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PROMOTING...

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PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Members,

Spring is in the air. The cheery daffodils are starting to fade, and the tulips are beginning to put on their spring extravaganza. What a wonderful time of the year. It gives us hope for the future. Who needs to go to Holland to see tulips in the spring when we have our own Skagit Valley?

So much has been happening. We had our Spring Board Meeting via Zoom in March, and it looks as though we will also have our Annual Board Meeting via Zoom June 13 and 14. Keep your fingers crossed that our June meeting will be the last one entirely via Zoom. In the future I plan to keep Zoom as an option for those who cannot attend the meeting in person.

Most of you know about our Endowment Fund. We have grant money to help districts and clubs with their projects. If you do not know about our Endowment Grants or want more information, check out the WSFGC website, wagardenclubs.com. Click on the Clubs/Membership tab, select the Members Only section and select Endowment Grant Request Form. Our website is a great resource as is the NGC website, gardenclub.org.

I am looking forward to the Pacific Region Convention in Las Vegas in April and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention in Orlando in May. A number of clubs and districts have invited me to attend their meetings and events. I look forward to attending as many as I can. I want to remind you that Clubs at Large are included. They are an important part of WSFGC. If you would like me to attend your meeting or event, contact Julie Darby, kunGFujulie@comcast.net. She is my scheduler. If you would like others to attend with me, let us know. The more the merrier.

–Anne Sullivan
President, WSFSG
absullivan@comcast.net

“Flexibility and an open mind allow us to grow our abilities and our gardens. Do not audit life. Step up and make the most of your life now.”

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Photo courtesy of Lauri Springer

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WSFGC NEWS

Northwest Flower and Garden Festival WSFGC Booth

The East Lake Washington and the Greater Seattle Districts had a booth at the 2022 Northwest Flower and Garden Festival held at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle. The five-day *Greetings from Spring* event took place February 9 to 13. It was a beautiful show and all the visitors were ready for spring plus many were interested in garden club.

With *Spring* as our theme, our nine-person planning committee with members from both districts had many Zoom meetings to get things together. Starting four months ahead of time, but unable to finalize details until we finally received in mid-December our *Exhibitor Manual* from the show management, we had a late rush to get it all together. We needed to take a break for the holidays with many personal things to do. January brought weekly meetings and time to see how our ideas fit into the 22-page manual with rules and instructions. We were a bit worried we might need a lawyer to cover all the rules.

Our ten-foot by ten-foot space needed a rug (had to be exact), tables



Photo by Linda White

The WSFGC Booth manned by ELWD and GSD members at the 2022 NW Flower and Garden Festival in Seattle attracted many potential members who have been referred to WSFGC garden clubs in their area.

and chairs. Mitch Grospe brought half of his yard plus an awesome screen. Linda White dragged in her baker's rack and Lana Finegold lent her nice tables and cloths. We cannot leave out the educational boards for Garden Clubs and Smokey Bear made by Mandy Carter and Mitch plus designs by Mandy, Mitch, Lana, Melissa Firuz, and Linda. We handed out information about WSFGC and districts along with NGC brochures. In addition, we had props, plants, Smokey Bear coloring and activity books, member interest cards, plants for a daily raffle and of course candy. It was a beautiful yet homey booth that said welcome.

This would not have been possible without all our booth volunteers



to fill 38 time slots to work two per shift. Cathy Williams was tasked with finding all these people, a big job. Our club members' smiling faces welcomed the visitors and drew them to the booth. Our workers had fun and got into the show for free. There were 32 club members participating in some aspect of the show. Each and every one of them is greatly appreciated as well as the monetary help received from the WSFGC Project Grants Committee.

What did our clubs get besides a fun time? We had the best chance for publicity to reach thousands of people to let them know our clubs are available and we want people to join in on the fun. This included not only our districts but all WSFGC

clubs and NGC clubs in other states too. We had many people take information and 57 people actually gave us their phone numbers and emails to contact them about a WSFGC club near them. There was even one from California.

The show was much time and work and was successful. We loved showing off the joys of garden clubs and we are looking forward to adding some new members to our clubs.

—Linda White,
East Lake Washington
District Director and
Mitch Grospe,
Greater Seattle District Director

Awards Deadlines Have Been Revised

Our awards have been judged and those that qualified have been sent on to National Garden Club and Pacific Region Garden Clubs for further recognition and competition. This is the first year for our changed WSFGC awards deadlines. By February 1, all 2021 award applications should have been submitted.

It didn't make sense to have these deadlines four months past the award year-end, or in some cases too late to meet the NGC or PRGC deadlines. A lot of confusion was caused with so many deadlines. We hope this change will simplify or at least eliminate a few of the additional dates.

The Former President's Awards are just a few of the deadlines moved up

by two months to February 1. Another award deadline changed was the *Youth Pollinator Power* poster contest. This was changed for two reasons: first, to complement or match the deadlines of the other youth awards: *Poetry*, *Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl* and *Recycled Sculpture* contests and second, to meet the new PRGC Pollinator poster contest deadline. This change allows WSFGC to award these Youth contest winners at our March Board of Directors meeting before the end of the current school year. This will provide recognition in a more timely manner and make distribution easier.

—Terry Critchlow,
WSFGC Awards Chairman

WSFGC NEWS



NATIONAL ARBOR DAY

Although National Garden Clubs, Inc. is no longer affiliated with Arbor Day, many garden clubs around the nation still celebrate the holiday. The official National Arbor Day is the last Friday in April, but many states observe the holiday on different dates throughout the year based on best tree planting times in their area. In Washington State the holiday is celebrated the second Wednesday in April. This year marks the 150th anniversary of Arbor Day!

