

THE ECHO

Hill and Dale District

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

#184 Apr, May, Jun



THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Your director would like to thank you for the last two years. All the clubs and people that have willingly stepped up and helped when they were asked. This last Workshop was a great example of that, as was the one before it. Kathy Toups and Rachel Jennings have brought us great programs. Judy Strickland, Sherry Matthews and Cathy Pitts have made sure our flowers shows were successful. Lisa Libby, you were a life saver and so always willing to do what's needed. Kathy Johnson, because of you and the teams you have led many residents of Brookdale Care have had a little extra sunshine in their life. Doris, you bring a ray of sunshine with you always and write the best cards. Chris Sherrill, thank you for taking care of the money and everything else that comes your way. Club presidents and fellow garden club members it has been a pleasure working with you.

Putting on a district meeting and the very next day the workshop was taxing but so successful. Janit Colva gave us the miniature garden Program. She and I meet with the staff at the Washington Soldiers Home and they are excited to have us install a miniature garden in the courtyard. It was decided to use a 2x2x6 foot horse trough for the garden which will allow those in wheel chairs to get up close. The residents are deciding if they want a farm scene, military base or maybe a small village. With the help of each club we hope to start this project the end of April and finish in May.

The afternoon program at the May District Meeting will be installation of officers and the celebration of Root and Blooms 70th year. Tea and cake and our very best hats would be a perfect way to celebrate! Lets dress up for high tea in a NGC flower show setting!

From Marj's second book of sayings, Coming together is a beginning, Keeping together is progress working together is unity and thinking together is success, we have accomplished this the last two years lets continue into the future because ***Together We Can!***



UPCOMING EVENTS

District Meetings

May 23, 2017
Dryer Masonic Temple
306 134th St S, Tacoma
8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. for entries
10:00 a.m. for meeting

District Board Meetings

April 25, 2017 10 a.m.
Midland Community Centre
1619 E 99th St, Tacoma

District Therapy

May 18, 2017
8811 176th St E, Puyallup

Awards Picnic/Bus Tour

June 23, 2017
Herronswood - details at the
May 23rd District Meeting



Pierce County Fair

See page 7 for details

District Garden Therapy

Thank you all for your help and support these last two years working with the Alzheimer's & Dementia residents at Brookdale.

Thank you also to the businesses in our community that donated gift cards or products to help make these programs successful. Please shop and support the companies that supported us.

Bud's & Blooms Florist Puyallup	5 dozen flowers
Fred Meyer's South Hill Puyallup	\$50.00 gift card
George's Pumpkin Farm 144 th & Canyon	10 pumpkins
McLendon Hardware Puyallup	\$25.00 gift card
Safeway Graham	\$25.00 gift card
Safeway South Hill	5 dozen roses
Tacoma Boys Puyallup	10 pumpkins
Wal-Mart Puyallup South Hill	\$25.00 gift card
Wilco Puyallup	\$50.00 gift card



Oct 2015 Pumpkin Designs



Feb 2016 Bird Feeders



May 2016 Spring Flowers



May 2016 Spring Flowers



Oct 2016 Pumpkin Designs



Feb 2017 Hummingbird Feeders

CLUB NEWS!

GARDEN HOUR

Ok, now I know why I can't find my cell phone or remember why I went into the kitchen. It's because my head is full after the last 3 months of learning new stuff down at the fire hall.

It all started in Feb. with master gardener, Dave Mitman and his class on Mason bees. We learned they are very small, look like blue-black flies, and thrive in old buildings and barns. Upon hearing that, **No Nonsense Nita Huber** gasped, fell back in her chair, clutching her chest and exclaimed, "Ya mean those aren't flies in my barn!?" Well, that got everyone's attention. (We did cancel the 911 call for a possible heart attack.)

Although our hearts did go out to the male Mason bees who die shortly after mating. Only the females live to gather pollen and nectar then die within a few months of hatching. Poor little Mason bee: a widow with a short life, no hive for socializing, mistaken for a pesky fly, doesn't live to see her kids get married, a solitary worker living in run down digs; makes misplacing my phone seem quite trivial.

The brain filling continued in March when we hosted master gardener, Rita Butler, for an informal question and answer session. The fun began with a confession, "I'm Rita, and I'm a 'plant-aholic!'" as she showed the plants she brought.

