

THE ECHO

Hill and Dale District

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

#206 Sept—Nov 2022



Hello, District members!

Oh, my goodness! Fall has finally come and in a big way!!! The 75 degree sunny days dropped to 50 degree days with lots of rain and wind!! This is my favorite time of year but I think I enjoy it more when it eases in.

I don't know about all of you but I kind of forgot that I was to put the garden to bed. I scrambled to blow up what leaves had fallen while they were still dry and easier to move around. I did decide to leave them until rain came. In a weird way they are easier to pick up when wet. Funny thing is, I now have piles of wet leaves and a yard full or more wet leaves! Reminder to Rachel - remember, this is your favorite time of year!

We had a fun and productive board meeting. More of you need to join us - you are all welcome at the board meetings.

I learned that our clubs are gaining new, excited members which is great news. We need new members with new ideas who want to learn and help where needed.

I know in my club, Root & Bloom, our new members are amazing! Those of us that have been around for a while (I refuse to say old timers), need to take one or two of them under our wing, help them feel comfortable and teach them everything we know. And I know we can learn from them as well. They can become our new board members, club presidents, designers and judges. Oh, how exciting and this falls into my "Sharing our Knowledge".

I hope that you all have a Wonderful Holiday Season!

Rachel, District Director.



DISTRICT MEETING

Nov 29, 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 Tues, Nov 29th for our District Meeting!

Sean Tait will be our morning speaker talking about the "The Lives of Trees". He is the owner of the "Leaf on the Wind Arboriculture". Sean is a certified arborist who has 20 years of experience working in trees. Bring any photos or questions you may have on your trees.

In the afternoon we will enjoy the individual club tables selling their handmade items. Bring along some cash as there will be lots of goodies to purchase.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Hill & Dale District has 15 new members this year. Let's all welcome them!

AsterNots:	Madeline West
	Lenda Sundene
Country Gardeners:	Bobie Foteff
	Nelvia Heck
Dogwood:	Louise Harris
	Penny Swanson
Garden House:	Marianne Veeder
	Rebecca Schvelke
Glove & Trowel:	Judy Cloutier
Happy Thymes:	Debbie Davis
Root & Bloom:	Lynne Burke,
	Jann Walston



FLOWER SHOW RESULTS

SEPT 27, 2022

	Horticulture	Design	Bot Arts	Total
AsterNots		15	5	20
Country Gardeners	161	28	18	207
Dogwood	35	1		36
Garden Hour	45			45
Glove & Trowel	138			138
Happy Thymes				
Interlaaken		3		3
Root & Bloom	348	8	65	421

Award of Merits: *Raunie Gottoro, Glove & Trowel*
Cindy Swanberg, Root & Bloom
Rosie Trujillo, Root & Bloom
Tina Roy, Dogwood
Randie Welcher, Country Gardeners

Betty Belcher Best Horticulture, Growers Choice & Hill & Dale Harvest Awards: *Kim Munson, Root & Bloom*

Ellen Swenson Best Design & Carolyn Erickson All Fresh: *Debbie Spiller, Country Gardeners*

Brynn Tavasci Recycling Award: *Francine Minor, AstorNots*

Terry Critchlow Photograph Award: *Cindy Swanberg, Root & Bloom*

Carol Klingberg Educational Award: *Madeline West, AsterNots*

GLOVE & TROWEL

At our Sept meeting we discussed the Pierce county Fair, what went well and what needs improvement. 12 of us went over the new club programs making changes and additions as needed.

Our club Growing Project had members bringing their plants to the meeting. Pictures were taken to document the progress of the project.

Six members and attended and entered the flower show at the District meeting. Raunie Grottolo won a Best in Show ribbon for her rose.

In Oct we met at Fran Cissel's home where Lisa Libby showed us how to paint gourds and entertained in a session before the meeting.

We decided, by vote, that we will meet the 1st Tues of each month from Mar to Dec, taking off Jan & Feb beginning in 2024.

Sherry Sinclair

METAL MAGIC DISTRICT FUNDRAISER

Hello Everyone! Mark your calendar for May 20th, 2023 for the second annual District Fundraiser, ***Metal Magic***. Photos from 2022 event.



ASTERNOTS

AsterNotes toured Wright Conservatory for our Oct meeting. Our President, Francine Minor, hosted the Sept meeting. The day after the District meeting she left for Australia with her daughter to visit a friend 'down under'.

We extend our sympathy to our past President, Tookie Harlow, on the death of her husband.