Check out the Arbor Day website, arborday.org. There are educational resources, activities for children, instructions on how to correctly plant a tree, articles about what the foundation is doing around the world to help more countries plant trees, and many other items.

This Arbor Day think about planting not just one tree but a tree for each member of your garden club.

National Garden Clubs began a project in 2019 “Each One, Plant One.” Imagine if every garden club member in Washington planted a tree this year!

Every new tree you plant and allow to flourish is a positive step to help the planet fight the accelerating threats of climate change and air pollution. Trees give wildlife shelter and food, and add color and beauty we can all enjoy.

Remember, there is a *Former President's Award: Pat Crawford Arbor Day Award*. This award is only available to clubs and is awarded for the best Arbor Day project. Last year's winner was the Kelso Garden Club. Take photos of 2022 Arbor Day plantings and send award application to me before February 1, 2023. The form “General Awards Application” is on the website wagardenclubs.com.

—Dorrie Carr, Arbor Day Chairman



Woodinville GC is Active



Photo by Heather Babiak-Kane

Over 15,000 plants create a beautiful display on plant sale day.

Woodinville Garden Club is *Growing Together Again* and is busy with social and educational in-person meetings, workshops, field trips and active committees that are engaged in our community and environment.

The Woodinville GC Annual Plant Sale will be held Saturday, May 7, on the grounds of the Woodinville Alliance Church at 13940 NE 166th Street in Woodinville. This is a new location for our sale. Our club is excited to return to an in-person sale format this year. We will be offering our greenhouse-grown healthy tomatoes, lush colorful hanging baskets, creative cute table baskets, hypertufa moss gardens, beautiful annuals, indoor plants, and perennial divisions from members' gardens. Gently used gardening books will be sold, too!

The 21st Woodinville Garden Club Tour of Gardens will be held from 10 a.m to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 25. Five stunning private gardens will be open for Tour visitors. Tickets will be sold on the club website and at local nurseries in June.

The proceeds from our events are directed locally and globally. Recent donations have been sent to Farms for Life, the Penny Pines Program, and the Eden Reforestation Project. Later this spring, scholarships will be awarded to three applicants who plan to pursue their education in horticulture or other plant-related fields.

Please visit the club website woodinvillegardenclub.org for further information about our Spring events.

—Hazel Beatty, Publicity Chairman

WSFGC NEWS

100 Years of Beautifying Edmonds



Edmonds Floretum GC members plant daffodils.

Photo by Inae Piercy

construction. Artist Jennifer Kuhns is creating a three-part work that honors the club's century of beautifying Edmonds. The mosaic will be surrounded by plantings and benches, perfect for hanging out and enjoying the local bustle.

From now through September, Floretum is displaying a 30-foot 3D mural of dahlias (Edmonds' official

In 2022, Edmonds Floretum Garden Club celebrates its 100th anniversary by launching a whole year of special events, beginning with nature's fireworks of 6,000 newly planted daffodil bulbs which are exploding with color now.

Floretum has commissioned a permanent artwork—a nature-themed mosaic—to be installed in a downtown pocket park across from the exciting new Civic Park under

flower) "On-the-Fence" at the site of the Edmonds Arts Festival. The flowers were designed by local artist Mona Fairbanks. Mona and club member Chris Walton cut the flowers out of plywood and a whole crew of Floretum volunteers chipped in to help paint them. Floretum invites you to come for the Arts Festival on Father's Day weekend.

During the Summer Market, the Edmonds Historical Museum plans



Artist Mona Fairbanks stands in front of her design "On-the-Fence."

Photo by Chris Walton



Photo by Louise Koehn

President Inae Piercy and Newsletter Editor Neena Mathew plant hanging baskets.

to host a three-month display of Floretum History that will include fresh flower arranging. Throughout the summer, Edmonds residents and visitors will enjoy the club's centennial receptions, local food specialties, community flower walks, an auction of handmade garden art, and a picnic in the park.

From 1922 to 2022

On August 22, 1922, a group of fourteen local garden enthusiasts created the Floretum Society. Their desire was to make Edmonds a *Bower of Beauty*. By their first anniversary, they were well on the way

to achieving that vision, having made a design plan, received city approval and raised funds to cover costs. To begin the transformation, City Hall was spruced up with plantings of shrubs and perennials.

The vision became a reality in March 1925 when Mrs. J.H. Kerr, Edmonds' first woman mayor, declared a public holiday for Planting and Clean-Up. Townspeople came with shovels in hand to help Floretum plant trees, flowers and shrubs throughout town.

Certainly those original 14 members would be amazed that 100 years later their legacy is alive and flourishing. Floretum members have been planting hanging baskets (now 150 of them) in Edmonds for some 70 years. They plant

corner beds, help weed and clear stream beds in the parks, provide plants that grace Edmonds gardens all over town and present monthly talks that are open to the public.

All-in-all, Edmonds Floretum Garden Club has much to commemorate and a whole community to help them celebrate.

—Marty Ronish and Bettie Hugo,
Edmonds Floretum Garden Club
edmundsfloretumgardenclub.org

WSFGC NEWS

ROSALIA GARDEN CLUB — a “Club at Large” — celebrates 75 years in 2022



Rosalia GC President Roseanna Hester leads meetings from July 2020 to July 2022.

Since 1947 and until 2017, Rosalia Garden Club had been part of an active Inland Empire District. Yes, we miss the contact of other garden clubs in our area when the district became inactive, but Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs continues to make us feel welcome and part of the organization. This was not easy the past two years with the pandemic, but Rosalia Garden Club was lucky to hold most of their planned meetings and projects.