Of particular interest was the checker board patterned petals of the native bulb, Fritillaria. (I'll bet that bulb would cheer up any lonely Mason bee.) The rowdies did their best to trip up Rita to no avail; firing question after question.

When asked about controlling moss and lichen, she stated, "Lichen on woody plants is a good thing. It indicates good air quality." And for moss she said with a grin, "Well, if you're gonna have moss have moss! Either live with it or get rid of your



lawn." I guess plant-a-holics love moss more than grass. (A Mason bee would love my grass; it's full of dandelions, clover, and buttercups.) Poor little bee...

The final brain fill was during our April meeting when experienced members mentored newer members on the what's and how's of district flower shows. Each member brought horticulture to show, filled out entry tags, and learned about naming, wedging, proper containers, et al. **Java Junkie Jan Hurley** then explained what worked and what didn't.

A people's choice was voted on which resulted in a 3-way tie: **No Nonsense Nita Huber, Doo-Bee Dorinda Jenkins** and our visitor, **Sue Eidinger**. There was such a variety of entries; a beauty to behold. Even our widowed, lonely, misunderstood Mason bee would have smiled.

So that's the buzz...now where's my keys!!!

Ko Ko Pops Karla Hiers, secretary

COUNTRY GARDENERS



Country Gardeners finished the first phase of their project for the Midland Community Center. We had a great afternoon working together and managed to fill a pickup

with weeds and get one front bed started. Patty Swanson brought her very helpful husband with her - his help was appreciated. It's amazing how much can be accomplished in a short time while having fun and working together.

We have a full slate of officers for next term: Patti Isom will be our new president and Chris Sherrill the vice, Debora Schmus and Patty Swanson will share secretary duties. A big thank you to Gail Harte for being our fearless leader the last two years.

ROOT N' BLOOM

Hi Lady's! Well we had some great programs at District and Workshop last month. I know it excited some of our members into thinking just how they could incorporate mini gardens into their yards. Also how to make our soil richer for our Gardens, to help those flowers and/or vegetables we're waiting to plant.

OH and if you didn't make Workshop you missed out on some really great Raffle Baskets! Or, as in my club, a Wheelbarrow full of really Wonderful Goodies. I know I bought tickets to win it. Great job everyone.

Well, our members have some pretty amazing husbands. For example last month Patty's husband Gene, allowed us to come invade his garage to make our license plate boxes.

Great for putting plants in or your gardening tools! We had one on display, and will again next month at District. We will take orders for them, if you'd like one for your yard!!



This month Rosie set up a tour at Ostrom's Mushroom Farm for us. We even got a box of Mushrooms when we left! There is a lot that goes into growing them which was very interesting. Maybe a field trip for your group!? Joe gave us a great tour.



Our meeting in May will be a Tour of the grounds at Lakewold Gardens in Lakewood. Should be beautiful next month! I've lived in the area for ever and have never toured them. We'll also have our meeting and lunch in the Sun Room. Looking forward to that!

We have member's that go to the Old Soldiers Home in Orting every month. Soon they will be planting hanging baskets and vegetables with some of the residents. It's a great way to give back to our Veterans.

Some of our members will also be going out to the Pierce County Fair grounds to help plant a new tree for Arbor Days. It's a fun time, and of course lunch with everyone afterwards.

I know our members are getting into their yards every chance the crazy weather allows them, too. Too bad there aren't more sunny and less rainy day's! But the Sun is coming!!

Enjoy this great weather. Since we are seeing more Sun, and enjoy all the Wonderful plants coming to life in your yards.

Rachel
Root & Bloom

DOGWOOD GARDEN CLUB

Topic of Conversation: "SNOW"

- It is so quiet and cold
- It makes everything clean and uniform
- Falling snow is mesmerizing
- Kids love it
- It shelters plants from the cold
- It shows animal footprints you didn't know you had around
- For awhile it can be a beautiful fairy land
(Come on....I'm trying to be positive about it)

JANUARY: it was wonderful to see all the members after the holidays and get a jolt to start thinking about 'planning'.

