THE ECHO Hill and Dale District

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

#198 Nov 2020



THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Good Glorious Fall Everyone



"Different times, New idea"

I so love this time of year when the leaves turn such magnificent colors. It is worth a drive out of town to enjoy them which is what I did just the other day!! These cool sunny days! Absolutely the best even during these crazy times.

I know some of your clubs are still finding creative ways to get together and I so glad to hear that is happening.

Meeting in a community green house, a large heated garage or a private club - wherever is possible. We need to see and talk to our garden club members. I know I miss seeing mine.

Our district has purchased ZOOM!!! This is for all of you to use when and if needed. It is easy and a great way to stay in touch with your club members and others. If your not sure how to use it drop Kathy Johnson a quick email at **kathyj16@msn.com** or call her at 253-847-4933; she will be more then willing to help you figure it out. The more members we can get comfortable with using Zoom the more of you that can join us at our next district meeting

Our district meeting Dec 1st will be a Zoom meeting. We will be having a speaker so you really do not want to miss it. We will be showing your pictures of your fall decorations whether inside or out. In fact, if you decorate for Christmas that's great too. Check your email for all the criteria for this fun way to share.

Please do the best you can to stay in touch with on another. If you have not already checked out our district website. Kathy is updating it all the time. **hillanddaledistrict. weebly .com**

Stay safe and healthy Rachel

District Meeting Dec 1, 2020 Via Zoom

HAPPY FALL TO ONE AND ALL

Getting ready for our Dec 1st district meeting. Fall décor pictures and a speaker all on ZOOM

I hope the craziness of life right now has not stopped you from enjoying decorating with what we have at our fingertips. Flowers, leaves, pumpkins, gourds, cornstalks etc....

I am asking for you all to take a picture of that fall décor you have put together or are going to for November. Whether it is on your front or back porch, the dinning room table, or in your garden. I am even opening this up to those of you that decorate for Christmas before Thanksgiving is over. I know there are some of you out there and that is ok.

Take your pictures and send them to Kathy Johnson by Nov 23rd at kathyj16@msn.com

Kathy will organize them and show all the pictures during our District Meeting so members can also enjoy them. When your picture appears on the screen, we would love for you to share a little bit about the putting it together if you would like to. It is another great way to stay in touch with our fellow members. If you do not want to, write it so we can share it for you.

I am looking forward to seeing what you all put together

Stay safe and healthy Rachel

Hill & Dale District Web Site

https://hillanddaledistrict.weebly.com/

Our district website is in need of more pictures. We are looking for photos of the district events especially before 2016 to include on the website. Do you have pictures from when the district meetings were held at the Waller Road Grange, at the Puyallup Elks, any Flower Show Schedule cover brochures?? Pictures from the district plant sale, spring flower show in conjunction with the Daffodil flower show, district pictures from the Meeker Mansion, old Pierce County Fair pictures, workshop pictures, arbor day pictures?? Please dig out your old digital cameras and email your pictures to Kathy Johnson, at kathyj16@msn.com, Please include what event it is and the year. Or do you have something else that is noteworthy that you would like added to the historian page of the website. Thanks for your help.

The District website has lots of additional information? Our website is there for anyone looking to join a garden club but it also has resources for all our current club members.

Just scroll across the top for Events, Echo Newsletters, Photos and Links to National, Regional and State websites.

New this year, click on the "more" tab and find:

Garden Resources - do you have a question and would like some help?

Horticulture Grooming - how to condition and groom your flowers,

Plant Botanical names - cross referenced with their common names.

Sample Horticulture tags – how to fill out your tags for flower show.

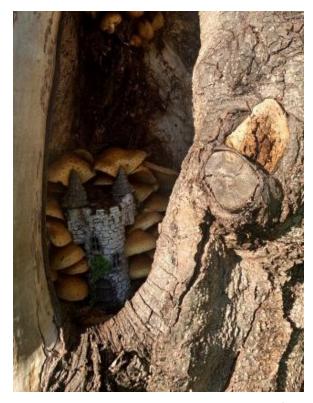
VISION OF BEAUTY

The Vision of Beauty is the calendar published by National Garden Clubs Inc. The calendar is a collection of floral designs and gardens compiled from photos submitted by club members throughout the world. Included this year are designs from Australia, Mexico. Peru, New Zealand and the United States.

