THE ECHO Hill & Dale District

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



District Meetings

March 26, 2024

May 28, 2024

September 24, 2024

December 3, 2024

March 25, 2025

May 27, 2025

Board Meetings

April 23, 2024

September 5, 2024

October 22, 2024

February 25, 2025

April 22, 2025

District Garden Therapy

February 22, 2024

May 23, 2024

October 24, 2024

February 27, 2025

May 22, 2025

District Director's Message

Hello Gardeners,

With hints of spring, March is a mix of warm days and brisk chill. Will it be an early spring or late spring? Did Punxsutawney Phil see his shadow? Many plants will still be dormant at the start of the month but soon shining early risers will appear.

Reflecting back to November, what a great District meeting we had. Thanks to those who participated in our flower show "Green Trees & Falling Leaves" it was nice to see and appreciate all the Conifers, Evergreens, Winter interest and Deciduous trees. Thanks to Hill & Daler's Arrangers Guild for another great design program using only greens in their designs until Rachel accidentally tripped over some flower bouquets and said "hey let's see how flowers and some color can change the design totally". Both sets of designs looked fantastic. Thanks to all the members for participating in the Plant America -Feed America program, we collected 121 items or 108 pounds of food that went to "Nourish Pierce County". We also raised \$88.00 towards Penny Pines so the Forest Service can plant 680 trees in Hill & Dales name. Congratulations to the club auction winners, \$620.00 total dollars were raised for the clubs.

District Director's Message Cont...

Did you remember to plant your Bisalta No. 3 chestnut (Castanea sativa x crenata) that you received at the November meeting?? Is it growing?? Look at Evie's chestnut tree, it is really growing and doing well. Evie has been watering it, no extra care and it lives in her south facing window and receives sunlight.

Since Phil and our district members did not see their shadows, we are ready to continue "Along the Garden Path" planning for a very busy spring season.



Starting in March at our district meeting we will have an NGC Flower Show "Frogs Come Croaken", two speakers and the official state visit of our WSFGC President Suzann. Flower Show School #4 is March 12-14 here in Tacoma. Continuing along our path as we move into April, we are having a district plant sale for the first time in several years and sponsoring the NGC Gardening School Series. Oh, one other thing, let's not forget about planning for the Flower Show at the Pierce County Fair where we sponsor the floral building.

Be mindful of the last front dates as you prepare to plant seeds and seasonal plants. I hope this finds you happily planning garden projects and new plants for the upcoming season.

Let the Gardening Begin! Kathy Johnson

Hill & Dale
Dates to Remember

3/12-14	Flower Show School #4
3/15	WSFGC Grants Due
3/26	District Meeting & Flower Show
4/23	District Board Meeting
4/25	Echo Articles due
4/27	Plant Sale
4/29-30	NGC Gardening School
5/23	Garden Therapy
6/18	Bus Trip

February is National Bird-Feeding Month in the United States. Did you know that bird feeding/watching is the second most popular hobby behind gardening? It is important to provide birds with food in winter because they burn more calories in winter just to stay warm. This celebratory month was created to educate the public on wild feeding and watching hobby.

On February 23, 1994, John Porter (R-IL) proclaimed February as National Bird-Feeding Month when he read a resolution into the Congressional Record:

"Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize February, one of the most difficult months in the United States for wild birds, as National Bird-Feeding Month". During this month, individuals are encouraged to provide food, water, and shelter to help wild birds survive. This assistance benefits the environment by supplementing wild bird's natural diet of weed seeds and insects. Currently, one third of the U.S. adult population feeds wild birds in their backyards.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, backyard bird feeding is an entertaining, educational, and inexpensive pastime enjoyed by children and adults. Bird feeding provides a needed break from today's frantic lifestyles. Adults enjoy the relaxation and peacefulness afforded by watching birds -- nature serves to relieve the stress and can get one's day going on a tranquil note."

Orange Bird Feeders



3/4 cup flour 3 T corn syrup

1 envelope unflavored gelatin

1/2 cup water 4 cups birdseed

We started by cutting an orange in half and juicing it. Then we threaded our needle and tied a knot at the end of the string. We pushed our embroidery needle through one side and straight through the other side. With the string pulled all the way through, we pulled up the center to create a long loop for hanging. Repeat this for the other side also.

