

THE ECHO

Hill and Dale District

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

#203 Nov 2021 - Feb 2022



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Happy March everyone! The days are longer, the sun is warmer and there are seeds that can be started now! Wow! does it get any better than that? Probably, but I'll take it, gladly.

Our March district meeting is on. We have two great programs - the morning on African Violets so bring your questions and your plants if you have any issues with them.

Our afternoon program is Tory from Chinook District sharing how to create a design in conjunction with our flower show with store or home-grown bouquets. What great programs!!

It's been inspiring to hear that our members are still doing their absolute best to stay in touch with one another. Some by phone, zoom, or visits, and others that can meet as a club. So, keep up the splendid work and stay in touch with members especially those that are staying close to home.

We talked and shared a lot of useful information and ideas at our last board meeting. Your presidents will be sharing the minutes and what we talked about with all of you via meetings or an email.

Looking forward to seeing you, your flowers, and designs March 22nd. Check your email for the flower show schedule

Thank you all
Rachel



District Meeting

Mar 22, 2022

Dryer Masonic Center

306 134th St S, Tacoma

Flower entries no later than 9:30 a.m.

Meeting 10 a.m. To 2 p.m.

Please join us on Tuesday, March 22 for our District Meeting & Flower Show. Kathleen Graves will be our morning speaker talking about African Violets.

Tory Bennett a National Garden Club Judge, Chinook District Designers Guild President, and a member of Enumclaw Garden Club will be our afternoon speaker. Tory will be showing us how to either use your own flowers or brighten bouquets in a design following our theme of "Marching Band".

Dates to Remember

District meetings

March 22, 2022 May 24th, 2022

Pierce County Fair Meetings via Zoom

March 17th March 29th

Hill & Dale Workshop

March 29th, 2022

District Board Meetings

April 26th, 2022

Echo Deadline

April 25th, 2022

Root & Bloom Yard Sale

April 29th & 30th

Award Application deadline

May 1st

Dogwood Annual Plant Sale

May 7th

Hill & Dale Fundraiser

May 21st

Rhythmic & Angular Design Symposium

May 21 & June 1

WSFGC Convention, Anacortes

June 13-15

LOGGING INTO A ZOOM MEETING

If you do not already have Zoom loaded on your computer go to your browser bar (the www...etc. Bar at the top of the screen) and type in:

Join.Zoom.us

Click **Open Zoom Meeting**. If you don't see a dialog; click **Launch Meeting**

If you don't have Zoom installed click **Download Now** then click on the circle at the bottom of the screen to open the download up.

- It will now ask you for the meeting ID number which is: **622 744 7615**
- Click on **Join**
- Click on **Yes** to enter with video
- Click on **Yes** to enter with audio
- It will say 'host will let you in the meeting'

If Zoom is already on your computer go to your Zoom page

- click on join a meeting
- Enter the meeting ID **622 744 7615**
- Click on **yes** to enter with video
- Click on yes to enter with audio
- It will say 'host will let you in meeting'

If you need help please contact Kathy Johnson at 253-847-4933 or kathyj16@msn.com

You do not need a camera on your computer to participate. You will still be able to see and hear everything! While others won't be able to see you they can hear you.



DOGWOOD

Greetings Gardeners! Here's the news from Dogwood since October of last year! I can't even believe it's already almost spring – I should have had seedlings started a week or two ago. Weather is returning to milder temperatures, my chickens are laying increasingly more, the light is returning, and it's time to think about all the literal and metaphorical seeds that we want to plant this year.

In November our meeting was hosted by Fawn Bauer, with Katy Hoffman presenting on decorating for the holidays. We received this year's beautiful garden club booklets – thank you once again to Chris Bivins and Diane Mettler for producing these little works of art!



Our bazaar table at the district meeting on November 30th was a success, with lots of different items for sale. Those that attended enjoyed another entertaining presentation on holiday decorating! So, no one had a lack of ideas for how to decorate their homes this year!

We had two new members join in November, so a warm welcome to Donna Rahier and Marilee Galligan! Lisa Libby stepped down as Awards Chairman and we want to extend a huge “thank you” for all her hard work on submitted awards for us these past years! She's done a fabulous job. Pam Waring volunteered to take over this committee. Thank you Pam for taking this on!