CONGRATULATIONS to Debbie Spiller, member of Country Gardeners – she has the cover as well as a design in Oct. CONGRATU-LATIONS to Joyce Komnick, Serendipity Designers – she has a plaque in May.

CONGRATULATIONS to Harriet Miller, Serendipity Designers – she has a design in Oct. Also, a member of Black Hills District, Vicki Steigner has a Botanical Arts mask in Nov.

The Vision of Beauty calendars are for sale for \$4.35 each. I have a good supply and will be glad to deliver to your club or meet you somewhere. Please call me at 253-845-3946 or e-mail me at isamum@comcast.net to make arrangements to get this beautiful book.



I have a hole in a tree on my path to my daughter's house where I stuck a wee castle! This year Mother Nature decorated it for fall!!! Mary Bewley

GARDEN HOUR

Seems like things are in a constant state of change: seasons change, routines change, fashions change, etc. (Thank goodness some things never change like death and taxes. Phew!) Changes can rock our world with a gut punch, or stretch us to grow, innovate, and adapt.

Like all district clubs, the Garden Hour Rowdies have had some changes. We have welcomed four new members (a good thing) and have been looking for a new meeting place (a challenging thing) since the fire hall has been slated for demolition -- more on that in the next issue of Echo.

One thing that has not changed is the hospitality of our members. Our Sept meeting was held in the home of Hurricane Sandy Parr where we welcomed new members, Julie Wells and Carmen Neal. (Carmen actually joined us last June).

Following the meeting we toured Sandy's yard, had dessert, then headed to Shirley Smith's home just because...

Oct found us back at Shirley Smith's home where we welcomed two more new members, Annette Clingman and Sandi Barron.



We had a speaker, Marilyn Fergeson, who gave a program on propagating hardy fuchsias, hydrangeas and trumpet vines. She is a master gardener and owner of Evensong Nursery in North Puyallup. Following her presentation, names were drawn for the starts of the fuchsias and trumpet vines she made.

Members also received bulbs of Sweet Lena irises from Shirley. It was a very productive meeting!

Change happens. But like I said, some things don't change. Here is a snapshot of a typical garden club meeting...

"Chairs"

The days may be grey, they may be damp, cold and cloudy, but that doesn't stop us Garden Hour Rowdies.

> From fall into spring we gather "en masses"; Some stand having coffee, some sit on their....chairs.

A greeting, a meeting, a motion made--and it passes! More coffee is poured as we sit on our...chairs.

New program, new speaker, long lesson on grasses; Our brains have gone numb along with our....chairs

We Rowdies are tough though, like nails—like brass is, but after an hour we got pain in our....chairs?

So at the end of each meeting we prim, proper lasses can't wait to stand up and get moving our....chairs.

--by A. Rowdy Karla Hiers



COUNTRY GARDENERS

Since our last ECHO, we have had a few opportunities for getting together. Chris Sherrill did host her ROOT BEER FLOAT meeting and it was attended by approximately 13 of our members. Nothing brings out gardeners more than sunshine and floats. We all observed protocol and distanced ourselves, while Chris held a short meeting. We made our plans for the Agenda for the year 2021. We are all looking forward to starting the NEW YEAR off with a "surprise project" hosted by our resident crafter, Randie Welcher. I know we are all looking forward to whatever Randie has in store for us. We continued to make plans for speakers and field trips through June.

Linda Maida reminded us of the WSFGC Spring Board meeting to be held again at Little Creek Casino. They will again offer designs and workshops for those attending. Just a teaser... Wind Chimes and Garden Totems may be in the offerings. As it gets closer more information will be made available to all members.



Also during the meeting a field trip was scheduled for Sept 14, 2020 to tour the Dahlia Garden at Point Defiance. A few members got together and enjoyed the beauty along with a sack lunch and good conversation.

Some have enjoyed learning a "new" challenge...ZOOM and have kept those of us who may be more technically challenged informed of what is happening.

Rachel Jennings hosted a ZOOM District meeting on Sept 22, 2020. Club members were invited to join in and Country Gardeners had three representatives present; President, Chris Sherrill, VP Gail Harte and Secretary Kathleen Muckian joined others for an interesting and informative meeting.