Roseanna Hester has served as president for the 2020-2021 year and continues until July 2022. With

WSFGC awarding our club a special grant to redo the Children’s Garden in the Mini-Park on the main street, it gave members the opportunity to work outdoors, which was coordinated with other youth groups like the Boy Scouts, town maintenance crew, and citizen volunteers. Heavy equipment was used to move the extremely heavy railroad ties. The heavy equipment also filled the new raised bed with a lot of fresh amended soil. Many volunteer hours by members and others were used to accomplish this huge job. The final task was replanting with bulbs and perennials. A new sign was added and it should be very colorful this spring. We had a few setbacks with the extreme heat over the summer. Many new small perennials were planted that demanded more water. Club members groom the Mini-Park each Tuesday from April 1 to November 1. We are fortunate to have an automatic water system that keeps everything green, but sometimes it doesn’t quite cover every plant.

Rosalia Garden Club was formed by a group from the Alpha Club who decided they wanted to concentrate on more gardening issues in 1947. Rosalia GC joined WSFGC that same year. Our membership continues to be around 20 members. In 2022 we will celebrate 75 years of continued activity in both the community and



Photos by Marva Lee Peterschick

state federation. The town of Rosalia is also celebrating 150 years, so we have lots to celebrate. We especially appreciate the guidelines received from National Garden Clubs, Inc. and Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs. Each member values their membership card; it is used when visiting nurseries for any discounts or just showing it is good advertisement! I hope other club members show their state membership card with pride.



Rosalia GC members and children take a well-earned break from planting many fall bulbs for spring.

—Marva Lee Peterschick,
Rosalia GC Publicity Chairman

Terra Tillers Presents a Standard Flower Show *All Shook Up — Remembering Elvis*

The Terra Tillers Garden Club, a member of East Lake Washington District, is sponsoring an NGC Standard Flower Show *All Shook Up: Remembering Elvis* after a postponement due to the pandemic. The names of Design, Horticulture, Education, Youth, and Botanical Arts entries are titles of songs that Elvis made famous. The full schedule is on the East Lake Washington website: elwd.org. It will be fun to look at it and remember those Elvis songs.

The Terra Tillers are a small club, currently 13 members. We have been putting on flower shows every two or

three years, so we are practiced at organizing. Since we are small, members of our District support us with entries. This will be the only show in East Lake Washington District this year.

The show will be held at the Aaron Educational Center in the Bellevue Botanical Garden on May 21 and 22. The hours are 12 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 21 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

—Mary Deviny,
Publicity Chairman

NGC SCHOOLS

Flower Show Symposium

Hill and Dale and Black Hills Districts are sponsoring a Flower Show Symposium on Tuesday, May 31 and Wednesday, June 1 at the Dryer Masonic Center, 306 134th St. S., in Tacoma (Parkland). The Symposium is open to all judges and garden club members interested in flower shows, flower design and horticulture.

Topics are *Angular and Multi-Rhythmic Designs*, and *Conifer and Flowering Trees*. Each day will have four hours of instruction, two hours of practice point scoring, and a point scoring test for judges who need re-certification. Lunch is included.

Tuesday will be Design Day with Shirley Tetreault from Albuquerque, New Mexico. Wednesday will be Hor-

ticulture Day with Jan Griffin who grew up in Seattle but now lives in the Tampa area of Florida.

Judges must attend the entire time for credit, and others may choose to attend one or both of the days. Cost for two days with lunches is \$75. A low cost is possible because we are not holding class at a hotel. Nearby hotels are listed in the flyer for those needing to stay overnight. Our instructors will be staying at the Hampton Inn in Puyallup.

The registration and more information are posted on the WSFGC webpage, wagardenclubs.com. For questions, please contact me at ggibbard55@gmail.com.

—Gail Gibbard,
Symposium Chairman

By JOYCE JOHNSON

Spring Comes

No bugle or drum announces Spring.
She flutters in on silent wing.
Sometimes she pauses for a while,
Allowing Winter his extra mile.

A subtle change in breath of air,
The sweet perfume of Spring is here.
A glimpse of Robin's brilliant breast,
Shy Crocus arising from her nest.

Growing things, proud of their survival,
Bursting to tell of Spring's arrival.
And all about the senses bring
Taste, feel, smell, sight and sound of Spring.

Photo adobe.stock.com by Belight



Updating Credentials Report for Landscape Design, Environmental and Gardening Schools

Seven members in WSFGC recently renewed their credentials in **Environmental Schools**: Elaine Pinkerton, Kumiko Kamplaine, Linda Haas, Brynn Tavasci, Terry Critchlow, Jeanette Pruin and Lana Finegold. Jeanette and Lana are five-star members who are a Master in all four National Garden Club Schools.

The four NGC Schools are Flower Show, Landscape Design, Environmental and Gardening. Lana and Jeanette took Tri-Refreshers via Zoom. Anyone may take a Tri-Refresher for Landscape Design, Environmental and Gardening. Once a person becomes a Master Consultant they can refresh simultaneously, so Jeanette and Lana paid the cur-

rent NGC fee of five dollars for each school they wanted credited. For these three schools, a consultant must refresh at least once every five years. Anyone may opt out and apply for Emeritus status. To go Emeritus, one's credits must be up to date. Letting your credits lapse is not an option. Emeritus applications are on the NGC website.

Flower Show Judges take symposiums for credit every three years or sooner. For Flower Show Judge Emeritus application, there is no form. Simply email Rebecka Flowers, NGC Receptionist & School Secretary at rflowers@gardenclub.org.

