

# Olympic Peninsula District *Garden Gazette* Volume 1, Issue 2, December 2017

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## How is it going?

Your editor is still using the training wheels, but at least she hasn't fallen in the last few minutes. That's some progress.

Let me know what you want to see in this newsletter: Stories about members, recipes, articles about specific plants, cartoons, book reviews, ? Ideas are welcome.

If your club went on a field trip and wants to share, write an article about it.

Is there a member in your club who is your "Rock", and you can't get along without her? Sing her praises here.

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## District Directors' Letter

Your District Director Mary Lou Paulson recently returned from the WSFGC 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Major Holiday Show and Board Meeting in Olympia. She attends these meetings to gather information to help our District Garden Clubs encourage members to plant gardens, protect the environment, grow native plants, enter Flower Shows, and help grow Garden Clubs.

The Holiday Show entries in Horticulture were plentiful and the Floral Designs inspiring. One of many incredible horticulture specimens was the Callicarpa or Beautyberry. These purple berries are eye candy for us and nourishment for wintering birds. My favorite design was an entry in "I Saw Three Ships". It was created by a new member to Garden Club. When you see the photos in Washington Garden and Design you will see an exciting design whereby the designer used pandanus foliage to form

**(Continued on page 2.)**

*"Flowers always make people better, happier, and more helpful: they are sunshine, food and medicine to the soul."* -**Luther Burbank**

## **COMING SOON!**

### **District/State dates to remember!**

Dec. 1st: Award Deadlines!

Dec. 9th: Festival of Trees Open House, 1-4 P.M., Rainforest Arts Center, 35 North Forks Ave., Forks

Dec. 10th: Tree and Wreath auction to support the festival, 2 P.M., Rainforest Arts Center, Forks

Dec. 10th: Santa Claus at the Garden House, 3-7 P.M., 2336 15th Ave. So., Seattle

Feb. 1st, 2018: Reports due to WSFGC re: Holiday Show/Gala Questionnaire

Feb. 7th-11th: NW Flower & Garden Show, Seattle Convention Center

March 1st: Garden Gazette Deadline for submissions to editor

March 14th, 2018: Gala XXXX, Red Lion

the sails of three ships. This same designer won the Table Setting Exhibit "Let it Snow, Let it Snow". It was exciting to see creative and talented members share their gifts.

In the Board Meeting we learned decisions will soon be made that will affect the State' Headquarter House aka Garden House located at 2336 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. South, Seattle. This historic house was built in late 1800s. If you have not already visited the Garden House come to visit Santa at the house December 10<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 P.M. (See Poster page 9.)

Other changes will see WSFGC no longer participating in the Northwest Flower and Garden Show... "because the results received did not merit the expense to WSFGC and work involved by members." More changes are being proposed for the 2018-2019 garden club year such as a date change for GALA from spring to November. Also Holiday Show may be replaced with a spring Flower Show in February or March. Heraclitus of Ephesus said "Everything changes and nothing stands still."

Garden Clubs are encouraged to use Social Media to bring attention to your Club activities. How do you grow your Club? Encourage your members to step into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, to learn about the internet highway, and to join the parade.

More information from the State meeting was sent to your Garden Club Presidents. This includes Pacific Regions' challenge to Plant America with native and pollinator plants; a Youth Sculpture Contest encouraging youth to create using recyclable, reused, and reduced materials; a reminder about award deadlines; and a warning about copyright infringement.

Keep Mary Lou in your thoughts as she is still on the mend.

We are sure you are looking forward to the winter Holidays, with its Holiday wreaths, festive trees, family time, and social times with friends.

Happy Holidays,

Mary Lou Waitz & Mary Lou Paulson

## Sequim Prairie Garden Club

### *Club Membership*

Sequim Prairie Garden Club now has 45 members. We have three new members but our past president, Diane Lindsay, has moved to Alabama and will be sorely missed by all.

### *Club Activities*

At our September meeting, Far Reaches Farm presented "A Fine Madness for Plants" as well as giving us the opportunity to buy some fabulous plants. Ingrid Nixon, a world-traveling storyteller, entertained us at our October meeting.

We are working with the City of Sequim to restore the waterfall and plantings in Pioneer Memorial Park. A ceremony at the waterfall is planned on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am for Arbor Day. A larger celebration will be held next spring when the weather is more accommodating. The park totem pole carved by Jamestown S'Klallam tribal elder Harris "Brick" Johnson has been restored and is ready to be reinstalled at a new location in the park.

