| b. <i>Cosmos</i> | e. <i>Zinnas</i> |
| c. <i>Tagetes</i> , Marigolds | f. Any other worthy specimen |

Class 2. **PERENNIALS** - 1 stem if large flower, 3 stems if small flowers

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| a. <i>Chrysanthemum</i> , Daisies | b. <i>Rudbeckia</i> | c. Any other worthy specimen |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|

Class 3. **CHRYSANTHEMUMS**

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| a. 1 spray | b. 1 disbud |
|------------|-------------|

Class 4. **DAHLIA** - Foliage attached, disbudded, 1 stem

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| a. Over 10" | d. Small 4" - 6" |
| b. Large 8" - 10" | e. Under 4" |
| c. Medium 6" - 8" | |

Class 5. **MISCELLANEOUS BULBS, CORMS & TUBERS**

Class 6. **ROSES, *Rosa*** - Must have some foliage attached & must be named for a blue ribbon

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Floribunda - 1 spray | d. Miniature |
| b. Grandiflora - 1 spray | e. Any other worthy rose |
| c. Hybrid Tea, 1 bloom (disbud) | |

Class 7. **FLOWERING,/FRUITED (CONES / BERRIES) TREES, SHRUBS, VINES** - 24" or less, must be blooming.

- | | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| a. Shrubs | b. Trees | c. Vines |
|-----------|----------|----------|

Class 8. **HERBS** - Cut specimen, 1 stem under 8".

Class 9. **BOUNTIFUL HARVEST** - On paper plate furnished by exhibitor. 1 exhibit to a plate if large, 3 to a plate if small. Tomatoes with stems if possible, but exhibit must be consistent.

- | | | |
|---------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| a. Vegetables | b. Fruit | c. Ornamentals (gourds, etc.) |
|---------------|----------|-------------------------------|

General Rules

1. All entries to be made between 8:30 and 9:45
2. Judging will begin at 10:00AM. Rules for judging will be in accordance with the NGC Handbook for Flower Shows. Standard system of awarding is used, Judge's decisions are final.
3. Entry to include club and exhibitor's name.
4. Members of Hill & Dale District or student judge's requiring credits may enter.

Horticulture Rules

1. Exhibitors may enter more than one exhibit per class, if each is a different genus, species, variety, cultivar, type, size or color.
2. All cut exhibits must be fresh and grown by the exhibitor. Container-grown plants must have been in exhibitor's possession for at least 90 days, combination plantings, in the possession of the exhibitor and growing together for at least 6 weeks.
3. All specimens must be properly named. Include genera, species, and variety if possible.
4. Containers (clear or clear green) glass to be furnished by the exhibitor. Wedging is permitted. Suggested material plastic wrap, Styrofoam-may be visible but not detracting.
5. Only fresh untreated plant material is accepted. No plant material from the state noxious weed list will be accepted.
6. All horticulture exhibits will be classified and placed by committee
7. Scale of points HB pages 297-302
8. Rosette of Bronze ribbons: Best in Show

Design Rules

1. Exhibitor may enter more than one class, but only one design per class.
2. Fresh plant material emphasized and must never be treated, dry plant material may be treated.
3. No artificial plant material permitted.
4. Accessories allowed unless otherwise stated.
5. Scale of points HB page 303
6. Designer's choice: designer has complete choice of components and plant material.
7. Rosette of Purple ribbons: Best of Show Classes 1-4
8. Small rosette of Blue and White ribbons: Best of Show in class
6 a AND 6 b
9. Best novice class 5

Artistic Crafts

1. All exhibits must contain some plant material, fresh and or dried.
2. Artificial plant material in not permitted.
3. Scale of points HB page 304
4. Rosette of Red and White Ribbons

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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.



SPREAD A LITTLE SUNSHINE!

Do you know a member who could use a cheerful note or card? Let **Doris Yuckert** know and she will send out a card.

dyucert@centurylink.net or 253.845.8720

COMMUNITY SERVICE: DISTRICT GARDEN THERAPY

Garden Therapy uses garden-related activities as an aid in the recovery and rehabilitation of physically and /or mentally challenged individuals. This year our district will be working with Alzheimer's & Dementia residents at Brookdale Puyallup South, 8811 176th St E, on South Hill in Puyallup. We will be doing three activities this year with them. On Wednesday, October 21st at 10:00am we will help them make flower arrangements in a hollowed out pumpkin shell. Please join us for this fun activity. We would like each club to be represented by two of their members.