—Lana Finegold,
5-Star Consultant

Flower Show Judge Emeritus

Judith Juno, Oak Harbor Garden Club (CAL) of the former Chuckanut District, has become an Emeritus Judge. She started her journey to become a judge in 2001 and became a Master Judge in 2013. She was Chuckanut District Director from 2003 to 2007 (two terms) and our WSFGC President from 2011 to 2013. She has held several positions working on our state magazine

Washington Garden & Design from 2004 to being Managing Editor from 2021 to 2023. We thank you, Judith, for service to our organization.

For Flower Show Judge Emeritus application, there is no form. Simply email Rebecka Flowers, NGC Receptionist & School Secretary at rflowers@gardenclub.org.

—Sherry Matthews,
WSFGC Credentials Chairman

Kelso Garden Club Receives NGC PLANT AMERICA Grant

Kelso Garden Club recently received a \$1,000 PLANT AMERICA grant from National Garden Clubs, Inc. Members will use the funds to replace temporary plants with permanent landscaping around the Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker in Tam O'Shanter Park in Kelso, WA. The Marker was dedicated on Veterans' Day in November 2021.

PLANT AMERICA was founded in 2017 to assist in carrying out the National Garden Clubs' focus on community-centered projects and efforts. By preserving ecosystems and engaging in civic beautification, Kelso Garden Club, Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs and National Garden Clubs are making a positive impact on the environment.

PLANT AMERICA embodies NGC's commitment to raise awareness of environmental issues such as land restoration, water conservation, environmental science and sustainability, and access to green space such as public parks. The program's projects enhance public areas, honor veterans with Blue



Photo by Michele Waite

Temporary plantings at Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker will be replaced by permanent plantings thanks to an NGC Plant America grant awarded to Kelso Garden Club.

Star landscaping projects, educate children and adults about the joys of gardening and create pride through local, city, and county projects.

—Sarah Koss, President
Kelso Garden Club

YOUTH PROJECTS

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

Youth from first through fifth grade were encouraged to participate in the Fall 2021 National Garden Clubs, Youth Poster Contest. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and National Garden Clubs, Inc. give students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of wildfire prevention and basic environmental conservation principles through original drawings of Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl.

WSFGC Districts participating with a total of 19 entries included Chinook, East Lake Washington, Hill and Dale, plus Rosalia At-Large Club. Rosalia Elementary School added this contest to their curriculum and their youth posters reflected this action. All

participants received trinkets symbolic of Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl. WSFGC sent five finalist posters to the Pacific Region competition. Districts representing the finalists were recognized at the WSFGC March Board Meeting.

—*Evie Marwood,*
Youth Contest
Chairman



Grade 3— Hadley Hudkins, Rosalia At-Large Club



Grade 1—Penny Miller, Rosalia At-Large Club



Grade 4—Evelyn Snyder, Chinook District/Marine Hills



Grade 2—Ashlyn Carper, Rosalia At-Large Club



Grade 5—Marlena VanDyke, Rosalia At-Large Club

YOUTH PROJECTS

WSFGC 2021 Pollinator Poster Winners

Illahee Garden Club, Black Hills District sponsored entries for the *Pollinator Poster Contest*. Winners are Weston Buffington, K grade; Emmy Bell, 1st grade; Ollie Bertucci-Cyphers, 2nd grade; Kynlee Harvey, 3rd grade; Jaelyn Seaman, 4th grade; Evan Wyant, 5th grade, and Natalie Fenwick, 6th grade.

—Mary Lou Paulson, Chairman Pollinator Posters



Pollinator K: Weston Buffington, Kindergarten



Pollinator 1: Emmy Bell, 1st Grade



Pollinator 2: Ollie Bertucci-Cyphers, 2nd Grade



Pollinator 3: Kynlee Harvey, 3rd Grade



Pollinator 5: Evan Wyant, 5th Grade



Pollinator 4: Jaelyn Seaman, 4th Grade



Pollinator 6: Natalie Fenwick, 6th Grade

PACIFIC REGION



ONE GREEN WORLD

pacific region garden clubs

lana finegold - director



Pacific Region Director's Report

One Green World is the Pacific Region Garden Clubs' theme for 2021 to 2023. What is my vision for One Green World? I believe that if we encourage youth to love nature, and adults to respect nature and others, our planet will survive and thrive. Obviously I am very concerned about climate change, which seems to get worse with every news report. So anything we can do as clubs, districts, states or regions to mitigate climate change is worthy. I read somewhere that planting a single tree can help our climate and our environment. Delaware University Ecology Professor and author Doug Tallamy suggests planting trees that support pollinators and wildlife. If the trees are also native, even better. PRGC will plant a fig tree in a park at a civic ceremony in Las Vegas during its 2022 convention in April.

Why plant native plants? They use less water, and since water can be scarce in some places and sometimes lead to war, using less water can be a good thing. Native plants

are more resilient and adapted to local climates. I live in the land of the rain (Bellevue, a suburb of Seattle) but I have noticed that it now mostly rains at night and most days are dry. But not today. I am looking at a lake in my backyard. I have lived in this house over fifty years, and "Lake Finegold" is an occasional visitor to our property. Lucky me!!

It used to be that when a lake in the back yard happened, it would take three days or more to drain. However, now when the rain stops, the lake takes one day to drain because two giant Cedar trees in my back yard draw up the water and seem to be stable too, so plants and trees, planted by birds and wildlife, have created a rain garden in my back yard, with just a little help from me.

To help create *One Green World*, we can purchase less and choose to buy sustainable things. We can grow some of the food we eat and recycle or repurpose more. For over a year I did not go to the mall shopping



and I stopped buying clothes. I have learned to shop in my closet. Our national group, NGC, has created a Sustainable Consumerism Chairmanship. How will you make our planet more sustainable?