Mix everything together then add the birdseed. With that, it was off to hang the new feeders in the yard.

WASHINGTON STATE FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS NATURAL DISASTERS GRANT March 5, 2024

The State Board has recognized a need for our club members to actively take part in the garden related restoration efforts from a natural disaster.

A garden club/clubs may apply for a WSFGC Natural Disasters grant of up to \$1,000 to help replant, restore, and beautify public areas, such as parks, municipal gardens and other sites caused by floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, ice storms, fires, etc.

Clubs may make donations to this state fund, as many have in the past to the National Garden Club fund.

The first donation for this state funding has been received from one of our larger clubs and will be recognized at the Annual Meeting in June, 2024. All clubs making a donation will be recognized, as they are when making donations to other funding vehicles managed by the state.

Any questions about the procedures on making a donation or applying for the grant, please give me a call or e-mail me.

Submitted,

Judy Strickland, Chairman

253-845-3946 or jasmum@comcst.net





Country Gardeners

Since Mother Nature cooperated this year—NO SNOW, Country Gardeners again resumed their January meetings. Randie Welcher, our President, has great plans for us in the coming months. She has even come up with a motto/logo for us - ROOTED TOGETHER. Her vision is to get us all back in the dirt. Horticulture plays a large part during our meetings and each meeting we have a few more sharing their efforts than the meeting before. When we do, we tell a bit about each plant...what it is, how big/little it will get, does it like sun/shade, how should it be hydrated etc. We have learned a lot during these sharings. We have even learned what NOT to plant. Member Sandy Walker brought several samples of plants that will only give us headaches if we allow them in our gardens. Personally, I can attest to the "evils" of growing IVY!!!

Not only are we getting back to nature but Chris Sherrill, our field trip expert, has several wonderful suggestions for our tours this year. Beginning in February, after our meeting, several of our members went off to visit Alpine Nursery on 176th to get ideas for new plants for their gardens. In March, Chris is making arrangements to tour Crazy Hill Nursery and Gifts in Belfair. This should be a fun excursion, all day and carpooling. Beyond March, there are several more fantastic locations to visit, L'Arche Tahoma, PowellsWood Garden; then in June will be our District Bus Trip with another awesome location. To fit all these wonderful sights in, we need more time!!

Along with our touring, we have projects planned as well. Some of us have been able to keep the little fuchsia, that we received at district last year, ALIVE and are using it as a growing project. While others have planted the chestnut seeds we received during December's district meeting and others are planting seeds for the upcoming Plant Sale in April. We are also looking to help out the Midland Kiddie Korral with a project. We will meet with them to see what their needs might be and what the children would like to help with. Randie is also tapping our creative juices. In March, we will be making Wind Chimes from old empty wine bottles....it is a mystery as to what happened to the contents. This looks to be a fun project for all of us.

Now on top of all the fun touring and projects we have planned, we are also participating in what the District has planned this year. The first will be the Flower Show School held March 12-14, 2024 - Country Gardeners has taken on the duty of providing the luncheon for both days of the school. Linda Maida and her committee are putting together the final touches for this event. Then comes the March 26, 2024 District meeting and Flower Show, "Frogs Come Croaken", with many members entering designs and horticulture. April will not be quiet, as we have the Plant Sale on the 27th, which many district garden club members are preparing for with donations of plants, plant material and most of all, time. Then, right on the heels of that event, is the Garden School, held April 29-30, 2024. This is a state and district-wide event, and Country Gardeners definitely have an interest in learning about gardening.

Whew! We are only four months into the year and already we are busy and more to come. We have so many more places to go, people to meet, things to do, and weeds to pull; as I said before, we NEED MORE TIME! Hope everyone has a wonderful spring. -Kathleen

Dogwood

As we sit poised on the threshold of spring... with the weather alternating between freezing winter winds and soft spring rain-and-sunshine mix... we are grateful for the cycles of nature. I am enjoying seed starting and planning my 2024 garden! Here is the news since October of last year - before winter even thought about darkening our doorstep.