We were happy to learn that Country Gardeners had been the recipient of several awards. Chris S shared the list with the club members (see pages 9-11) and we were awarded the following:

MARVALEE HOOD BEST ATTENDANCE at District:

1st PLACE, a title we have held proudly for the last 12 years. Since it was instituted in 1992, Country Gardeners have held first place 21 times.

Our next get together is planned for Oct 31, 2020. This will be a Halloween Costume and Potluck, with a short club meeting, to be held at Devious Hauge's home in Port Orchard. Should be fun and as always a time to be together for visiting and FOOD, oh I mean food.

Well here we are in the midst of fall preparing our gardens for a winter sleep. Hope everyone has had an opportunity to enjoy some of the dry days to get those needed chores done. Unfortunately we have had little opportunities for getting together in person.

Randie Welcher reminded us of something fun coming up at Farmhouse Country Market. We will follow the current COVID 19 guidelines since it is held outdoors (weather permitting). They have areas that are partially covered and also a "She Shed" available to check out. She and her friend did this last year and also earlier this year. Here is the information below or you can also check it out on Facebook—Farmhouse Country Market:

FARMHOUSE COUNTRY MARKET 1417 138th St S, Tacoma, WA. 98444 DATES: NOV 6-7, 2020 (& possibly the 8th) NOV 13-14, 2020

TIME: 11am to 4pm all dates.

CONTACT: RANDIE WELCHER for info
253-376-3710

This might give everyone a much-needed opportunity to stay connected, have fun and still remain safe and healthy.

Life of a Monarch Butterfly

My daughter, Rebecca, lives in Maryland. She is surviving the quarantine with her 2 kiddies by walking in her neighborhood and various wildlife areas.

She and the kids found a Monarch caterpillar on a giant milkweed in their neighbor's yard. They watched it chew for weeks and waited for it to go into its chrysalis. Now they have it stored in a butterfly cage in a cool sheltered place.

The rescued monarch hatched and flew away last night! They didn't get to see it. It metamorphosed really fast didn't it? Then it was found!

Debbie Spiller



ROOT & BLOOM

The Bloomers are now meeting at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club which is a great place to—well—meet. Two people to a table works well for social distancing and the coffee is on. In Sept we were particularly happy to welcome a new member, Tamara Larson.

Some of our planned activities are on hold - decorating a room for Christmas at the Meeker Mansion is a good example, and our library planting project, but that's life in a pandemic. Ever onward!

In Sept Lisa Libby brought a branch of an Abutilon 'Red Tiger' Flowering Maple. It's technically an evergreen and not a maple. The name comes from the shapes of its leaves. The Red Tiger produces yellow flowers overlaid with deep red veining. Actually, it's a semi-tropical plant and usually lives indoors, but outside it survives down to zone 8. After it hit 107° at our house, this summer, I'm wondering if it will survive that. Although I checked one website and the Red Tiger was sold out. Rosie Trujillo took the branch home to try and grow. Fingers crossed she'll be able to tell us how to do it.

A correction on our previous ECHO entry: the beet leafhopper which had attacked Eddie Joe Fueston's beans only **spreads** the disease; it doesn't **cause** it, as I had written. Eddie Jo pulled off all the bad leaves and *Viola!* A heaping bowl full of *Phaseolus vulgaris* (Beans.) On to other news:

- Kim Munson is starting a new native plant garden.
- Patty Power had a record peach harvest this year.
- Karla Stover had almost no pears.
- Rosie Trujillo counted the blossoms on her Annabelle hydrangea and came up with 75.
- Tamara Larson has a new drip system.
- Judy Strickland had an abundance of Nandina.



We had a great Oct meeting; member Cindy Swanberg put on a program about encouraging or discouraging wildlife in yards and gardens. When she retired her boss gave her a really neat bat house which she brought to show

us. It looks something like the one in the picture. Here we are encouraging mason bees and giving homes to bug eaters.

That's life in a garden.

We had 2 horticulture presentations: Judy Strickland brought a plumbago. This was the closest example I could find.



Then Harriet Miller showed an Akebia. One website I checked said the plants are a fast growing climber. The leaves are small and attractive.