Another way to support *One Green World* is to become a member of the Pollen Pushers Garden Club in the Pacific Region. All membership donations go to the PRGC Scholarship Fund, and educating students is one way to help create and nurture *One Green World*. The Pollen Pushers information and membership application is on the PRGC website, so select a level of giving and help pollinate the future by helping enable college students to become educated. See the PRGC website: pacificregiongardenclubs.org/pollen-pushers-1. On the same

website at PacificRegionGardenClubs.org/convention, you will find the registration form and other information for the 2022 Pacific Region convention April 25-27 in Las Vegas. The 2023 PRGC Convention will be April 17-20 at the Lynnwood Embassy Suites. Our own WSFGC Team Tavasci is planning this fun-filled convention, so I hope you will plan to attend in both Las Vegas and Lynnwood if you are able. For more information on anything about Pacific Region, contact me at lanafinegold@msn.com or 425-747-5742. "Each one reach one, teach one, try!"

Pacific Region Convention in April



The Pacific Region Convention will be held April 25-27 in Las Vegas, NV at the Plaza Hotel. Convention business, dinners and activities will take place at the Nevada Garden Club Clubhouse, a large cement building adjacent to a rose garden. Go to pacificregiongardenclubs.org for registration, details and forms.

—Lana Finegold,
Pacific Region Director

'All Shook Up'



Remembering
Elvis

**An NGC Standard
FLOWER SHOW**

Presented by
Terra Tillers Garden Club

Saturday, May 21st
12:00 – 4:00

and
Sunday, May 22nd
10:00 - 3:00

**Bellevue Botanical Garden
The Aaron Education Center**

HORTICULTURE

Garden Fun

Selecting, purchasing, and planting new plants for the garden has always been fun for me and I hope it is for you too! It is like an adventure discovering new plants that will thrive in the conditions of your garden. Sometimes we have amazing success at finding the perfect plant, but not all choices are successful. Some plants may need to be moved to another spot in the garden to thrive, and some just refuse to stay. But here is to adventure and I hope you try at least one of the following plants in your garden.

Pavonia lasio-petala—Wright's Mallow is a hibiscus cousin that is native in central and south Texas which makes it ideal for the sunny, dry garden spot. It grows into a two-foot mound of stems sporting hairy, bright green foliage. The show begins in midsummer and continues into the fall with vivid pink flowers one-and-one-half inches wide covering the mound of foliage. This plant is not fussy about soil and grows about 15 inches tall. It is hardy in Zones 7a to 9b.

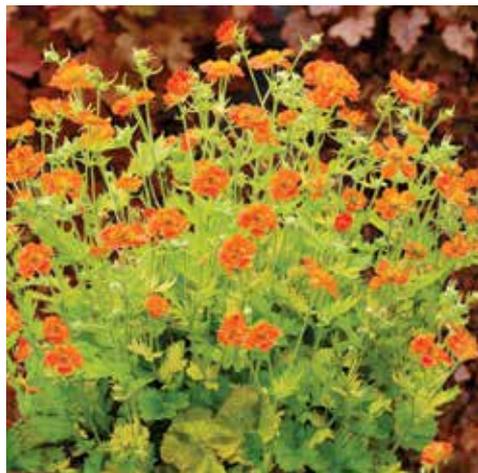
Nepetas are bee magnets. As soon as the first flowers appear, several species of bees find them and enjoy their nectar and pollen. Mine often

have several small butterflies sharing in the feast. *Nepeta* 'Neptune' is a new petite plant with a height of eight inches with a width of twelve inches. It has multiple stems full of dark purple-blue flowers. Like most *Nepetas* it prefers full sun to mostly sun. Encourage it to bloom from spring to fall

by deadheading once in the mid to late summer. This plant is not fussy about soil conditions and is hardy in Zones 5 to 9.

Cypripedium formosanum—Forsythia Lady Slipper Orchid is a plant I might lust after, but it is not for me. It prefers cooler temperatures in the summer than where I live and words like "prefers moist,

slightly acidic to slightly neutral pH soils" are also not found easily in the Lower Columbian Basin. I can provide good drainage which it also prefers. You might give it a try if you can meet the above requirements and live in Zones 6b to 9. My son lives in Seattle and this Lady Slipper Orchid has thrived for him. It has spectacular heavily pleated bright green leaves that resembles a Japanese hand fan opened horizontally across six-inch tall stems. The fabulous pink lady slipper-like flower sits just above the foliage. When happy, this plant quick-



Geum 'Sunkissed Lime'

ly forms a nice clump, spreading by underground rhizomes.

Vitex agnus-castus 'Blue Diddley Chastetree' is a delightfully small version of the *Vitex* 'Shoal Creek.' The flowers are a deep sky blue and are borne in an inflorescent that is six to ten inches long. The flowers first appear in early summer and continue for several weeks. To encourage blooming, dead-heading is recommended often helping flowers to appear into mid-fall. The leaves are a soft green, long and fairly narrow. 'Blue Diddley' grows to a varied height of three to six feet with an equal spread. It prefers full to mostly sun and is hardy in Zones 5a to 9b. It is heat tolerant and not too particular about soil. It is slow

to bud out in the spring but takes off rapidly once growth commences. Either as a focal point or in a sunny shrub border, this small tree-shrub is a natural show off.

Geum 'Sun Kissed' is a strong pop of color in the spring! Flowers of citrus hues of brilliant orange stand out above the sun-tolerant lime-green foliage on slender stems. The lush mounds of foliage offer a pleasing backdrop to the prolific blooms. This new geum is a small gem of ten inches high and fourteen inches wide. It blooms prolifically in the mid-spring and early summer.