Rita Butler, our Master Gardener speaker, told us that '*anytime is good for gardening*' and '*blooms aren't just for spring and summer*'. But if we 'plan' and think about the plants we put in our garden we can keep our yards in bloom throughout the year. And it doesn't have to be expensive, just requires thinking before we buy and plant.

FEBRUARY: a grizzly, rainy day but very well attended meeting at the Van Eaton's for a wonderful Valentine's lunch to brighten our spirits. (Gardeners are such good cooks!!) Taking advantage of the antique shop while there was a plus.

Saving seeds was the topic for the day. Suggested NOT to put them in plastic bags! Use glass containers or paper bags instead. We will continue to share our seeds with each other.... we are inspired!

MARCH: more grizzly weather, this time with no snow on the roads, just pot holes the size of wash tubs (between Elbe and Morton) on our field trip to the Raintree Nursery in Morton.

Our speaker talked about pruning.... WHOW!!! A lot to think about if it is to be done right! TIP: get some good advice before doing serious cuts. January can be a good month for some trees and plants to prune.

- Know your pruning equipment
- Clean your equipment before and after pruning
- Blueberries, Japanese Maples, summer bearing raspberries, apples, pears, forsythia and hybrid tea roses are a few of the plants to be pruned now.



It was a very informative meeting despite the weather.... but gardeners are hardy folk!!!

The weather was good for another field trip to see a private collection of orchids. Another WHOW!!! Such beauties in the private sunroom with a dining table in the middle surrounded with orchids. Those who didn't go lost out BIG TIME!

TIP: Know the names of your orchids - each has specific care needs.

- Find out if they need lots of light or not so much light
- What is the correct temperature for that orchid? Some can be outside with 50 degrees.
- How much water does it need?
- Buy from reputable growers for more successful blooming
- Bark tends to be better than sorgum moss for re-

- Orchids like tight containers - know your containers
- Do a little homework on their care if you are serious about this beautiful flower.
- Be patient - the reward is worth it!!

Dogwood had a good showing at the District Meeting. Way to go, Ladies!



APRIL = Daffodils Galore! They did survive under that snow!! Cherry blossoms out of nowhere and lawns that need cutting already....argh!

Guest speaker, Pierce County Master Gardener, Walt Burdsall, insisted we take better care of our soil and water and teach our young people to do the same.

Unfortunately, Dogwood lost two wonderful ladies in the last few months. Ilse Trujillo and Helen Neighbors. They will be greatly missed but are now tending the wonderful garden in Heaven

Dogwood's Spring Clean Up of the Dogwood Park on Meridian with the view of Mt Rainier is always a challenge to find good weather to do so, but coffee and doughnuts from the trunk of the car seem to help the motivation.

So much has just started to sprout or bloom with a few rays of sun Dogwood members are busy! We are already planning for "Art in Bloom" with the garden tour, too, in July.

HASTA PRONTO
Sharon Aquilar, reporting

PS: Look for miners lettuce and chickweed, even dandelion greens for a tasty salad.

GLOVE AND TROWEL

It has been a fun, creative and exciting three months for the Glove and Trowel members. But then, we are the Glove and Trowel group and would not expect anything less. We are excited about all the suggestions that have come in from our members for 2017/2018.

Eileen Smiley hosted February in the clubhouse. Five members brought functional tray designs to be critiqued by our judge, Sherry Matthews, who is one of our award-winning designers. We discussed putting together centerpieces and our raffle basket for the District and Workshop meetings held March 28 and 29 respectively.

Fran Cissell hosted March. Sherry Mathews gave us a clear and concise understanding of the Handbook that explains details when entering designs. Conservation and Recycling ideas are always interesting to learn of the different ways you can recycle items that you would normally throw out. One member discussed pruning roses and another member brought a beautiful and unique Rhododendron and climbing Hydrangea. Master Gardener, Susan Wigley, gave an interesting presentation of various propagation methods.



We had a fun and informative meeting hosted by Jan Morgan in April. Our Penny Pine jar will be available at each meeting to unload our change for Reforestation projects. Several members brought horticulture items to discuss and display. One member talked about the Pierce County Iris Society at Point Defiance. We discussed pollinator programs, e.g., tagging butterflies by prison inmates. We toured Kate Johnson's yard, which was full of incredible art designs and ideas. Everyone walked away excited and encouraged to try some of her projects.