The club held a Fall Harvest Social fundraiser on Oct 21<sup>st</sup> in the park. A fire in the fireplace with live music created a fabulous setting. Lesson learned, pie is a bestseller. As always, we continue to raise money for park and clubhouse maintenance and restoration.

Our club member Charlotte Frazier has been named Sequim-Dungeness Chamber of Commerce "Volunteer of the Month" for the Visitor Information Center.

### *For Fun*

A club visit to the beautiful Elandan Garden and Bonsai Museum in Bremerton displayed a totally different gardening style that delighted members, especially with the change in fall colors.

Vina Winters, SPGC President

*"The first supermarket supposedly appeared on the American landscape in 1946. That is not very long ago. Until then, where was all the food? Dear folks, the food was in homes, gardens, local fields, and forests. It was near kitchens, near tables, near bedsides. It was in the pantry, the cellar, the backyard."* —**Joel Salatin**

## Fall with the Tri-Area Garden Club

For the Tri-Area Garden Club, fall is the wonderful season when we gather back together and share gardening ideas and renew old friendships. We have already been busy.

Our fall meetings had Mary Robson presenting ideas on Gardening Gladly in September. Mary encouraged us to recognize, enjoy and appreciate our own gardening styles. Ray Hammer from Blue Collar Artwork was our October Speaker. Ray reclaims and recycles materials for functional and aesthetic artwork. Over 95% of his materials were destined for landfills or scrapyards. We hope to visit Ray's studio next year to see more of his works and possibly experiment ourselves using his "artistic junk."

As we seek to garden more naturally, we are trying garlic slurries to deter slugs, baking soda for powdery mildew and composting leaves in large leaf bags.

In October, we were able to visit Kathy Ryan's wonderful dahlia garden and have a refresher on winter storage for our dahlias tubers. We also visited Mystery Bay Goat Farm on Marrowstone Island. We played with the goats and learned about the farmers making tasty goat cheese and yogurt. Who knew goats could be so cute?

As the holidays approach, we look forward to our very talented Designing Ladies presenting a program on adding a bit of "holiday sparkle" to our decorations. Three of these ladies had beautiful fall floral designs for our GC District Meeting. We also have a program planned on making caramel apple liqueur, just in time for the holidays.

Lastly, we plan to go to Bainbridge Island Nursery for their holiday open house and later in November for wreath making. It is a full and busy fall season for us.

Jacque' McInvale, TAGC Co-President

### **Keep this contact information handy:**

National Garden Clubs website <https://www.gardenclub.com/>

Pacific Region website <http://www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org/>

Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs website <https://www.wagardenclubs.com/>

## Port Angeles Garden Club

We just missed frost on our pumpkins in our neck of the woods, but then got anywhere from a dusting to 2 feet of the white stuff just a couple days later and only November.

Boy, if that doesn't get you in the mood for the Holidays, what will?!

And speaking of the Holidays, they will soon be upon us. The days and weeks seem to be flying by now.

PAGC is gearing up for our Club food drive for the Local Food Bank; wrapping small gifts for those without family at the local nursing home and signing up to assist where we design evergreen flower baskets for residents at the Assisted Living Facility to keep for themselves or give as gifts.

By the time you read this, our Bow Making Fun will be behind us. We will have partied the morning away while turning around 200 yards of ribbon into beautiful bows for a PAGC's gorgeous Holiday Wreaths. And speaking of wreaths... we will start in earnest on November 27<sup>th</sup> in our ongoing quest to help beautify the season and raise funds for Scholarships and other Community Projects.

December will find us in competition to find out who has bragging rights for owning the Ugliest Christmas Sweater. Most of our members will remain after the meeting to play our Crazy Story Gift Exchange.

PAGC now boasts 92 registered members. We gained 24 new members this year, and we have 8 emeritus members. Six of those ladies are very active members in the Club.

Flower Show School III was just completed. PAGC hosted with 28 attending. Thirteen of the attendees are now Student Judges.

Congratulations Gals! Read more about FSSIII elsewhere in this issue.

Happy Holidays to you and yours,  
Sally Shunn, PAGC President

## Bogachiel Garden Club

The BGC members are thoroughly enjoying the fall season. Quite a few of us are broadening our horizons by participating in a variety of schools and seminars including photography, landscaping, and flower show school.

In September, Nora Alwarth attended the Evergreen District Fall Workshop in Mukilteo where guest speaker Tim Boyer explained and demonstrated creative ways of taking photographs of flowers. During October, Linda Wells attended Landscape Design School I, which was sponsored by Oak Harbor Garden Club. She is looking forward to the landscape school scheduled on March 26 and 27. She said that she "... learned a lot and is looking forward to more good design ideas."

