

OLYMPIC PENINSULA DISTRICT GARDEN GAZETTE*

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OPD
Seal
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 * Hello Everyone,
 *
 * I hope you all are staying home and staying safe. And I hope you enjoyed the great sunny
 * weather we had a few weeks ago. Everyday I worked out in my gardens with intervals of rest.
 *
 * Please read all the reports/information here and look for the new riddle. It's hidden somewhere
 * in the narrative and is not ended with a question mark. Remember, the first person e-mailing
 * me the correct answer gets \$20 which comes from my personal funds - - not the District funds.
 *
 * I intended to include the two really good entries in our OPD logo contest but with all the other
 * news and pictures, I decided to wait until next issue or our next OPD meeting whenever that
 * may be.
 *
 * Barbara Scott
 * OPD Director
 *
 * *****

WANTED !

**Clubs that have a positive membership gain. We need to know what you're doing RIGHT!
 We want to celebrate you.
 We want to share your success.**

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE IMMEDIATELY!

NGCMemberships@gmail.com
 907-456-3066

CONGRATULATIONS !

★
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 ★
 ★ Andrea Carlson from the Nordland Garden
 ★ Club and her husband Bruce were named
 ★ Marrowstone Island Citizens of the year for
 ★ 2019 for their dedication to the community
 ★ and their volunteerism. They helped raise
 ★ funds to build a fully-staffed fire station and
 ★ expansion of the Northwest School of
 ★ Wooden Boatbuilding campus. Andrea has
 ★ worked to improve Fort Flagler park and as
 ★ you know is very active in the garden club.
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*The Garden Gazette is a continuation of the Peninsula Prattle, last published September 2017, Vol 27, Issue 4.

TRI-AREA GARDEN CLUB

In December Tri-Area Designing Ladies, who usually provide floral arrangements each month, put on a Christmas program for our members. The program was “The Night before Christmas.” They all dressed in their pajamas and read the verses from the story book and we took pictures to put on our Facebook page. Each meeting, the Designing Ladies provide floral arrangements based on an Elton John song. The theme for the December arrangements was “Candle in the Wind.” Each meeting a member talks about what things are important to do in our gardens for the month. The horticulture talk for December was on the unkempt garden. We held a tour of three members’ homes to see their Christmas decorations and everyone brought food assigned to each home. What a way to spend the holiday right here in our town.

January, our Designing Ladies group provided framed spatial designs with the theme “High Flying Bird.” We had a very special program this month honoring our longest standing member, Marilyn Solomonson, She joined in 1971 and members watched a picture show of events dating back to the time she joined to the present. And we had This Month in Your Garden horticulture talk as well.

February had a very nice program “Color Year Round” by Pam Sinclair. She provided plant lists to our members. She discussed every one of them on the list and where you could buy them locally. Our Horticulture talk was on comparison of mulches, 17-20chips, bark, compost, etc. Also for This Month in your Garden, one of our members let us know what we should be doing to control weeds, when to compost, how and when to get rid of slugs, and many more useful tidbits each month.

We did not have a meeting in March and will not in April due to the corona virus.

May 2nd is our big plant sale that we hold in conjunction with the students of Chimacum High School from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in Chimacum, WA.

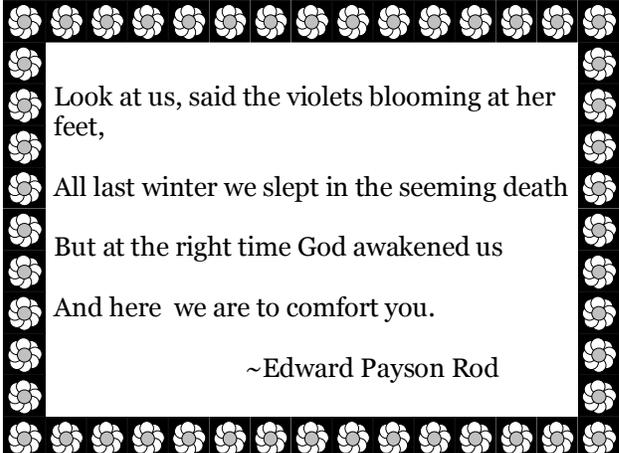
Horticulture talk will be on Akebia Quinata. Our floral design will be spatial thrust design with the theme of 'Rocket Man'. We will have This Month in Your Garden and a program on art in the garden by Debbie Teashone. Tour will be Edmonds Sky Nursery & Swanson Nursery in Edmonds, WA

June will have a horticulture talk on hardy cyclamen and This Month in Your Garden as well. We will celebrate installation of our new officers for our program this month. And our last tour before we break for the summer will be at Brothers Greenhouses and Nursery in Port Orchard.