The December meeting was held at the home of Crystal Dorsey (me), and as usual the group had great fun with the gift exchange, which was held by drawing numbers to choose a gift. There was stealing involved, mostly centered around the coveted poinsettia wrapping paper. :-D



Sharon Aguilar shared some fascinating writings from an old diary she found in her basement written by her grandmother in the early 1900's which detailed some of the activities in the “Silver Lake Club” in Eatonville (which is no longer active). It was very interesting to get a little peek into the Eatonville world from 100 years ago.

Our January meeting was held virtually on Zoom, and we welcomed back returning member Keri Lynn Hatcher at that meeting. Chris Bivins gave a presentation on photographing our gardens, with lots of helpful tips on using our phones and cameras.

There was some discussion of doing a group project this year involving pictures we take of our gardens. So we all should start taking pictures to share – perhaps we will be able to submit a group of our pictures together to the district.

No meeting was planned for February, but a handful of members attended the annual NW Flower and Garden show in Seattle. The displays of flower dresses were amazing as always, though there were less exhibits than usual. There were also less people, which made picture taking easier.



Folks came away with lots of new ideas and an appreciation for all the work it takes to put the displays together. There was an exhibit on porches and patios that was new, and lots of fun to experience other artists' imaginations.

Here at Dragonfly Gardens, I'm sitting by the fire planning this year's garden (finally), using a software program I bought but never got around to using last year. I plan to get some seedlings started soon in the greenhouse on warming mats. Hope all of you are as cozy as I am in these last days of winter, dreaming of the bright greens of spring.

~ Crystal Dorsey



Save the Dates
August 11 to 14, 2022

Please join us for our first meetings to brainstorm and plan for the Fair!

Meetings via Zoom
ID # 622 744 7615

Thursday, March 17, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, March 29, 10 a.m.

Please start thinking of how we can decorate and incorporate the Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow theme.

Looking forward to your ideas and help!

ROOT & BLOOM



It always seems strange to be writing about Christmas thing for the first ECHO of the New Year but it's 'needs must.' We had a great time brainstorming about what to sell at our table during the December District meeting. Jeanine Faulkner set up a workshop (with snacks) where we could make the gnomes. They sold fast. In the end, our ladies were so generous, our items required two tables.

Root & Bloom scheduled a private wreath making event at Eatonville Nursery in early December, and we invited Dogwood Garden Club members to join us. Mary Schactler gave us some instruction and let us roam around her property to choose our own cuttings. We each brought home a beautifully made wreath created by the most exquisite designers - US! Afterwards we enjoyed a lunch together at a diner in Eatonville and got to know members of each club a little better.

Since I was sick over the holidays, I'm including our President Lisa Libby's comments about our annual December meeting: "We had so much fun at our December celebration meeting. We ate, we laughed, and shared so much information with each other. I feel that I know so much more about each member that attended." And another member, who joined in May 2012, said it was the best garden club meeting she'd attended. High praise for sure.

Also, at the January meeting Harriet Miller shared that as of 2022 she and Judy Strickland have been Root & Bloom members for 18 years.

In January Kathy Mettler showed us the ins and outs of starting Bonsais. We're going to try and make our own so seeing how to prune the roots and decide which limbs should stay and which could go was exactly what we needed to know. Unfortunately, the photographs I took are on the phone I dropped and which no longer works so I attached a picture of the type of plant with which she demonstrated and a photograph provided by Lisa.



January is always the month in which 4H has Super Saturday. We had two sessions. Jeanine led the 6 to 8 year olds in making bird treats. They covered toilet paper rolls with peanut



butter and rolled them in bird seed. They then put string through the hole and knotted it off. The loop can easily be suspended from a handy limb. Jeanine also had a big poster of local birds, handouts, and played the sounds of birds singing for the

children to hear. Norma Humphreys was a big help with the children

Karla Stover had the 8 to 10 year olds plant open air terrariums with aloe vera which Tamara Larson started. Karla couldn't have done the class without the help of Tamara and Norma.

Also, Eddie Joe Fueston, Kim Munson, Tamara and others saved the large plastic containers nuts come in to use as the planters. Once filled with hot water, the labels easily came off. The kids filled them halfway with potting soil and added mossy / lichen sticks, decorative rocks, colored gravel and miniature animals.