Lastly, four members including Tina Adams, Judy Holt, Kris Ayers and master judge Judi McClanahan attended OPD Flower Show School III in Port Angeles this past October 31- November 2. They studied horticulture with apples and sedums, design with angular and panel designs, and flower show procedure. They were impressed that there are 8,000 cultivars of apples, and that floral design is a beautiful art form. (See pictures following this article.)

The Civics Committee recently applied for the Plant America Community Project Grants through the NGC. Spearheaded by Nora Alwarth, the committee and club have plans to enhance residents' as well as visitors' "Forks Experience" by planting flowers across our community.

With the Department of Corrections building the planter boxes we can place these plant-filled "gardens" in the long-term care unit at the local hospital, support community members who grow their own fruits and vegetables in raised boxes at the community garden, and grow our partnership with the Forks High School students who want to improve and develop their atrium. We will welcome visitors and locals alike to enjoy the "Forks Experience" with the beauty of flowers and gardens.

By working with local businesses, service-based community groups, and the Department of Corrections, BGC will lead the volunteer efforts to beautify our community. We hope to use the funds from the grant, but if not, we will pursue other revenue sources to fund our plans. We are determined!

And last of all please consider attending our upcoming events:

The **Festival of Trees** sponsored by the *Soroptimists International of the Olympic Rain Forest*. Our garden club decorates a tree and it will be auctioned off to support the *Soroptimists*. Open House is on December 9, from 1:00 - 4:00 pm and the auction is on December 10, with the doors opening at 1:00 pm and the auction beginning at 2:00 for wreaths and trees. Both events will be held at the Rainforest Arts Center located at 35 North Forks Avenue.

Kris Ayers, Bogachiel GC Co-President



***FSSIII Speaker Liz Murkin***



***OPD Flower Show  
Chairman Mary Lou Waitz***



***Bright, shining faces of some of the happy students at FSSIII***

## OPD Sponsored Flower Show School, Course III

The third of four courses in the Flower Show School offered in 2016 to 2018 was held in Port Angeles on October 31 through November 2. 26 students attended. Exactly one-half (13) took the point scoring and the three exams in Horticulture, Design and Flower Show Procedure. The grades are not in yet from the instructors as of the deadline for this issue of the Gazette. The new score for passing all of these exams is 75 points.

Classes went very well with excellent instructors Judy Newman in Horticulture and Flower Show Procedure and Liz Murken in Design, both from Wisconsin. There were many good examples of species and cultivars of sedums in containers for study and 15 varieties of apples, home grown here on the Peninsula contributed by Jean Eichman, Judy Jurden and Billie Fitch from Nordland GC, and Mary Lou Waitz and Tina Cozzolino from Port Angeles Garden Club.

The two classes of designs were Angular Designs and Panel Designs. There were six designs made by the instructor and those designs used for point scoring were contributed by the OP Judges Council members: Mary Lou Waitz, Sally Shunn, Tina Cozzolino, Patty Wheatley, Linda Nutter, Mary Lou Paulson, Kris Ayers, Judy McClanahan, Marian Meany and Billie Fitch.

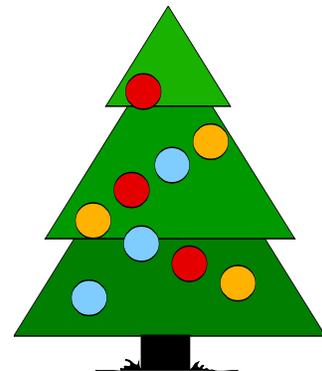
Super lunches, snacks and coffee were prepared by PAGC with Bobbie Daniels in charge, using the facilities of the Presbyterian Church in PA.

The only thing that might not be considered a success was the cost of the school. Expenses outnumbered income from paid registrations. You will hear more about this from the district treasurer.

The last course in the series is scheduled for May 1-3, 2018 at the Nordland Garden Club on Marrowstone Island.

A side note from the Nov. 6-7 Holiday Show held in Olympia is that one of the students in this Flower Show School, Debbie DeFilipps from Issaquah, won five top ribbons (two NGC Top Exhibitor Awards and three State Past Presidents Awards) for two of her designs including the Award of Holiday Excellence (Best of the Best in Design) for the Class "I Saw Three Ships". Congratulations Debbie!!!

Billie Fitch, Flower Show School Course III Chairman



## Youth Sculpture Contest

The purpose of this contest is to encourage youth to keep our planet green and to get involved with saving our environment.