Half-shade is probably the best in hot summer areas and sun in cooler climates. Once again deadheading will keep your geum blooming longer or you can leave some of the flowers on and enjoy the fluffy seed heads that develop. This plant is hardy in Zones 5 to 8 and good winter drainage is preferred. As a bonus neither rabbit nor deer seem to relish this plant, but butterflies will enjoy the flowers.

Who can turn down a super prolific bloomer with absolutely gorgeous foliage? And how could you possibly say no to a name like *Geranium* 'Happy Thought'? Even without the flowers, the foliage is so outstanding it would be worth growing for that alone. On each leaf a bright green edge

surrounds a large central area that goes from chartreuse to creamy white in the center. I have had this cultivar or one of its cousins for many years. It will do well in a half-sunny spot or even thrive on my hot, sunny back deck. I will admit to pulling it closer to the house on some of last year's ridiculously hot days! It also continues to bloom into the fall even when the nights dip into the thirties. And it comes in two flower color choices of pink or red. So now please enjoy some 'Happy Thoughts' or have fun on your own plant adventure.



Geranium Peldard 'Happy Thought Red'

BROWN BAG DESIGNS

My, oh, my! Are you tired of sitting home and ready for this whole pandemic thing to be over with? Me, too! I am so relieved to be able to hold meetings in person again. I belong to two design clubs: the Black Hills Flower Designers and the Hill & Dale Designers. Recently I had a wonderful week as both clubs had in-person meetings! I hope your clubs are able to meet soon also.

I have a suggestion for a fun Creative Floral Design activity for any club to do. Both of the clubs did this project last week. I suggest that you try BROWN BAG DESIGNS.

Members are asked to bring a container for a design like a vase, sculpture, decorative wood, form etc., covered up and disguised by a brown paper bag or something similar. Your club may decide to furnish the flowers, greens, and line materials or have each member bring their own along with their tool kit (clippers, scissors, wire, tape, glue dots etc).

Now the fun begins. Members select a hidden container to design with. They use either the flowers

they brought or the flowers the club provided. Magic occurs. You get the challenge and excitement of using a container you may have never seen before. Have you ever been to one of our WSFGC Flower Shows and seen those fantastic things that others include in their designs? This is your opportunity to design with an item that just might totally awaken your creative spirit!

I recently participated in this club activity and saw amazing things. Members that always construct a small mass design, selected huge pottery vases and assembled designs twice as big as they had ever imagined. Another member used a sculpture for the first time and laughed at the challenge of using magnets in a design. Please enjoy these photos from our meeting.

Using new design materials is like fresh ingredients in the kitchen: the finished product is a work of inspiration. Sharing design components is one of many ways of helping others learn about design and enjoy participating in club activities. Give it a try!



In the past, we have asked one thing of our gardens: that they be pretty. Now they have to support life, sequester carbon, feed pollinators and manage water.

Doug Tallamy

From *The National Gardener Magazine*, page 49, Winter 2021



Photos by Debbie Spiller

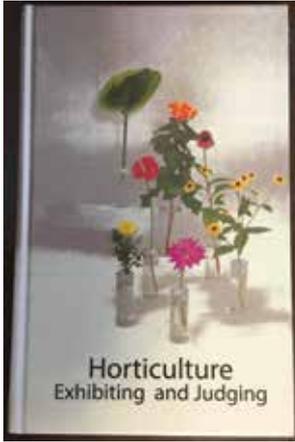


The brown bag hid the container. Members selected a bag with a surprise container and created a design with plant materials they brought to the meeting. Some members swapped plant materials, too.



SPECIAL INTEREST

NGC Judging Versus Plant Society Judging



Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging gives specific details for judging criteria of horticulture exhibits. The *NGC Handbook for Flower Shows* is available online from NGC at gardenclub.org.

The *National Garden Clubs, Inc. Handbook for Flower Shows* has an overall look at horticulture. Our *Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging* (A supplement to the *National Garden Clubs, Inc.*) book has detailed information about

a wide variety of plants and what judges should look for. The authors of this book looked to different plant societies for guidelines on judging and incorporated many into their descriptions for our benefit. Societies have different attitudes; they can disqualify exhibits we cannot.

Society judges have an in-depth study of one plant and will have more specific considerations. NGC judges use a less intensive approach recognizing Plant Identification with a two-part botanical name always using the genus and species named, Peak of Perfection, Form, Color, Maturity, Conditioning, Grooming and Staging. When asked to judge a flower show the judges will seek as much information on each species as they can

but will not be an “expert” in any one class.

Plant Society Judges become experts in their specific area of interest. The American Hemerocallis Society (day lilies) requires their judges in training to have belonged for two years; they must grow a variety of day lilies with particular attention paid to growing samples of regionally hybridized cultivars, spend one day in the classroom and one day in a garden sitting. Then they must send proper paperwork to receive a five-year term as a judge. Each society—such as rose judges, dahlia judges—has very specific requirements for becoming a judge; they each demand many hours of study.

One of the teams that make up a judging panel for NGC flower shows is two NGC judges and one plant society judge. It is always educational to learn from a society judge to see what they look for in a particular specimen; however, NGC rules for point scoring apply. The basic reason is because we do not expect a dahlia judge to judge roses or day lilies using the formula they use for dahlias or a rose judge to judge dahlias since they are each specialists in their field and scoring standards are different for each field.

NGC judges can't be specialists in all classes of horticulture and have learned through flower show schools, symposiums and lots of practice to do their job to the best of their abilities.

—Linda Maida,
WSFGC Judges Chairman



Mukilteo Garden Quilt Tour

SAVE THE DATE!
July 16 & 17, 2022
11 AM – 4 PM

- >Six beautiful Old Town Mukilteo gardens provide the showcase for one hundred unique quilts
- >A collaboration of the Mukilteo Way Garden Club and Mukilteo Lighthouse Quilters
- >This winning combination of our two arts only happens once every two years, so spread the word and mark your calendar!