In November, the club went on an outing to Farm 12 in Puyallup. The December, January, and February meetings were held at the Ohop Grange and were hosted as follows:

- December: Diane Mettler, Creig Kuwitzky
- January: Creig Kuwitzky, Paulette Quirie, Lisa Libby, Beth Runyan
- February: Kathy Mettler, Rosemary Nordstrom, and Donna Rahier

Nancy Schank shared the following plants that make terrific habitat for birds -

- December: a Mahonia called Soft Caress
- January: a Camellia sinensis this plant has small, fragrant, ongoing blooms, grows
 6-10 feet, is cold tolerant, and is loved by hummingbirds.
- February: a type of heather, Pieris Japonica called "Little Heath"

In December, \$189 was collected for donation to the Eatonville Food Bank.

Members are reminded that this is the time of year to be propagating and seeding plants for the annual Dogwood plant sale fundraiser in the beginning of May, as well as the district plant sale the week before. Member Bev Holze has offered help with labels for anyone who needs it.

The Dogwood Park committee has been doing an excellent job keeping the park looking good.

Beth Runyan stepped up to take the Vice President position at the December meeting and we are thankful for her willingness to serve!

The special programs for the various months were:

- · November was a tour at Farm 12 in Puyallup.
- December was the holiday party, potluck, gift exchange and games organized by the hosts.
- In January, Tina Moore, owner of the Lavender Passion Farm in Mineral, spoke on the many uses and benefits of lavender.
- February was a Q&A session with Dogwood's own master gardener, Nancy Shank.

Here at Dragonfly Gardens, the annual seed-fest has begun, with nine 72-cell seed trays set up under grow lights! Love seeing those cute little greenies popping out from under the soil, waking up from the long sleep of winter. Enjoy the arrival of spring and the few plants blooming so far - daffodil, crocus, hellebore and osoberry. - *Crystal Dorsey*

Garden Hour

A Valentine for our Garden Club

By Mary Wambold



In a cozy room at the Milton senior center

We talk of gardens throughout the winter.

We talk about pruning and planting and watering.

We talk about pests, and organic gardening.

We share our bulbs, our cuttings, our seeds.

We spend time... and money... at our local nurseries,

We dream about butterflies and care about bees,

Debate the best tomatoes or the best apple trees.

Our centerpieces at District are always a hit!

And the residents at PVERC, we have to admit,

Bring joy to us as we help them succeed

In growing a carrot from one little seed.

But it's not all about gardening, and that's okay
We might chat about a book, a recipe, or a bad day.
So while Julie tries to keep us on track,
We might be sharing a cookie in the back.

So on this day of hearts and flowers,
Let's celebrate our club, the Garden Hour
And may our friendships continue to grow
Just as the precious seeds we will soon sow.

Garden Therapy

This month's Garden Therapy event was held on Thursday, February 22nd at Silver Creek Assisted Living in Puyallup. It was a beautiful sunny day and so nice to be gathering again with the wonderful residents who live there. We offered two opportunities to craft: We decorated vases with tissue paper via decoupage to look like stained glass and we planted herbs for their living spaces. Two Master Gardeners joined us for the fun as well as about eight other individuals. They are always gracious and excited that we spend time with them. I'm grateful to Kathleen Muckian (Country Gardeners), Janice Morgan (Glove and Trowel), as well as Lynne Burke (Root and Bloom), Eddie Joe Fueston (Root and Bloom), Lisa Libby (Root and Bloom), and Kathy Johnson (Root and Bloom) for their assistance and delightful company! Our next opportunity to participate in Garden Therapy will be Thursday, May 23, 2024, at Silver Creek Assisted Living located at 17607 91st Avenue E, Puyallup, WA 98375. I hope to see you then!











Glove & Trowel

We had our November meeting at Sherry Matthews' home with 17 members attending and we welcomed two new members, Ruth Prins and Terryann Westby.



Baked Goods for sale at Sept. District Meeting

Two members gave their Great Plant Pics reports; Sherry on Acer Circinatum and Jan Morgan on Parrotia Persica, Persian Ironwood.



Everyone is learning through these reports.

October visit with Ed Hume

In the afternoon, we took a tour of Julia Graham's maple trees. What a wonderful display of many types of maples throughout her property. 7 members attended. We plan to visit again in the spring.



