



Olympic Peninsula District
GARDEN GAZETTE

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Tuesday, April 20, at 10:00 is the date & time of our Spring OPD General Membership Meeting.

We'll have a speaker (yet to be confirmed) and will meet via Zoom.

I'll send out the Zoom link to your club Presidents on Saturday, April 17th. Your club Presidents will forward the Zoom link to you.

It will be so good to get together again and to see everyone's faces, even if we can't yet meet in person.

**OPD SLATE OF OFFICERS
2021-2023**

Slate of Officers will be voted on during the April 20 General Member Meeting via Zoom and will include additional nominations from the floor during the meeting.

Director	Linda Wells
Assist Directors	_____
Secretary	Bobby Daniels
Treasurer	Barbara Scott

IMPORTANT DATES

Apr 14	Washington State Arbor Day
April 17-18	Art in Bloom, Port Angeles Fine Arts Center
Apr 20	OPD Spring Membership Meeting via Zoom
May 1	World Naked Gardening Day
June 6-12	National Garden Week

*The Garden Gazette is a continuation of the Peninsula Prattle, last published September 2017, Vol 27, Issue 4.

NEWS FROM WSFGC DISTRICT DIRECTORS' MEETING

The WSFGC District Directors met via Zoom on Friday, March 19th.

Here are the highlights from that meeting which may be of interest to you.

AWARD CHANGES: The new WSFGC Directory will include some changes for 2021-2023 and beyond. All the various Youth Awards will be found in one place instead of scattered throughout the Directory. Most importantly, all the awards whose deadlines have been 1 April in the past will be changed to 1 February. This includes the Past Presidents' Awards, all the Youth Awards, Honor Club Award and others. The awards for the butterfly and bee categories will be combined under Pollinators.

There are two vacant positions on the WSFGC Board: Second Vice President and Recording Secretary. Submit nominations to Judy Strickland, jasmum@comcast.net.

WSFGC will host the Pacific Region Convention in 2023 !

Olympia joins Seattle, Puyallup and Bellingham designated as Washington State Bee Cities.



NORDLAND GARDEN CLUB

Greetings from the Island! An unorthodox year it's been all around, of course. But over the long months, our Club uncovered some genuine heroes. Thanks to a lot of strategic planning and hard work, they pulled off a few miracles.

In October, Co-President Andrea Carlson collaborated with Tri-Area Pharmacy's Steven Willden to host a flu shot clinic at our own Clubhouse right here on the Island. Club members and Islanders all benefited, with Covid restrictions in place.

Since June, we had been canvassing the membership, trying to decide whether or not to attempt our main annual fundraiser, Christmas wreathmaking. Come October, when it looked like the project would be minimal or even scrapped, member Carol Woodard stepped forward offering organizational skills and tech tools that were absolutely dumbfounding. And with that, the whole thing took off. Even our "No" voters switched to "Yes."

We decorated hundreds of wreaths in our homes or in tiny groups well-spaced and masked, in ventilated and outdoor spaces. The wreath sales went through at a success rate comparable to that of a normal year, and regular clients who couldn't afford wreaths this year were gifted them. It was a huge accomplishment due to the superhuman

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Nordland Garden Club (contd)

efforts of one member who wouldn't say 'Can't' and who supplied the tools, skills, and a contagious 'Can-do' spirit to carry out what needed to be done in a Covid-safe manner, from start to finish. No one got sick, but a lot of joy was spread throughout both the community and the wreathmaking diehards of the Nordland Garden Club.

A few added sweets for dark times:

- In December, Bev Schaaf coordinated the receipt by Dove House of numerous huge green Santa bags of gifts from us, for one of its families.
- In February, Norma Wieman gathered several months' supply of healthy snack bars from us, for Dove House's 'Little Free Pantry.'
- Also in February, VP Leslie Watkins arranged an excellent Zoom presentation on composting for us, by Laura Tucker of Jefferson County Public Health.
- And with no plant sale scheduled for Spring, Jean Eichman is placing her fabulous tomato starts in the Clubhouse for members to purchase and pick up.

We don't pretend to know what 2021 is bringing. We only know that we remain steadfast together, whatever it throws at us.

BOGACHIEL GARDEN CLUB

In early December, working at home or in small groups, masked and socially distant, Bogachiel members made Christmas centerpieces for the residents in the Forks Long Term Care facility.

We purchased 50 snowberry bushes and donated them to the town. The city had a young man plant them in the Calawah Park on March 2nd.

And in early March, we collected more than 120 pounds of bird seed for the Long Term Care facility.