Visit our website www.mukilteogardenandquilttour.org for more information including slideshows of previous tours and ticket information.

Advance tickets: \$15 Days of Tour: \$20

Partially funded by Lodging Tax and Community Support grants from the City of Mukilteo

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose, Save and Take Care for the Future

Has anyone ever had a person that so imprinted on you—values, hard work, wonderful friends and the love of your gardens? Once upon a time, there was a little four-foot, eleven-inch amazing lady that could ride the plow horses, pick a carrot out of the vegetable garden to snack on, gather the wild blackberries up on the hill for pie, and help her mother plant beautiful flower seeds so there would be bouquets in the house. That was my mother.

Her mom always had three pots with lids on the counter: one for the chickens, one for things to put back into the garden and one for the dog and kitty. She was raised on a dairy farm of Guernsey and Jersey milking cows, in Coos Bay, Oregon with four siblings. Her daily chores were feeding the animals, cleaning the barn and sheds out and whatever was asked like putting cow-pies around the shrubs and flowers so that they would grow big and beautiful. Her family lived off the land with the available beef, chicken, vegetables, cream, cheese, butter, buttermilk and fruits from the yard.

There was no garbageman, no paper boy, no phone or computer to play on. They had a Jersey bull, Major, who supplied the farm with calves and future milk cows. Rarely were there any tin cans for garbage and, if there were, they were tossed in a huge hole on the back of the property for this purpose. Flower sacks and potato sacks were used for tea towels,

pillowcases and blouses (short waist) for the girls and denim for the boys' pants. The Australian shepherd, Tessie, would go down the hill and round up the cows at milking time at 3:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. for her father. Her dog food was leftover porridge (hot cereal), milk, hotcakes, eggs and meat scraps. No need to go to town for this commodity.

My mom learned to take cuttings for new plants, graft scions onto trees, replant seedlings for wind breaks, divide rhubarb and other plants, make her own clothes, jam and jelly while her mom canned food in jars for the coming year. Her father taught her to fish and help with the butchering. He would sell eggs, cheese, butter and milk to the Creamery in Coos Bay for which he received a monthly allowance of butter and cheese and buttermilk. Cream was siphoned, saving two quarts for cooking and meals and some was sold to the neighbor lady to make cottage cheese; in return they received a container or two for meals.

They never seemed to want for anything. It was the most fun for my sisters and me to totally clean out the barn and pile up the manure to compost for the gardens. We were so proud to help. Mom learned to make blue elderberry (*Sambucus caerulea*) wine. New shoes were saved in the closet for special occasions and church. Boots were the norm for outside wear. There was a two-hole outhouse out back. We played hop-



scotch, Annie Annie Over and board games like Pit for entertainment. There wasn't much that mom couldn't do. I think about my mom often and one day while at work, I wrote her a letter.

Dear Mom,

I am sitting at my desk at work thinking of you and missing you. You left us on March 6, 2021, at the amazing age of 100 plus seven months. What a feat for a little four-foot, eleven-inch 'pip squeak' as we referred to you. You were cute, funny and always loving. When you were down here with us, we could talk and hold your hand and admire all the flowers in your lovely garden. You had dahlias blooming, roses gracing us with pleasant fragrances, especially your favorite Rosa 'Mlle Cecile Brunner Cl.' 1881, the Harry Lauder's Walking Stick tree (*Corylus avellana* 'Contorta') with its crooked and curved branches, the best corn patch in Central Valley,

calla lilies so tall we could hide in them, raspberries, figs, apples, pears and rhubarb to delight in. Oh, Mom, I sure do miss your prune pie and peach pie and scrumptious stew, too.

But the most special time in your garden was when I was a child, I weeded your flowerbeds, ran my little cars in and around your plants and

wondered just how your iris flowers could be so beautiful. Of course, I knew that you enjoyed getting down on your knees to weed the beds because that was where God was and that was where you wanted to be. Your beautiful iris stood tall and impressive near the little patch of *Gypsophila paniculate* (Baby's Breath) that I admired. More than admiring and enjoying your garden, I felt a

calmness and quietness that I am sure that is why you were always in the garden. My favorite flowers were the iris in your garden and as I grew up, I realized that I, too, had to plant iris in my own garden and so now I have hundreds. Thank you, Mom, for giving me this precious gift of loving iris.

Talk to you later, Mom
(Anita Madeline Wheeler).



Photo by Madeline West

This tall bearded iris is 'Squeeze the Lemons' and was hybridized by Will Plotner. Madeline won a name this iris contest through Greater Portland Iris Society in 2019.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Our lives have changed in different ways as shown through three

generations in Madeline's article. All of us have had an influential person (parent, grandparent, guardian, relative, teacher or friend) who has inspired and guided us to reverence and appreciation of Mother Earth and all she has to offer us. Consider showing appreciation to that person this May and June.

BOOK REVIEWS



Turn This Book Into a Beehive
And 19 other experiments and activities that explore the amazing world of bees

Lynn Brunelle
Illustrated by Anna-Marie Jung
2018 Workman Publishing
\$19.95 paperback

Novel idea is presented to help the bees by turning this book into a mason bee house teardrop shaped with lots of tubes. You don't even destroy the reading book. Very instructive for the young reader but also for adults to understand the science of how bees live. Great illustrations show the different types of bees and all their stages. The activities are excellent to try.