Club Project: Starting rose hips in bananas

Nine members attended the November 28 District Meeting, which was well attended. Lunch vouchers were given to new members. Since it was a horticulture only show, we all enjoyed the entries. Our club participated in the auction, in which we entered a 4"x4" poster, painted by Sally Evans with lots of flowers. It was a hit by all who attended. Congratulations to Sally Evans for winning best in show in two categories.

December had us meeting at our new meeting place, the SE Tacoma Community Center, 1614 - 99th Street E. 15 members attended. Joann Brauen gave a Great Plant Pics report on cyclamen and brought a plant for display. Several members brought bags of plastic bags to donate to the March District meeting for the district project. Our club plans to purchase 20 plants from PCCD.

Our next club project is to grow at least 1 six-pack from seed to donate to the plant sale. We also decided to purchase 10 pollinator plants: mock orange, red dogwood, and red currant. After our meeting we had a photography competition. There were eleven landscape framed photos and 10 portraits entered. The purpose was to learn how to enter photos at the flower shows when shown on the schedule.

After a hiatus of two months (January & February) we will begin meeting March 5th. We will get our garden pruners sharpened by members of the Rose Society. We will also do a seed sharing time.

Sherry Sinclair, Secretary

Interlaaken

Interlaaken has made the decision to meet on a regular basis at the Pierce County Library system. The reason for this is because some programs require a digital access with a screen.

The library system has meeting rooms with a staff person who can help set this up . The presenter just brings their laptop and program. There is access to Wi-Fi as well.

There is no cost for this service, and no cost to rent the room. Reservations are taken about 6 weeks out. All Pierce County libraries have Wednesday and children's story day so it is necessary to meet another day.

You will need to set up the tables and chairs and put them away. No food is allowed in the room, so this is an opportunity for us to go out to lunch!

Our November meeting at the library with the Master Gardeners was a program with the theme of the issues of a changing climate. This is a worthwhile program to enjoy.

Springtime will see us going on adventures. Our January program was on house plants. Cups of love was cancelled due to the snow. We worked hard in February so we could visit Windmill Gardens in March. April is all about the birds with the Audobon Society at the library, and in May we are going to visit the Rhododendron Species Garden.

In June we will plan for next year, get new officers, and look forward to the district bus trip.

"Hose Wreath" Instructions

Needed supplies: old hose

spray paint floral wire

pom

other decorations



Start by measuring out the hose to the desired size of the wreath. Usually make 3 circles, then cut the hose with something sharp. Attach the hose together with wire. Spray paint the hose on both sides and let dry. Gather greenery and attach to hose with wire. Then decorate with all your happy decorations. Enjoy!

Randie, Botanical Arts Chairman

Root and Bloom

Our Root and Bloom Garden Club has been humming along with projects and activities! We ended 2023 with starting another Growing Project headed up by Mary McBride. Erythronium Revolutum and Erythronium California Pagoda were given to members to go home and plant. These are northwest bulbs and prefer shade to partial sun. Here is a picture of one planted in soil that is in a shady spot. The second picture is bulbs in a happy greenhouse. Our bulbs should start showing in earnest in March.







At our District Meeting, November 28, 2023 we auctioned off a greenhouse. Below is Jeanine Faulkner doing a demonstration for design at the meeting.

Also in November, we did a field trip Meeting at Ohop Grange with Diane Mettler of Dogwood Garden Club and owner of Ohop Originals Flower Design. She shared her knowledge of working with Dahlia tubers and brought some of her stock to show us with hands on experience how to divide tubers. It was an educational and fun activity and she inspired all of us!





At the same meeting, Karla Stover, shared her recycling creativity with these Christmas decorations that she had made. What a great way to reuse materials!

Root and Bloom Cont...

In December of 2023 we had our Christmas party. The decorations were beautiful, tree and all, and great fun was had by everyone with sharing a meal and gift exchange. Members were showing their holiday spirits with their clothing too!







Also in December, we had a wreath making event in Eatonville and here is Jann, one of our members, making a custom wreath.





In January a group gathered at the Sportsman Club to have a Sip, Slippers & Style bag painting class. Look at the beautiful bags they produced! This class was led by mother and daughter team of Cathy Baldwin and Lindsay Osier.