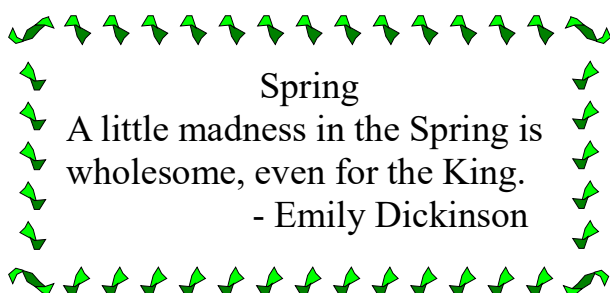
We plan to hold our Spring plant sale in May following any Covid restrictions that are in place at that time and using the same creative arrangements we used last year. We hope to get back to some sort of normalcy to hold an in-person meeting in May.

Art in Bloom

Saturday & Sunday, April 17 & 18
11am – 5pm
Port Angeles Fine Arts Center
1203 E. Lauridsen Blvd.

This annual show highlights our own floral designers who will interpret selected works of art in original botanical arrangements.

Be sure to explore Webster's Woods Art Park independently by using the park trails to discover artworks hanging in trees, burrowing in the ground, or camouflaged by the foliage. New art is hung in late June.



TRI-AREA GARDEN CLUB

What has the Tri-Area Garden Club been up to?

The main focus of our club over the past few months has been to keep in touch and preserve the cohesion of our membership. We have called every member several times to check on their wellbeing, as well as to get their opinions and input on various plans. Last September, in lieu of our usual meeting, we began producing a quarterly newsletter, full of club news and articles from our very knowledgeable membership. We have also encouraged everyone to stay in touch on our Facebook page.

The TAGC Board has been meeting via Zoom regularly to discuss various schemes. Our annual plant sale, coordinated by the amazing Jan Zenger, has been high on the agenda. The possibility of having a socially distanced public sale at a local park was thrown into the arena but rejected in favor of repeating last year's "by appointment only" sale at Jan's home. We made over \$2000 last year and hope to do just as well or even better this year. Initially it will be open to members only, gradually incorporating a few local neighborhoods over time.

We are planning to repeat our members' garden tours this summer either in June or July. Last year, we limited each garden to a maximum of 5 visitors at any one time with all participants masked up and six feet apart. It worked very well and we had two wonderful days.

Tri-Area Garden Club (cont'd)

We passed on our yearbook last year but are planning to produce a 2021-2022 edition. We have five new members who have joined since the start of the pandemic. Only one member had to resign the club due to personal reasons.

With more and more members receiving the Covid vaccine every week, we are planning to hold an informal in-person membership meeting at a local park in the summer unless one of the variants becomes more problematic. We hope to resume in person meetings on a regular basis either later in the fall or next year. Fingers crossed! In the meantime, we have scheduled a Zoom meeting for the entire membership in April.

This has been a difficult year. Planning and working in our beautiful gardens has provided a much needed physical and mental respite.

SAVE YOUR PLASTIC

One garden club has partnered with another organization to collect 500 lbs of plastics to get a free garden bench from Trex, the composit decking company. More info at [Trex.com](https://www.trex.com).



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PORT ANGELES GARDEN CLUB

If you are wondering if we accomplished anything in this Covid year:

We continued improving and maintaining Billie Loos' Garden by the waterfront to offer beauty and hope to our city.

We spent hours working on the Discovery Trail making sure it is safe and attractive for those who needed the outdoors to maintain their sanity and health during the Covid shut downs.

We honored our Veterans on Memorial Day and Veteran's Day and our country on the Fourth of July by placing new flowers, wreath, and a flag at the Blue Star Marker we had installed.

We enhanced our PAGC website so that members and the public could find resources for gardening and design, and virtual presentations of all kinds.

We shared the efforts and successes of our members in their community activities, home decorating, and club competitions.

We helped our members celebrate their birthdays each month by acknowledging them and we supported those faced with challenges by sending cards.

We brightened gloomy February with Valentine's cards for each member; we provided education, entertainment and opportunities for social contact by our virtual monthly meetings.

We provided financial assistance to those students who were able to go to their Washington schools.

We established a strong Youth Committee that directed Community Donations and Youth funds to local elementary and middle schools for their school gardens.

Port Angeles Garden Club (cont'd)

We selected 2 local Green Thumb Award gardens and gathered to place the sign in the owners' yards.

We pulled off a wreath sale to build a financial treasury from which we could donate to our community by the programs already mentioned as well as to those most in need through donations to the Covid Home Fund.

So, did we just sit back and say, oh, Covid has stopped our activities since we can't meet like we usually do? No. Thanks to our committee chairs and worker bees, Port Angeles Garden Club carried on to support each other and our community in every way we could manage with energy, compassion, and creativity all the while following Covid restrictions.



PAGC members busily working on Billie Loo's garden at the waterfront.