We talked a lot about what to do with autumn leaves. Norma Humphries used to make roses out of hers. And speaking of roses, our yearbook cover has a beautiful watercolor done by member Pat Yager called, "Rosebud of Sir Walter Raleigh."

And, finally, as part of our regular repurposing / recycling discussion, Lisa Libby showed us how to make beads using scraps of Tyvek. Who knew?

Some of our members have selfquarantined since the covid virus hit and we miss them. Hard to believe it's been eight months with no end in sight. But better safe than sorry.

Karla Stover Secretary pro-tem

DOGWOOD

Greetings and salutations garden lovers! It has been so long since I last reported on Dogwood Garden Club news, and so much has happened! I last reported in April, so since then...

We had garden club meetings by Zoom in May and June, as well as just two weeks ago in Oct. We are adjusting from room to Zoom by necessity in order to keep the club business moving, and a big shout out to our club leadership for organizing those virtual meetings!

Diane and Kathy Mettler organized a drive-by plant sale in May which was wildly successful, bringing in a new record of funds raised for the club. Amazing job! There's been talk of rethinking our May Day plant sale since it was so successful, and continuing the drive-by plant sale format in the future.

Diane and Chris designed club T-shirts with two different designs for folks to order. They created a virtual garden tour of garden club member's gardens for the June Zoom meeting. They designed an exquisite club booklet for the 2020-2021 year. Chris presented plenty of inspiring ideas for various types of raised beds at the Oct Zoom meeting. Big thanks to Diane and Chris for all their contributions to the club!

The amaryllis project through the months: In June., Some members had leaves as tall as 2 feet or so. In Sept, members have had mixed results – some faring well, others not so much. In Oct, Bryn's and Ginny's white ones are in full bloom, but others reported little or no action with

their bulbs.

wa Cre Ga Me wa ga me

Sept's meeting was at beautiful Soos Creek Botanical Gardens in Kent. Members enjoyed walking through the gardens after the meeting was over.

While we are all having to make do with Zoom meet-ups to see our garden club friends and many other friends and family due to the pandemic, I believe that those of us with such a well developed love of plants and gardening have been able to turn to our own garden projects for comfort, peace, and stability. We are necessarily home more and thus more able to tend to our seedlings and landscapes.

Gardening can ground us when we're feeling shaky and uncertain, whether we are planting more food crops to help with food shortages and grocery bills or beautiful flowers to uplift the spirit. It's something concrete we can do during all the waiting, waiting, waiting. Though I do not want to minimize any of the hardships that many are enduring now due to the current state of the world - I realize I am so blessed and privileged to just be dealing with the waiting and isolation, and not sickness, hunger, fire, violence, job loss, or even murder hornets! I do have hope and faith the chaos will settle into more order eventually, though we will be forever changed by the experience. We will gather with our friends and family safely again. This too shall pass. When it does – that's when I want to go on a garden tour to see all the amazing gardens everyone has been working on! Here are some of the results of our member's individual gardens:





At the Oct meeting, it was decided to not meet in Nov and Dec, and instead meet in July and Aug. This would enable us to meet outside and be able to see those new expanded member gardens as well!

Warm wishes for everyone to stay safe and healthy, and enjoy the fruits of your gardening labor, kindred spirits! ~ Crystal Dorsey

NEW CENTURY DESIGN

We are still in the learning curve process about all of this coronavirus stuff. We chose to stay away from each other in our club until that got really old. We did not even consider using the Zoom format for having a club meeting. As a club, we usually are energetic about new ideas. However, when it came to the coronavirus -- I think we were just plain scared and lazy about learning how to work around this deadly scourge.

As we were returning to our fall club schedule, we did not have a clue as to where we could have our meetings. Then, Judy Swortz offered her home for our first design meeting. We all agreed this would be OK if we kept 6 feet away from each other, wore face coverings, used hand sanitizers and good hand washing techniques. Only three members came to the meeting.



We so enjoyed our challenge theme for the day of TWINS" (see pics). For lunch we appreciated Judy's delicious potato soup and her husband Paul's mile high strawberry

cheese cake. We must have done a lot of things right as we all are still alive without any coronavirus symptoms a month later.