National Garden Clubs



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Club Resources

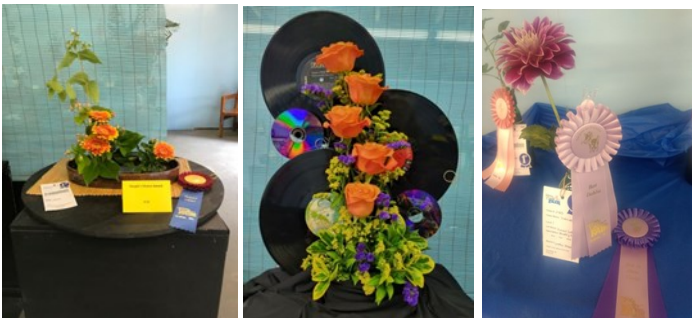
ROOT & BLOOM

At the Sept meeting we celebrated our 75th birthday, Sherry Mathews has copies of every ECHO and by using them, Kathy Johnson was able to write a wonderful article about our beginnings and growth. She read it to us after lunch and it sure brought back memories.



Then we sat around and told stories about all the things that have happened, such as the strange and unexpected framed picture given to Vicki Nelson after a visit to Helen Dowsett's house and the wild goings on at the State Convention when it was held at the Marriot in Tacoma. And what happened to the daffodil bulbs that district members planted at the Orting Soldier's Home? Talk about a walk down memory lane! What fun things we've done over the years.

I hope I remembered all the awards the Bloomers won at the two fairs. Our participation was amazing and our club is growing. Lynn Burke and Trish Tibbitts are new members.



Pierce County Fair Design left to right
People's Choice - Harriet Miller, Jeanine Faulkner
Best in Show - Cindy Swanberg



More Fair awards - left to right
1st Prize Patio Planter - Kathy Johnson
1st Prize Largest Zucchini - Mary Russell
Grand Champion Gourd Art - Lisa Libby
In addition, Mary Russell won a total of 6 ribbons
Show Chairman Award - Tamara Larson
Best Garden Photo - Cindy Swanberg

Washington State Fair Awards
Super Hostess - Rosie Trujillo
Grand Champion Gourd Purse - Lisa Libby
Best in Show African Violet - Rosie Trujillo
Best in Show Annabelle Hydrangea - Rosie Trujillo

In Oct we had a seed exchange which our president, Lisa Libby, started and which is now a regular annual event. I, for one, can hardly wait to plant them all next year and see what blooms. We also planned what to make and offer for sale at the next District Meeting.

Member, Jewel Thompson, is famous among the Bloomers for her toasted cheese sandwiches and equally famous is Rachel Jennings' homemade tomato soup so lunch was a feast! After we ate, our program was put on by WSE Master Gardener, Bill Horn, who showed us how to sharpen tool blades and prepare our garden tools for the winter.

We're going to have some summer meetings, visits to member's gardens and quite a few road trips in the coming year. This is a great time to be a Bloomer.

And we started a new Face page: Root & Bloom Tacoma.

Karla Stover, Secretary

COUNTRY GARDENERS

Spring flower shows, Symposiums, Bus Trip and the Pierce County Fair are all behind us and we are looking to a brand new garden year beginning in September.

At the end of Aug the Country Gardeners board met to discuss the calendar for the 2022-2023 year. We have many fun activities, field trips and speakers planned that will fill our meetings until June 2023.

At our Sept meeting we welcomed two new members, Bobbie Foteff and Nelvina Heck. This brings our total membership to 23.

Our Sept program was a class on How to Show Horticulture at Flower Shows presented by Patti Isom and Roxy Giddings. We all gained many useful tips and hints on how to show our specimens properly and had our questions and concerns answered about entering items for shows. Hopefully we will have more entries in upcoming shows.

Roxy is also partnering with a friend to create printed horticulture cards with members names to help during the entry process.

Perhaps the class on entering horticulture was a 'good thing'. We had 7 horticulture entrants and 6 design entries at the Sept show. Debbie Spiller was the recipient of the Ellen Swenson award and Carolyn Erickson Division award for her design. Members Jean, Pattie and Gail were just few of those entering items.



Our Field Trip Chairwoman, Chris Sherrill has many great trips planned for us this year with October being the first. We visited our ECHO editor, Anne Hartman's garden on Oct 17. After coffee and snacks we meandered through Anne's paths. There are lots of trees, shrubs and plants to check out.