Lastly, our club participated in a 4H Super Saturday event in January organized by Cindy Swanberg. Members helping out were Karla, Jeanine, Kim, Norma, Kathy, Sue, Jann, and Tamara providing 3 classes on native plant leaves, native evergreens, and propagating plants.





We are looking forward to many new projects and activities in 2024!

Gardening Tips

- **Sow Summer crops** You may have started your summer crops at the end of last month, but March is prime time for starting warm-season vegetables. Cucumbers, eggplant, peppers, melons, tomatoes are all good to start this month. Summer flowers for the cutting garden such as nasturtium, celosia, sunflowers, and zinnias can also be planted in the ground or in garden beds.
- **Plan a Cutting Garden** You don't need much space for a prolific blooming cutting garden. You can grow 10 to 15 different flower varieties in just a 7- by 7-foot area.
- **Divide Summer and Fall-Blooming Perennials** Perennials that have overgrown their location or those that have matured can be divided this month. Early spring is a good time to divide perennials because typically cool and moist weather provides optimal transplanting conditions for new plants.
- **Prevent Slugs & Snails from Invading Your Garden** Slugs can be quite an issue in the garden come spring. Get a jumpstart on preventing slugs by applying an organic slug bait that's safe for use around food, pets, and wildlife.
- **Stay on Top of Weeds** With moisture and a little sun, weeds in your garden will be sprouting in abundance. Keep up on weeds in garden beds before they grow out of control.
- **Restart Your Lawn Care** Your lawn probably won't start growing a lot this month, but if it reaches 3 inches tall, it's time to start mowing. There are also preventative actions to take this month, as well as actions to ensure general lawn health.
- **Plan Your Berry Patch** You likely won't start planting new blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, or gooseberries until April or even May in colder climates, but that doesn't mean you can't plan ahead now.
- **Start Planting Spring-Planted Bulbs** Toward the end of the month, you can start planting spring-planted bulbs such as gladiolus, begonias, ranunculus, calla lilies, and others.

"The earth has its music for those who will listen."
-George Santayana



Gardening for Wildlife

As garden club members we should be aiming to practice sustainability in our personal landscapes. Habitats are being lost to development and we can hold the key to preserving them for future generations. As development pushes natural habitats further and further back, we can encourage wildlife to co-exist with us in our own landscapes. Biodiversity is a key to successful wildlife habitat. You get to choose the wildlife you want to encourage. It may be only birds, small mammals, and insects. You can provide food, water, cover and places for animals and insects to raise their young. Work to reduce areas of lawn. Make conscious choices when choosing plants for your garden. Look for plants that are native and keep away from invasive species. Good plant choices provide fruit and seeds for native wildlife. Native trees make good choices. Keep a clean water source such as a small fountain or birdbath, or if you have enough property, build a pond. Provide a wood pile or leave a dead tree.

For more information on How to Turn Your Backyard into a Wildlife Habitat (please click link to read a Better Homes & Garden Article).

There are several organizations that have a backyard certification program where you can post a sign in your yard and be recognized for your efforts. Please see the different groups listed below to fill out their application forms (clicking on the logos below will take you to the application forms).

National Garden Clubs Application:



National Wildlife Certification Application:



WA Department of Fish & Wildlife Application:



National Garden Clubs, Inc GARDENING SCHOOL Dryer Masonic Center APRIL 29-30, 2024

This event is sponsored by HILL AND DALE DISTRICT and are taking registrations until April 1, 2024. The event is setup as four courses over a two year period; the first and second courses begin April and October, 2024; respectively. The third and fourth courses will be in April and October, 2025, respectively.

The first class, beginning Monday, April 29, 2024, will involve the Basics of Botany and Soils/Soil Sampling; the second class, on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, will deal with Techniques on Growing Outdoor Flowers and Propagation. Exams are offered to those wishing to become NGC Garden Consultants (or anyone interested in testing their knowledge gained from classes). Those refreshing or those not wishing to become consultants need not take the exams.

During both days of the event, lunch and snacks will be provided.