With the surging of the numbers of new coronavirus cases in our state we have decided to



not have any further in-person meetings until a vaccine is approved and our members have an



opportunity to get it. It is just too risky no matter how diligent we are about taking all the precautions to prevent transmission of this disease.

Therefore, we will all be learning to use the Zoom application for meetings and our next meeting will be a virtual design meeting.

Together, with a 'can do

spirit' we will all get through this pandemic. Cheers, Keith Ripley

ASTER NOTS

Each year for the first meeting we squeeze apples. Sounds simple and straight forward, but we manage to make a day of it. The apples come from different trees, the machine that actually does the work is 100 years old, the manual labor to run the machine is provided by the members and their spouses, the plastic gallon jugs have been collected and cleaned all year long, and because of the virus we split the shifts. Half the group came at 10:30AM and half showed up after 1:00PM. Everyone had their masks on and practiced staying out of each other's way. After all we are in the high risk group.

Oh, and did I mention that the smoke was so thick we could hear boats going by but could not see them.



District Awards 2019

The following awards were presented at our Virtual District Meeting Sept 22, 2020

National Awards received	
Flower Shows "Wings & Things"	Hill & Dale District
Flower Shows "Let's Play Tourist"	Hill & Dale District
Publications Membership Brochure	1 st place Hill & Dale District
Yearbook	1 st place Root & Bloom
Youth Recycled Sculpture 7 th grade	3 rd place Brodie Turner, Country Gardeners
Youth Recycled Sculpture 8 th grade	2 nd place Kennedy Powell, Country Gardeners
Region Awards received	
Flower Show Schedule "Crazy Daze of May"	1 st place Hill & Dale District
Publications Membership Brochure	1 st place Hill & Dale District
Yearbook	1 st place Root & Bloom
Youth Activities	1 st place Root & Bloom
Youth Sculpture 7 th grade	1 st Bodie Turner, Country Gardeners
Youth Sculpture 8 th grade	1 st Kennedy Powell, Country Gardeners
State Awards received by District	
Community Service Special Achievements	1 st place
Flower Shows "Wings & Things"	1 st place
Flower Show Schedule "Crazy Daze of May"	1 st place
Flower Show Schedule "Wings & Things"	2 nd place
Flower Show Schedule "Let's Play Tourist"	3rd place
Judges Council Flower Show	1 st place Midland Judges Council
Garden Therapy Active	1 st place
Margaret Titlow Flower Show Staging "Wings & Things" -	1 st place
Margaret Titlow Flower Show Staging "Let's Play Tourist"	2 nd place
Yearbook	2 nd place
Publication Membership Brochure	1 st place
Publication "Echo"	1 st place
Smokey Bear 1 st grade district sponsored @ P.C. Fair	Honorable mention McKay Hawe
Smokey Bear 3 rd grade district sponsored @ P.C. Fair	Honorable mention Jonathan Kurkov
Websites	1 st place
State Awards received by Clubs	
Birds	1 st place Root & Bloom
Carol Klingberg Educational	1 st place Country Gardeners
Community Service Special Achievements	·
Conservation Donation	·
Conservation/Recycling	·
Garden Therapy Passive	3 rd place Root & Bloom