Many of her plants and trees were bought at discount prices many years ago. She shared stories of getting some good deals and nursing plants back to health. She has a lot of watering and weeding to do on nearly an acre! Thanks, Anne, for sharing your yard!

Oct held another first for Country Gardeners. We have adopted the Midland Kiddie Korral as our community project this year and our first event was an older fashioned Apple Squeeze for the children. It turned out to be a great success as much for the youngsters as it was for our members. Thanks to Chris Birka, Paulette Mears, Randie Welcer and Gail Harte who provided the apples and the supervision. We are looking forward to more opportunities to support the center.

Our Nov meeting will be a full one with Linda Chulker-Scott scheduled by Randie W as our speaker on a surprise topic. At the end of the meeting we will have a crafty work party. Bobbie F brought samples of 'yule logs' that she had crafted to our Oct meeting and she offered to bring logs to our Nov meeting to create centerpieces to sell during the Nov District meeting. We have several members bringing more items to the District meeting to tempt folks with!

In Dec we will have our traditional potluck to be held at Chris B's home. This will be a fun time for visiting and getting into the holiday spirit, not to mention all the great food!



We are discussing appropriate ideas for the little ones at the Kiddie Korral. Debbie Spiller spoke of making Christmas Cracker Snappers as a project. We have a lot of 'crafty ladies' who come up with great ideas!

The weather has changed and brought the rain which has cleaned the smoke out of the air and helped dampen down the forest fires.

Wishing everyone a beautiful fall and looking forward to the Nov District Meeting.

Kathleen Muckian, Country Gardeners

CLUB PRESIDENTS PRESENTATIONS

(as presented at the Sept District meeting)

Country Gardeners: Patti Isom Country Gardeners ended their year with a tour of Lakewold Gardens and a brown bag lunch / meeting on their patio. We participated in the Pierce County fair and our project was the Kid's Shoe Planting under the direction of Gail Harta. The children seemed to enjoy it again this year.

Our club has chosen the Midland Kiddy Korral Daycare as our community project this year. Our first activity will be an old fashioned Apple Squeeze using the apple press provided by Chris Birka. The board met in Sept and planned activities for the year. Chris S has fun field trips planned and Randie W is busy planning our programs.



Dogwood: Ginny Phillips Dogwood met at Sharon Aguilar's chicken house in May to make 120 traditional hand sized fresh flower bouquets to be placed on the graves of veteran's by the Boy Scouts at the Eatonville Cemetery.

At the suggestion of our newest member, Donna Rahier, we entered a float in the July 4th Eatonville parade. Jerry Walter donated his bright red Rodknocker's award winning international pickup as the foundation for the float and Dogwood members decorated it with beautiful flowers and signage designed by Chris Bivins. Members rode in the back with Mary Bewley riding as "shotgun".

Many of our members volunteered at the Floral Building the Pierce County Fair in Aug. Aug also brought sad news to the club as beloved, long time member, Sharon Aguilar, passed away. She was always sharing stories about the history of Eatonville, the garden club and about her LBB's (little brown birds). The "Chicken House", where so many of our club projects were done through out the years, WAS actually a chicken house. Sharon will be greatly missed.

Our Sept meeting was held and hosted by Kathy Mettler in her garden. We had a 'flower show' which was judged and critiqued by Judy Strickland. We learned a lot on how to enter horticulture at the district flower shows. Seeing what everyone brought to shared just added to the fun. We also welcomed new member, Louise Harris, to our club.

Garden Hour: Julie Wells Sherry Meyer has finished our club yearbook. Nita Huber has 'Retired' from the club but promises to visit often. And we have welcomed our new member, Marianne Veeder.

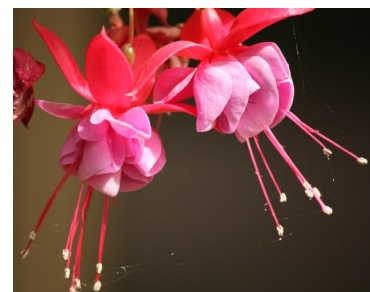
Some of our programs planned for coming months include Giant Pumpkins, Lasagna Pots, Hypertufa Pots, Bonsai and Organic Pest Control. We have some continuing projects such as a Friendship plant exchange, Hill and Dale projects and Garden Therapy. And we will be visiting Powells Wood Garden.

Glove & Trowel: Linda Pempeck We received sad news in July when we learned that Lori Kase had passed away. She was in her 90's. In Aug we shared volunteer duties at the Pierce County Fair. And in Sept we had our veggie and seed exchange.