Lorie Guildord
Co-President

RIDDLE

While we had some very good answers to the riddle about Mount Everest, Sheila Harwood, Co-Pres of Nordland, got the correct answer which was “Mount Everest. Even though it hadn’t been discovered or named, it was still the highest mountain.” As you know, club Presidents are not eligible to win the contest but since she gave everyone several months to get the correct answer, Sheila gets the \$20 which will be given at our next OPD meeting.



Look at us, said the violets blooming at her feet,
 All last winter we slept in the seeming death
 But at the right time God awakened us
 And here we are to comfort you.

~Edward Payson Rod

PORT ANGELES GARDEN CLUB

With a new year came new faces at board meetings with new committee chairs and at general membership meetings with many new members and visitors. Port Angeles Garden Club is now 101 members strong. We have been successful in having our activities noted in the Peninsula Daily News and that has brought us visitors and new members due to our interesting programs.

We were so impressed with the Spring 2019 District Meeting speaker, Arran Stark, that we started the year with a special program: A Garden of Herbs – From Soil to Sauce the Farm to Table Way. Our hospitality committee, hostesses and program people worked hard to share Arran's skills with the membership by preparing salads and desserts infused with herbs and juicy chicken on which to taste-test the fresh herbal sauces he prepared right in front of us.

The Program Committee continued to provide speakers with useful information about Organic Farming- Patty McManus-Huber from Nash's Farms; Landscaping – Duane Schoessler of 7 Cedars Golf Course and Casino; Pruning- Bess Bronstein, Horticultural Consultant and ISA Certified Arborist; How Climate Change Affects Your Garden – Bruce Pape, Master Gardener; and Planting Bareroot Trees – Ji Douglas, Manager of Sunny Farms Garden Store. The committee also organized two trips to the Sunny Farm Greenhouses.

Other special meetings included the Holiday Pot Luck with games, Ugly Sweater Contest, and optional gift exchange. In February we had our Friendship Luncheon when we invite guests. This year we were happy to have several Tri-Area Club members with us to share in the member- made soups, salads, and desserts. On that note of connecting with other clubs, many PAGC members enthusiastically attend the Bogachiel Tea and the Lincoln Heights Tea each year. This year we hope to return visit our friends at Tri-Area in May. Upcoming are design programs with well-known presenters Debbie Spiller, Linda Maida, and Brynn Tavasci. Many of us

practiced design by making wreaths and holiday centerpieces or entered flower shows.

Because our members want as much information on horticulture as they can get, our Horticulture Committee gave a presentation and a plant at almost every meeting. Topics included dahlias, tomatoes, succulents and sedums, hardy fuchsias, and geraniums, as well as, questions and answers about specific garden problems. Headed by this committee, many members are using their greenhouses to start basket stuffers for the Plant Sale.

Member teams lead by the Community Beautification Committee continue to care for Billie Loos' Garden at the Waterfront, the Blue Star Marker, and Discovery Trail. In April and May we usually begin to assist the City with hanging baskets and downtown planters. In December the Garden Therapy Committee assists residents at Crestwood and Park View Assisted Living Facilities in making holiday arrangements for their rooms or gifts and purchasing warm sweatshirts for residents who receive no visitors or gifts. In the spring and summer season, this committee tends to a flower bed at Crestwood to brighten up the area. The Green Thumb committee honored a lovely Fall Garden with a visit from some club members and a sign for their yard.

We are happy to announce that we finally have a club logo and will be deciding how to use it. Now is when we usually begin deciding upon recipients for our Scholarships, our Community Donations, Life Membership, Penny Pines, and Honor Book Awards. The June Luncheon is always something to look forward to. Our two main fundraisers are the Wreath Sale and the Plant Sale. As usual the Wreath Sale brought in much money to support our scholarships and other community donations and projects. **Our Plant Sale is scheduled for May 2nd at the Port Angeles Senior Center.** We also donate money to the District.