### Contest Rules:

1. Children in 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades will be eligible to enter the contest.
2. Sculptures must consist of recyclable, reused and reduced materials.
3. Width of the sculptures can be no more than 8-1/2 by 11 inches.
4. Height should be in proportion to width.
5. Entry form can be found on the NGC website: [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)
6. Entries should include as many photographs as can be printed on the back of the entry form, but two 2x7 photographs are recommended.
7. Club entries must be sent to State Chairman. **Observe State Deadlines.** First place entries must be sent to Region Chairman/Awards Chairman by February 15, 2018 and Region first place entries must be sent to National Chairman by March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### Scale of Points:

1. Creative use of materials and self-expression equal 60 points.
2. Description of sculpture and materials used equal 30 points.
3. Craftsmanship and technique equal 10 points.

For additional information, contact Suzanne Potts, NGC Youth Sculpture Contest Chairman at: [smp9114@att.net](mailto:smp9114@att.net)

# Come Visit Santa!



Santa will be at the Garden House in Seattle on December 10<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 \* #11 7:00 P.M. There will be Candy Canes, Cookies, Cocoa and Coffee for all. Join the fun!

WSFGC Garden House  
2336 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Seattle, WA

*This cake was a big hit at a recent OPD general meeting. It serves 30+.*

## **Fudgy Chocolate Brownie Sheet Cake**

2 cups All-Purpose Flour  
2 cups Sugar  
¼ teaspoon Salt  
4 Tablespoons (heaping) Hershey's Special Dark Cocoa  
2 sticks Butter or Margarine  
1 cup Boiling Water  
½ cup Buttermilk  
2 whole Beaten Eggs  
1 teaspoon Baking Soda  
1 teaspoon Vanilla

### *FOR CAKE:*

In a mixing bowl, combine flour, sugar, and salt.  
In a saucepan, melt butter. Add cocoa. Stir together.  
Add boiling water, allow mixture to boil for 30 seconds, then turn off heat.  
Pour over flour mixture, and stir lightly to cool.

In a measuring cup, pour the buttermilk and add beaten eggs, baking soda, and vanilla. Stir buttermilk mixture into butter/chocolate mixture. Pour into ungreased sheet cake pan (10 X 15 inches) and bake at 350-degrees for 20-22 minutes, or until a toothpick tests clean.

### *FOR FROSTING:*

½ cup Finely Chopped, Toasted Pecans  
1-¾ stick Butter or Margarine  
4 Tablespoons (heaping) Hershey's Special Dark Cocoa  
6 Tablespoons Milk  
1 teaspoon Vanilla  
3 ½ cups Powdered Sugar

While cake is baking, make the icing. Melt butter in a saucepan. Add cocoa, stir to combine, and then turn off heat. Add the milk, vanilla, and powdered sugar. Stir together. Add the pecans, stir together, and pour over warm cake. Cool before cutting.

## Plant America

### Inspiring Gardens Across The Americas

The theme for President Nancy Hargroves's administration is **Plant America**, a singularly focused initiative on gardens and gardening. Both a call to service and a description of what NGC clubs do, Plant America supports the main reason that people say they join a garden club— to learn about gardening!

Covering any and every aspect of gardening, horticulture, garden design, and community service, it applies to every kind of garden: Blue Star plantings, vegetable gardens, community gardens, container gardening, neighborhood plantings, urban farms, low-water xeriscape gardens, etc.

Projects in local communities are what distinguish us from the work of other gardening organizations. Towns, cities, neighborhoods, and roadsides across the United States are all beneficiaries of National Garden Clubs projects.

In order to provide a vehicle to financially support the activities of our member clubs, a new grant program entitled "Plant America Community Project Grants" is being established to provide funding for new or existing projects of NGC member clubs in their respective communities across the United States. This will be a permanent fund with grants being awarded during each two-year administration. The goal for the fund is to become a self-sustaining endowment fund like the NGC Scholarship fund providing funding levels that make a significant impact in large projects.

In order that the members of National Garden Clubs see the immediate benefits of this grant program for their projects, the first grants will be given during the 2017-2019 administration.

Not only will the community projects funded from it enhance our nation, but, through project publicity, signage and materials bearing the Plant America logo, it provides the possibility of making our organization more visible.

To offer our members opportunities to expand their vision of what a garden can be, we are providing annual tours to experience a variety of gardens in the United States through our NGC Sponsored Tours. In April 2018 we will visit gardens in Atlanta, Georgia.

We invite you to join us in our journey to Plant America by participating with us in local clubs, trips, and projects. Find an aspect of gardening that intrigues you and jump in! Let us know how we can help. Contact any of our sub-committee chairmen for more information, or contact me directly.

For more info. go to <http://www.gardenclub.org/projects/plant-america>