Future meetings will include Lisa Libby speaking on Gourds (Oct) and a tour of Gayle's fall garden on Shaw Rd (Nov). We have also been discussing ending our garden year in Jan/Feb.

Club President's Presentations, continued.....

Happy Thymes: Cathy Pitts Aug began with a tour of the Pt Defiance Fuchsia garden as well as the dahlias and roses then lunch. We also volunteered at the Pierce County fair helping to classify the horticulture entries.



Sept we enjoyed a club craft project with members bringing an assortment of plant material such as flowers, grasses, seed pods or foliage to make fall design arrangements in cups.

Oct will see us helping one of our members in her garden as she has been ill.

Interlaaken: Judy Swortz June found us touring Sherry Pasquier's garden with a view of Silcox Island in Steilacoom. We enjoyed a potluck and made plans for the coming year.

In Aug several members volunteered to clean, set up and hostess at the Pierce County Fair. We also celebrated our 75th Anniversary with 28 folks in attendance - it was a fun filled, gorgeous day!

In Sept we made corsages for the Hill and Dale board as a gift of appreciation.

In Oct we plan a visit to Billy Frank Nature center to enjoy the Nisqually Delta and the wildlife it hosts.

We are also attempting an after school garden club at a Lakewood Middle School. Anyone interested is welcome to join in the future of the environment. Applicants interested must submit to a background check.

Root & Bloom: Lisa Libby Summer started with tours of 3 of our member's gardens. It was so relaxing and enjoyable that members did not want to go home!

June brought the bus tour which was enjoyed by all and we are proud of the club and personal achievement awards presented that day.

Bridget Pilgrim	Best Annual
Cindy Swanberg	Best Photo, Best Dahlia, Best Perennial AND Best Overall Show in floral
Harriet Miller and Jeanine Faulkner	People's Choice
Kathy Jonson	Best Pation Planter
Mary Russell	Best Fruit or Vegetable and Largest Zucchini by weight
Tamara Larson	Show Chairman's Award
Rosie Trujillo	Super Host - for all her hard won on the Garden display at the Washington State Fair She was awarded a grand hat and prizes.

Our board met to make plans for 2022-2023 and decided we will meet all year round. In Sept we celebrated our 75th anniversary with decorations, pie and punch. And we welcomed our new member, Lynne Burke.

Oct will be a seed exchange and members are actively gathering their seeds in preparation.

Karla S wrote another fantastic article for the ECHO. Clubs are encouraged to participate as they are so much fun to read!

DOGWOOD GARDEN CLUB

Greetings Gardeners! Here's the news from Dogwood since February, since I missed April!

In Mar our meeting was hosted by Dee Hanson, with co-hostesses Katy Hoffman and Rosemary Nordstrom. Preparations were discussed for our annual plant sale fundraiser in May and a possible fundraiser/contest for the Eatonville community over the winter holidays. Herbs were donated to the Columbia Crest A-STEM Academy gardening project and Sherry Hanson livened up the

meeting with Irish tunes on her violin while members at Irish stew for lunch. The members learned about fairy gardens from Randy Welcher.

The April the meeting was held at Mineral Lake Lodge reception hall, hosted by owner Carolyn McKelvie along with other Mineral members. Carolyn gave members an interesting tour of the lodge - a very beautiful

site! The club was gifted with some old club yea books dating back to 1952. This year is the 70th anniversary of Dogwood Garden Club!

The meeting in May was held at the Eatonville Visitor Center, with a welcome from Mayor David Baublits, who asked for input on the condition and upkeep on the Dogwood Blue Star Marker Park.

We made \$1300 from our plant sale. Plans were made to put together a float to be in the 4th of July parade to celebrate our 70th anniversary. We also made plans to create 120 bouquets for the veteran's graves for Memorial day at Sharon Aguilar's 'chicken house'.

After lunch, a program was presented on native plants by Dr. Linda Chaulker-Scott, Extension Horticulturist and Associate Professor, Puyallup Research and Extension Center, WSU.

June's hostess was Melody Stalk and co-hosted by Lisa Libby and Sylvia Russell. More discussion took place about Dogwood Park centering around what the state would allow and we shared ideas for improving the park. We also voted to donate funds equally to all five schools in our district for their garden projects.



The June program, presented by Ava Brock, a Pierce County Master Gardner, was on pest management (boy, am I sorry I missed that one!).