We were sad to cancel our March activities: board meeting, flower show workshop, and general membership meeting. Everything in the future, of course, is tentative depending upon public health warnings, but Port Angeles Garden Club members will continue to Garden like Children.

Bobbie Daniels, President

NORDLAND GARDEN CLUB

As members and co-presidents of Nordland Garden Club, we hope this finds you healthy and working in your garden.

Gardening can certainly take your mind off the issues of Covid-19 and the economy. We are looking forward to getting some flowers planted. Now if we can get the weather to warm a little...

We have had some interesting presentations so far this year including one by Ann and Fred Weinmann who took us on a slideshow tour of natural wildflowers here on the Olympic Peninsula. Who knew that there are orchids growing here (well I didn't know, but you probably did)? If your club is interested in the source of beauty in our backyards please contact them at

fweinmann@cablespeed.com.

At our November meeting we learned about the wire art of Cheri Bricker-Burnett. She fashions wire cages or tuteurs. These amazing works of art can be used for many purposes including decoration in your yard as well as cages for peonies, tomatoes and many other plants. We highly recommend looking on her Facebook page (wire art by C & C) to see what I cannot describe adequately! I'm anxious to plant peonies this spring and use the wire cage I purchased. Some of her wire art can be seen at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. Wonderful presentation which we would highly recommend. (425 736-7494)

December is our traditional Christmas party. This year we didn't have any entertainment. But after our presidents regaled with corny gardening jokes, fifty-five of us relaxed, sang carols and laughed our way through the annual goofy gift exchange.

January found us learning about Heronswood Gardens with a talk by Nathan Lamb, the head curator, and assistant

director to Dan Hinkley. He took us on a historical slideshow tour of the gardens which have changed many ways over the years. The gardens are now owned and operated by the Jamestown S'Klallam tribe. Dan Hinkley has returned to work with the tribe to restore the gardens with an emphasis on caring for the property. We are thinking of taking a field trip there to see the amazing work that is going on.

Besides learning and sharing through our meetings we also accomplished some giving projects including donated table decorations for the Tri-Area Community Thanksgiving dinner. Our local schools are starting a Wellness Project and we donated educational materials as well as plants for their garden. We have a soft spot in our hearts for Dove House, our local Domestic Violence Program. We donated gifts for a mom and three children for Christmas as well as energy bars for their community Little Food Pantry.

February was a chance to reconnect and visit which was good timing since we cancelled our March meeting out of "an abundance of caution." We have a membership that is well within the guidelines for being at risk for severe coronavirus complications. We felt it was prudent to cancel and take care of ourselves. We will have to see how April looks. I hope you are all washing your hands, sanitizing and getting lots of sleep. The social distancing gives us more time to garden or do any other hobbies!

Nordland GC has a plant sale every other year and our next one will be in spring 2021.

"We may think we are nurturing our garden but of course it's our garden that is really nurturing us." Jenny Uglow

Yours in Health, Sheila and Andrea
Co-Presidents

CREATIVE ADVENTURE (continued)

The mask making workshop was a fun and exciting experience. We were invited to choose from an array of pre-made papier-mâché masks along with feathers, jewels, pieces of fabric, dried and painted plant material, etc. All these and more were available to be glued onto our masks with low temperature glue.

I did not take the class on manipulation of leaves using a pasta maker but saw the results and was amazed at how this simple kitchen tool can be used in this manner. The favorite plant material seemed to be New Zealand Flax foliage. A handout on this class was provided to OPD judges at the Judges' Council meeting (which I did not attend due to my late arrival in Shelton) but I did get a copy of the handout which is also included elsewhere in this newsletter.

My third and last class was on Midollino braiding. Midollino are organically dyed rattan sticks. They are used to add height and movement to floral designs or bouquets. The sticks are available at floral warehouses or online.

Also at the venue was a display of floral designs with signage explaining each design type. Those who attended the event were given a handout *What is so fragile that when you say its name, you break it.* with the design type and explanation of the type of design. Pictures of some of the designs are included in this newsletter.

All in all, this was a really great experience and I hope WSFGC will make the Creative Adventure an annual event.

Mary Lou Paulson