Specific information and registration forms are included as an attachment of this edition of The ECHO or contact Kathy Johnson at kathyj16@msn.com. Registration and checks (made out to HILL AND DALE DISTRICT), are to be mailed to Kathleen Muckian. Registration deadline is APRIL 1, 2024.



HILL AND DALE DISTRICT PLANT SALE APRIL 27, 2024 8am-2pm United Methodist Church 1919 West Pioneer, Puyallup, WA

Just a reminder that fall and springtime is a great time to be planting seeds, separating bulbs, tubers and corms, and sharing perennials. What better place to do that than our HILL AND DALE DISTRICT PLANT SALE!! Members have been working hard to bring this tradition back after such a long hiatus.

We are in need of clean pots for planting, veggie and plant starts (well established), houseplants etc. If you are sharing a plant; providing plants names and care information, such as light requirements, is always helpful. There will be plant tags available. Trays and boxes for customers to take home their treasures are also needed. If you have a talent for yard art or

related garden items, please feel free to donate those as well.

Volunteers are also needed. Check with your garden club presidents for sign-up sheets or contact Kathy Mettler - frances@mashell.com if you would like to help in some capacity or have any questions concerning the plant sale.

Looking forward to this fun event and hoping for a great success!!





November 28, 2023 FLOWER SHOW RESULTS

	HORTICULTURE	DESIGN	BOT ARTS	TOTAL
ASTER NOTS	04			04_
COUNTRY GARDENERS	4.20		1.25	<u>5.45</u> _
DOGWOOD	27		03	30_
GARDEN HOUR	47			47_
GLOVE & TROWEL	2.77		22	2.99
HAPPY THYMES				
INTERLAAKEN				S
ROOT & BLOOM	4.33		77	5.62_
OTHER				

Award of Merits: Sally Evens, Glove & Trowel (2 awards); Cindy Swanberg, Root & Bloom; Linda Rexrode,

Root & Bloom

Dwarf Award: Cindy Swanberg

Hill & Dale Harvest Award: Linda Rexrode

Kathy Johnson Horticulture Award: Sally Evans

Award of Merit Botanical Arts: Lisa Libby, Root & Bloom

Lisa Libby Artistic Craft Award: Patti Isom: Country Gardeners

Horticulture 80 Botanical Arts 21



HILL & DALE DISTRICT MEETING

MARCH 26, 2024 - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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

Dryer Masonic Center 306 134th St. S., Tacoma, WA 98444

Programs/Speakers

In keeping with the garden club's goals of creating a healthy yard and landscape for wildlife, our morning speaker at the March 26th meeting will be Lance Smith from Featherhaven. Birdscaping can help to ensure the survival of the many bird populations that winter, nest, or migrate through our area each year. Providing food, water, protective cover, and nesting sites for birds offers a lifetime of learning, excitement, and entertainment. Lance will also briefly share his knowledge of earning the distinction of a Backyard Habitat Certification through the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife program.

In the afternoon, we are all going to grab our colored pencils and graph paper (provided by the district) and do some of our own planning of a garden design with perennials. Sue Goetz is a garden designer and through her garden design business, she works on personalizing garden spaces. With her assistance, we will experience her motto of."inspiring gardeners to create" with her hands-on, approach to designing. She brings her knowledge, design principles and creativity to life as she leads us along a path of great summer garden color. A perfect time to dream of the vibrant colors of summer as we are presently watching the spring surprises unfold.

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.

ECHO Editor: Sherry Meyer, Garden Hour

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





APRIL
BUDDING
GARDENING
GREEN
MOWING
PREPARING
SHOWERS
SPRING
TRIMMING
WILDLIFE

BABIES
EASTER
GARDENINGSCHOOL
MARCH
PLANTING
PRUNERS
SLUGS
SUNSHINE
UMBRELLA

BIRDS FLOWERS GRASS MAY PLANTSALE RAIN SOIL SUNSHINE WEEDING



Save the Dates

August 8-11 Pierce County Fair

Please join us for our first meetings to brainstorm and plan for the fair.

meetings via zoom ID #622 744 7615

Wed., March 6th 10 am Wed., March 20th 10 am Wed., April 10th 10 am

Please start thinking of how we can decorate and incorporate "Stars, Stripes and Summer Nights" which is this year's theme.