Growing Project	1 st place Root & Bloom
Honor Clubs	3 rd place Root & Bloom
Honor Clubs	8 th place Glove & Trowel
Brynn Travasci Recycling	2 nd place Root & Bloom
Yearbook less than 20 members	1 st place Glove & Trowel
Yearbook 20 – 29 members	1 st place Root & Bloom
Yearbook 30-44 members	Honorable mention Dogwood
Washington Consultants Council Growing Project	1 st Root & Bloom
Washington State Federation Scholarship Boosters	New Century Designers \$300 donation
Web site	- 1 st place Root & Bloom
Youth, Outstanding Program	1 st place Root & Bloom
Youth, Outstanding Program Horticultural Activity	1 st place Dogwood
Youth, Flower Show	- 1 st place Dogwood
Youth Conservation/Recycling	1 st place Root & Bloom
Youth Sculpture 6 th grade	- 2 nd Tallula, Country Gardeners
Youth Sculpture 6 th grade	- 3 rd Lila Mahan, Country Gardeners
Youth Sculpture 7 th grade	- 1 st Bodie Turner, Country Gardeners
Youth Sculpture 7 th grade	- 2 nd Ethan Carter, Country Gardeners
Youth Sculpture 8 th grade	
Smokey Bear 2 nd grade	3 rd place Josiah Carlson, Dogwood
Smokey Bear 4 th grade	
Smokey Bear 5 th grade	- 3 rd Celeste Mendez, Dogwood
State Awards received by individuals	
Brynn Tavasci Recycling	- 1 st place Karla Stover, Root & Bloom
Brynn Tavasci Recycling	- 3 rd place Jane Smith, Dogwood
Brynn Tavasci Recycling	Honorable mention Kathy Johnson, Root & Bloom
Carol Klingberg Educational	2 nd place Judy Swortz, Interlaaken
Ellen Swenson Flower Arrangement	- 1 st place Debbie Spiller, Country Gardeners
Ellen Swenson Flower Arrangement	- 2 nd place Judy Strickland, Root & Bloom
Ellen Swenson Flower Arrangement	- 3 rd place Linda Maida, Country Gardeners
Ellen Swenson Flower Arrangement	- Honorable mention Debbie Spiller, Country Gardeners
Terry Critchlow Photography	
Terry Critchlow Photography	- 2 nd place Randie Welcher, Country Gardeners
JoAnn Goldman Artistic Craft	2 nd place Karen Hanson, Interlaaken
Washington Consultants Council Recycling Award	- 1 st place Karla Stover, Root & Bloom
Washington State Federation New Life Membership	- Rachel Jennings, Root & Bloom
Washington State Federation New Life Membership	 Madeline West, New Century Designers, sponsored by Cross Sound District
District Awards received	
Honor Club	·
	2 nd place Glove & Trowel
Most Horticulture Points	
10	2 nd place Root & Bloom

Most Design Points 1st place Country Garden	ers
2 nd place Root & Bloom	
Most Horticulture Entries, Rosie Past Director 1 st place Country Garde	ners
2 nd place Root & Bloom	
Most Design Entries, Linda Maida Past Director 1st place New Century D	esigners
2 nd place Root & Bloom	
Most Botanical Art Entries, Linda Maida Past Director 1st place Country Garde	ners
2 nd place Interlaaken	
Applies Most Awards, Fran Cisell Past Director Root & Bloom	
Most Helpful Husband, Mary Bewley Past Director Root & Bloom, Pat Pilgri	m
Best Attendance, Marvel Hood Past Director Country Gardeners	
Best Design, Sherry Matthews Past Director Not awarded	
Civic Development, Judy Strickland Past Director Root & Bloom	
Conservation Award, Kathleen Toups Past Director Root & Bloom	

DISTRICT MEETING, DEC 1st, 2020 Via Zoom

Please join us Tue, Dec 1st at 10am until about 12-12:30pm. Debbie Spiller, a National Garden Club Judge and Black Hills District Judges Council President, Black Hills District Flower Designers President and a member of Country Gardeners Garden Club will be our speaker.

Debbie will speak on how to "Condition and Stage your Dahlias for an NCG Flower Show" and "How to use your Dahlias in a Design.

If you have not joined a zoom meeting before and need help in getting set up please let me know, Kathy Johnson 253-847-4933 or **kathyj16@msn.com**. You do not need a camera on your computer to participant. You will still be able to hear and see everything.



DECK THE HALLS Root & Bloom Garden Club Christmas Decoration Sale Nov 21st 1pm-5pm

Nov 21st 1pm-5pm
Tacoma Sportsmen's
Clubhouse
16409 Canyon Road E
Puyallup WA 98375

We are cleaning our closets and have many beautiful Christmas decorations that have adorned our homes and are ready to be sold to you to enjoy for years to come. Some are new and some are used but all are fantastic finds just waiting to happen...



Jan Hurley GH 12306 27th St E Edgewood, WA 98372

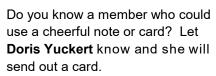
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Editor: Anne Hartman

SPREAD A LITTLE SUNSHINE!



dyuckert@centurylink.net or 253.845.8720

MISSION STATEMENT

National Garden Clubs, Inc. provides education, resources and national networking opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility.