As an on-going project, the Bloomers are busy gathering, for our annual yard sale, treasures that are ready to be enjoyed in somebody else's home or yard.

Lisa Libby will be hosting the sale at her home in Mineral on April 29th & 30th as this is the opening weekend of fishing season and is a big weekend for the Mineral Lake community to shop the garage sales. Save the date.

We have an exciting gourd coiling class in February, more about that later, and it's onto spring, when winter fat turns into spring rolls.

Karla Stover, secretary

GLOVE & TROWEL

Our December meeting was held at Fran Cissell's home (garage) which was gaily decorated for the holiday. We talked about what we will be doing for the holiday and munched on the cookies and candy everyone brought.

The meeting in January was canceled because of COVID. We'll make it up in the spring.

February brought some excitement when Kathryn Graves from the Tacoma Violet Society spoke to us about African Violets and showed how to propagate them for our Garden Club Growing Project. Nine were in attendance and took home about two pots with leaves to start the process. The plants will be documented



throughout the year.

Springtime Backyard Marketplace
 We know so many crafters, artists, and generally amazingly talented people that we are hosting another Friends and Fun Outdoor Market

Home of Lisa Libby
572 Mineral Creek Road, Mineral WA
April 29th & 30th
9 am to 7 pm

What to Expect (so far)

- > Root & Bloom Garden Club — Yard Sale & Plant Sale
- > Randie Welcher — Handmade wire wrapped and wire weaved pendants, fence board creations for your garden, and other creations.
- > Nancy Payton — hand painted magnets, rocks, tiles & other "up cycled" art.
 - > Morton Coop Preschool Mom's Yard Sale
 - > Norma Humphries fun creations

Four members plan to attend the district meeting and flower show. It's always fun to get together.

COUNTRY GARDENERS

When our last ECHO article was sent, Country Gardeners were looking forward to our meeting in November. We were excited to make crafts for the craft table at District Meeting in December. We also planned what our project would be to give to the residents of Heartwood Extended Healthcare facility to celebrate Christmas. With the help of many of our members we were able to craft 120+ table favors for the residents; Paulette Mears and Chris Birka were kind enough to deliver them. Since we have not been able to visit in-person to the facility, their people seem to enjoy the table favors very much and there is such an array of different ideas that goes into the creations.



In December, we held a very short business meeting at the home of Chris Birka's. During the meeting, Linda Maida shared that our craft and cookie sale was a great success for the club. We added \$155 and \$302, respectively, to our treasury. President Patti I discussed items that she would like us to think about and discuss at our next regular meeting in January. We then celebrated the holiday with a potluck. Approximately, 17 of our members were able to join us and as usual there was



plenty of good food provided.



Sadly, in January we were not able to hold our regular meeting due to Mother Nature's beautiful White gift. Thankfully, it did not last too long and in Feb we were able to meet as usual.

We kicked off our meeting with a speaker, Kecia Cole from Wild Birds Unlimited. She spoke to us for nearly an hour giving us valuable information on taking care of our "feathered" friends and also brought with her a number of items to sell and that are also available at one of their three stores; Gig Harbor, University Place and Puyallup. If you have not had the opportunity to visit one of these locations, they are a wealth of information and very helpful.

Linda M has a great program project for us in March..."Petite Design". We will bring small greens to the meeting and she will provide the containers, Linda always has such great presentations so we are all looking forward to see what she has in mind for us this time.

We have great plans for the year with speaker programs, fundraisers and field trips planned. There is much to do AND our gardens are beginning to awaken. As the weather warms there will be nurseries to visit, plants to buy and of course, WEEDS TO PULL. On top of all that we also have District meetings to attend and a Fair that will require our assistance. Whew!! So while you can, enjoy the cold and snow so that you can rest up for all that is to come.

"When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it is a valuable plant."
~Unknown

Country Gardener Kathleen Muckian



SPREAD A LITTLE SUNSHINE!

Do you know a member who could use a cheerful note or card? Let **Chris Sherrill** know and she will send out a card. smittywalt@centurylink.net or 253.820.5907

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.

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