We are so blessed to have such an enthusiastic and wonderful group.

Sheron Taylor Price, Secretary

WORKSHOP 33

Workshop 33 will be counted as one of our most successful yet! The speakers were wonderful and I'm sure we have all started a fairy garden. The design program was outstanding as we learned so much about the new designs that will be featured in our future flower shows.



Luncheon was awesome with an array of great salads and homemade cookies for coffee time. The attendees are treated to a full day of education while visiting friends. This workshop would not and could not happen without the help of everyone! Thank you to Garden Hour for running the kitchen and to all clubs for their contributions and assistance sitting up and cleaning up. Thank you to Glove and Trowel for the table centerpieces that were then used for door prizes.

Thank you to Country Gardeners, Dogwood, Garden Hour, Glove and Trowel and Root and Bloom for the amazing raffle baskets! The lady that won the wheelbarrow was so excited she was going to take it to her next Enumclaw garden club meeting and show them what they missed!.

Together we Can
Linda Maida



Lona Carter working on designers challenge at workshop



Save the Dates August 10-13, 2017

Please bring a list of your planned entries to the District Meeting on May 23rd.

Mike Seiber will be present to help enter into the fair computer system, remember to include both the class name & variety. Even if you do not know what the bloom will like look it is easier to delete them then to add later.

Monday, August 7 Open & Clean out Floral Building

Tuesday, August 8 Finish Cleaning & Decorate

Wednesday, August 9 Entries accepted, & Judged

We will need help from ALL Garden Club Members with:

Cleaning the building
Registration
Classification
Placement

Clerks
Youth Entries
Hostesses
Kids Activity

Please be prepared to sign up to help at our District Meeting on May 23.

Any questions, please call Kathy Johnson 253-847-4933 or Sherry Matthews 253-845-2555

March District Flower Show Results

Horticulture

Best in Show Vicky Nelson R & B
 Best Flowering Branch Kathy Johnson R & B
 Award of Merit Sec 1 Vicky Nelson R & B
 Award of Merit Sec 3 Harriott Miller R & B

Design

Best in Show Judy Strickland R & B
 Best Small Design Sherry Matthews G & T
 Best Novice Design Kathy Toups R & B
 Best Photograph Lisa Libby DW

Club Points	Horticulture	Design
Country Gardeners	102	21
Dogwood	71	11
Garden Hour	38	
Glove & Trowel	4	14
Happy Thymes		
Root & Bloom	174	39



SOME GOOD WEBSITES TO KNOW

tpchd.org/naturalyardcare

raingarden.wsu.edu

kingcounty.gov/yardtalk

www.cityoftacoma.org/tagro

www.piercecountywa.org/naturalyardcare

www.piercecountywa.org/compost

www.piercecountywa.org/soundgro



ANNOUNCEMENT: Beginning design classes

Hill and Dalers Design Guild will be sponsoring beginning design classes October 12, 19 and 26 from 10-1. Cost will be \$10 per class.

Please email linda.maida@yahoo.com if you're interested. Would like to know by **April 30th**.

Flower Show Information

Horticulture exhibits must include binomial name or currently accepted scientific identification written properly for top exhibitor awards. Proper I'D is found in new handbook page 54-57. Please practice on your May entry cards.

Arboreals and troughs must be in your possession 6 months before they can be shown.

Design Changes

All plant material used in the design must be identified on a card, index card will work, and included with the entry card.

The May flower show is honoring our clubs and members I can't wait to see what designers come up with. I know the horticulture will be amazing!!

It's a Tea Party!!

May meeting - bring your teacup and wear a fancy hat. We will have installation of officers and celebrate Root and Blooms 70th birthday.



DRYER MASCONIC CENTER

306 134th St. S. Tacoma 537-9928
May 23, 2017

COUNTRY GARDENERS
ENTRIES 8:30 to 9:45 AM

"TENDING TO OUR ROOTS"

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 and named. More than one entry may be made in each class or subclass 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.

EXHIBITOR WILL FURNISH THEIR OWN TRANSPARENT CONTAINERS. PUT YOUR NAME & CLUB ON EACH ENTRY TAG.