Christopher Lloyd's Flower Garden
Christopher Lloyd
Photography by Steven Wooster
1993 Dorling Kindersley Inc
\$29.95 hardbound

You are walking through Christopher Lloyd's plantings at Great Dixter in East Sussex, England in all the seasons. The photographs give you the visual of all the plants that he describes in the narrative, why he planted it there and how he maintains the plants. It's almost as good as traveling there in person. The manor house is from the fifteenth century and his parents purchased the six acres of land in 1912. It is still a garden open to the public with topiary, orchard, ponds, prairie, and rose garden all described by this gifted Master Gardener.



How to Grow Just About Everything
1001 Ways to Get Abundant, Beautiful Flowers and Delicious, Mouth-Watering Vegetables From Your Garden or Window Sill

The Editors of FC&A Publishing
2021 FC&A Publishing
\$32.00 Hardbound

For novice gardeners or masters there is something to learn from all the hints in this book. There are chapters on age-friendly garden designs with recipes for muscle balm; how to grow habitats for pollinators, containers, feeding techniques and recipes; how to grow edibles, houseplants, starting seeds, tool tips, water features and composting. Many easy tips to buy or grow the right plant for your garden and to keep it growing beautifully, including what is best to do each month to maintain your garden. Here are a couple of interesting tips:

—Use cinnamon around the ant hill and trails and around doors, window, and cracks in your home.

—Make a sticky trap for small aphids, whiteflies, flea beetles by snagging them with a popsicle stick glued or stapled to a playing card coated with petroleum jelly. Put in plant area and see what sticks.

—If your acid-loving plants need a lower pH in the soil, mix a tablespoon of white vinegar to a gallon of water to feed your roses, hydrangeas, and rhododendrons.

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Managing Editor's Desk:

Dear Garden Club Members,

We are all concerned about Climate Change, the environmental issue of the present. The United Nations World Charter for Nature says, "Life depends on the uninterrupted functioning of natural systems which ensure the supply of energy and nutrients. Civilization is rooted in nature which has shaped human culture and influenced all artistic and scientific endeavor."

Mary Davis says, "To walk into nature is to witness a thousand miracles."

Mattie Stepanek says, "Sunset is still my favorite color and rainbow is second."

John Muir says, "Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, and places where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul."

We are interdependent: we must take care of our natural world and do what we can from our garden at home to our influence in the world. It is up to each of us to take action and speak to our members of Congress and to our county, state, national and world leaders to take up the cause of Climate Change. We must not compromise with adjustments to Climate Change instead of preventions of Climate Change. We must do **both** with prevention taking priority over adjustment.

Nature supplies us with the essentials of water, air and earth and all its denizens. We must take care of Space-ship Earth.

Judith Juno,
Managing Editor



EVENTS

- April 25-27** *Pacific Region Garden Clubs Convention*, Las Vegas NV. Theme: *Respect the Region*. Focus on recycling and repurposing with a Repeat Boutique. See PRGC website pacificregiongardenclubs.org for details.
- May 7** *Woodinville Garden Club Annual Plant Sale* will be held on the grounds of the Woodinville Alliance Church at 13940 NE 166th Street in Woodinville. See woodinvillegardenclub.org for details.
- May 13-14** *Blue Mountain District Spring Plant Sale* (mainly perennials) will be held May 13 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday May 14 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Address is 412 Thayer Drive, Richland. Contact Alice Ver Steeg for details.
- May 18-21** *National Garden Clubs, Inc. 91st Convention*, Orlando FL. See NGC website gardenclub.org for details.
- May 21-22** *Terra Tillers Garden Club NGC Standard Flower Show All Shook Up* Remembering Elvis at Bellevue Botanical Center, the Aaron Education Center. Saturday 12 to 4 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- May 31 & June 1** *WSFGC Flower Show SYMPOSIUM*, Dryer Masonic Center, 306 134th St. S., Tacoma. Design Instructor: Shirley Tetreault from Albuquerque NM. Topic: *Multi-rhythmic and Angular Designs*. Horticulture Instructor: Jan Griffin, FL (formerly WA). Topic: *Conifer and flowering trees*. Contact Gail Gifford for registration information: ggibbard55@gmail.com. For details go to wagardenclubs.com.
- June 13-14** *WSFGC 89th CONVENTION* via ZOOM.
- June 25** *Woodinville Garden Club 21st Tour of Gardens* will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Five stunning private gardens will be open for Tour visitors. Tickets will be sold on the club website woodinvillegardenclub.org and at local nurseries.
- July 16-17** *Mukilteo Garden Quilt Tour* is a collaboration of Mukilteo Way Garden Club and Mukilteo Lighthouse Quilters. For details go to mukilteogardenandquilttour.org.



June 25

Tulip Valley Gardeners (Club At Large) invites everyone to the MV Garden and Art Fair at Edgewater Park, 600 Behrens Millet Rd. (mountvernon.wa.gov) in Mount Vernon from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information see: mvgardenandartfair.org. Proceeds will go to the maintenance fund for the Emma Jarvis Memorial Garden that TVG maintains in downtown Mount Vernon at Kinkaid and 1st Street.

Editor's Note: Due to the impact of the coronavirus and COVID-19, check with the event coordinator to determine whether the event will be held as scheduled.



OUR MISSION:

Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs coordinates the interests of garden clubs to provide education, resources and networking opportunities for its members in promoting gardening, floral design, civic and environmental responsibility.

Summer Deadline: June 1
All electronic articles should be e-mailed to Managing Editor Judith Juno, jjuno@frontier.com

Annual Submission Reminder		
Deadline	Issue	Months
June 1	Summer, #1	July-Aug-Sept
September 1	Fall, #2	Oct-Nov-Dec
December 1	Winter, #3	Jan-Feb-Mar
March 1	Spring, #4	Apr-May-June