The 4th of July parade float was a success. While Donna was still trying to remember all our names she managed to organize this very successful impressive event. So many to thank: Jerry Walter for driving us in his Rodknocker award winning international pickup, Mary Bewley for riding shotgun with Jerry, Edwina Van Eaton for the use of her flowers, everyone who came to decorate and undecorate - Sylvia, Penny, Paulette, Geneal, Katy, Diane, Tina, who did it in record time and Chris for designing and order the door magnet - the list goes on.

Dogwood was in charge of the youth entries for the flower show at the Pierce County Fair in Aug.

Finally, we had some sad news that our beloved Birds and Gardening chairwoman, Sharon Aguilar, passed away. She always had an amusing story to share about the history of Eatonville and garden club or about the birds and her speculations on their antics. She gifted me (I was lucky enough to be her neighbor) the hilarious irreverent book, "The Field Guide to Dumb Birds of North America", by Matt Kracht. I Just thumbed through it again for a good laugh. I know she will be greatly missed.

Here at Dragonfly Gardens I'm grateful for my harvest of green beans, plums and blackberries. I am enjoying the sunshine, the buzz of dragonflies and the laughing of the ducks on our pond.

I am reminded that none of us know how much longer we have and to prioritize finding joy and pleasure whenever I can - in the small things, like blackberry jam, and the big things like expecting my first grand-niece!.

Hope all of you are healthy and happy and enjoying the blessings our Mother Earth brings us each day.

Crystal Dorsey



DOGWOOD GARDEN CLUB, cont.....

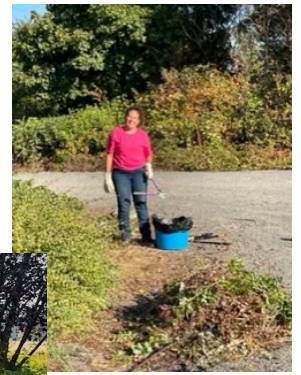
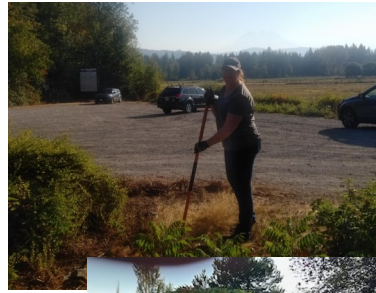
Here's the news from Dogwood since Aug. We are nearing the end of harvest season.

In Sept our meeting was hosted by Kathy Mettler, with co-hostesses Bev Holze and Diane Mettler. Upcoming programs for the 2022-2023 season were discussed, including a field trip in Oct, and the possible fundraiser contest for the Eatonville community over the winter holidays. We are awaiting information from the Eatonville Business Association regarding the town's Christmas plans. A budget was proposed and approved for the year.

Our program was presented by Judy Strickland, a floral judge from the Hill & Dale district. Members each brought a flower from their garden in a vase, which Judy 'judged' and gave suggestions for entering horticulture. Lovely ribbons handmade by Bev Holze and her sister were awarded to the winners.

In Oct members visited the Japanese Friendship Garden at Tacoma Community College. It is a waterless garden that illustrates one of the authentic styles of Japanese gardens represent peace and friendship. The garden was created in cooperation with Tacoma's sister city in Japan, Kitakyushu.

A few of Dogwood's members have been very busy indeed over at Dogwood Park this month. A huge shout-out to Beverly Holze, Sammi Jo Thirtyacre, Rosemary Nordstrom and Louise Harris and her husband who put in a ton of hard work to clean up trash at the park, along with clearing branches and overgrowth around the Blue Star Memorial marker. It looks fantastic!



Unfortunately we have more sad news as we lost another longtime member, Linda Evaro, who passed away in Sept. She loved garden club and was always ready to jump in and take part in so many things. Linda was the previous chair person for Garden Therapy for the Hill & Dale District. Sammie Joe Thirtyacre took over when Linda became too ill to continue. We will miss her!

Here at Dragonfly Gardens I'm happy the weather has at last turned cool and rainy. I'm harvesting pumpkins, spaghetti squash and celeriac and waaaaay too much garlic! The chickens are slowing down their egg production (thank goodness). We have been canning jam and making cider and liqueur with our fruit harvest!



The new bridge over our pond is looking great.

I'm ready to downshift for the dark season and celebrate the Celtic new year at the end of this month. Blessings and honor to all your ancestors, green thumbs or not!

Crystal Dorsey



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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