Rosette of Bronze ribbons: Best in Show WSFGC Betty Belcher Award Section 1, 2 & 3
Rosette of Lime green ribbons: WSFGC MarveLee Peterschick Flowering Tree/shrubs. Section 3
Rosette of Orange ribbons: 3 Awards of Merit. Sections 1, 2 & 3

SECTION 1 "BURSTING WITH COLOR"

Class 1. ROSES, *Rosa*

a. Hybrid Tea, disbud b. Floribunda c. Any other

Class 2. *IRIS* 1 stem

a. Bearded b. Beardless c. Bulbous d. Any other

Class 3. PEONIES, *Paeonia* 1 stem

SECTION 2 "ALWAYS RETURNS"

Class 4. PERENNIALS & BIENNIALS

a. *Viola*, Pansies 3 stems, same variety, same color

b. *Zantedeschia*, Calla 1 stem

c. *Aquilegia*, Columbine 1 stem

d. *Chrysanthemum*, Daisies 3 stems

e. Any other worthy perennial/biennial in bloom 1 stem

SECTION 3 "FROM BUDS TO"

Class 5. FLOWERING TREES & SHRUBS, 1 branch not over 24", must be in flower

a. *Cornus*, Dogwood b. *Syringa*, Lilac c. *Camellia* d. Vines

e. *Kolkwitzia amabilis*, Beauty Bush f. Any other

Class 6. *RHODODENDRON*

a. One truss with leaves b. Any other

Class 7. AZALEAS 1 spray not over 16"

SECTION 4 "OTHER SPRING BEAUTIES"

Class 8. Any other worthy blooming specimen not listed above (No potted plants)

"TENDING TO OUR ROOTS"

DIVISION 11 - DESIGN

No artificial flowers or foliage. Fresh plant material emphasized Accessories allowed unless otherwise stated. One entry to a class or subclass. Put your name and club on each entry tag. Remember to write on a card the names of all plant material used in your design.

Division II Design

Rosette of Purple ribbons: Best of Show Classes 1-4

Rosette of Hot Pink ribbons: Carolyn Erickson WSFGC Award, All fresh design, classes 1-3-4-5.*

Small rosette of Blue and White ribbons: Best in Show in class 6

Rosette of Purple and Cream ribbons: Novice Award in class 5

Class 1. "Country Gardeners" Exhibition table setting, some plant material required, space 26" wide

Class 2. "Dogwood" Using wood

Class 3. "Garden Hour" Incorporating a time piece

Class 4. "Glove & Trowel" Featuring a glove or a trowel

Class 5. NOVICE ONLY "Happy Thymes" using some herbs

Class 6. Miniature Design "Root & Bloom" Under 5" overall. Must include a root

a All fresh b. Combination of fresh and dried

PHOTOGRAPHS

Rosette of Black & White ribbons

Photo size: 5" x 7" Mat: 8" x 10", black mat (non-glossy finish) Portrait only

Limit 4 to a class. Must register with Sherry Matthews 845-2555

Class 1. The Garden

Class 2. The Beach

Class 3. Flowers

Class 4. Vistas

Please call Sherry Matthews at 253-845-2555 with the classes and number of entries you will be bringing by Thursday before the Tuesday meeting.

* All fresh design requires more plant material than the tri-color award. No dried sticks.

EDUCATIONALS

Rosette of Green & Brown Ribbons

1 Natural Dyes 2 Roots in Medicine

Minimum of 18 square feet of surface area. Staged on half a 6 foot table

Nancy Shank
3518 323rd St E
Eatonville, WA 98328
DW

Editor: Anne Hartman
annehartmansdesk@comcast.net
PO Box 478
Graham, WA 98338



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.

dyuckert@centurylink.net or
253.845.8720

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.

DISTRICT GARDEN THERAPY

“Garden Therapy uses garden-related activities as an aid in the recovery and rehabilitation of the residents at Brookdale Alzheimer and Dementia facility located at 8811 176th St E on South Hill in Puyallup. This gives the residents an opportunity to participate, socialize, and be involved with activities related to horticulture.” The ladies who have volunteered their time can see the enjoyment of the residents just by watching their faces. We would like each club to be represented by two of their members. Please join us at 10 a.m.



APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS!

Thursday, May 18th, we will help them plant May flowers. Please join us for the fun and watch our flowers bloom. This will be our last activity for the year