

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
WASHINGTON STATE FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS
PROMOTING...

WASHINGTON Garden & Design



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PRESIDENT'S DESK

Welcome to the 2025-2027 Garden Club Term!

My theme is "The Healing Power of Nature" with an emphasis on plants and green/blue spaces. Nature has benefits for both physical and mental human wellbeing. You can boost your mood just by walking in a park or sitting by a stream or walking on a beach and listening to the ocean. And we all know there are various plants that have been used for centuries to treat ailments ranging from headaches to chronic illnesses.



My flower is the Dandelion, *Taraxacum officinale*.

Note: Due to the abundance of the dandelion, it is one of the most vital early spring nectar sources for a wide variety of pollinators. It's so much more than "just a weed!"

My color is sunny yellow.

President's project: Assist scouts of all ages to obtain badges related to nature and the environment, e.g., gardening, camping, hiking, insects, animals, and others. It is important for scouts to earn these types of badges because it allows them to explore and discover new interests and broaden their horizons. They learn new skills with hands-on learning. Best of all it gets them outside to learn about nature and the natural environment.

A huge thank you goes to Linda Maida, Chairman of the "Wonderful World of Color" 2025 Convention and to the many Hill and Dale District members for hosting the convention. The speakers, Neal Sanders and Patricia Green, were engaging, and the designer Sahshah Middleton was well-received. Every detail of the convention was excellent. Attendees thoroughly enjoyed themselves by attending a workshop, visiting the Squaxin Island Tribe Museum, or just catching up with friends and fellow gardeners or making new friends. And congratulations to the districts, clubs, and individuals who won awards for the 2024 garden club year. Thanks also go to the members who accepted officer or board positions for the new term. There would not be a state board without the help from many members. I have a few new board positions – "Get in Touch with Nature" and "Recycling Expert."

One of my goals this term is to visit not just every district, but every club. I find it enjoyable to meet with the clubs and see what they are doing for their communities. I might also learn about fun activities to bring to my garden club. If an individual, club, or district has something noteworthy that they would like us to know about, send an article to the editor, Veronika Dunnam. She is always on the lookout for newsworthy articles. Make her job easier!

My wish is that every garden club member has fun attending garden club meetings, working on club activities, inviting friends to join their club, and enjoying other club members. If you are not doing any of these things, then perhaps it's time for you to get outside and immerse yourself in nature. Time spent outdoors can foster a sense of tranquility and connection to the world around us. It can improve your mood, lower your blood pressure, and reduce stress. Hippocrates said, "Nature itself is the best physician."

Dorrie Carr

WSFGC President 2025-2027

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JUL AUG SEP

Volume 51, Number 1

On the Cover



Photo: Viridi Green on Unsplash

Taraxacum officinale, Dandelion

A dandelion is a common, herbaceous perennial plant with bright yellow flowers that turn into white, fluffy seed heads and is widely recognized as a weed. Despite its weedy reputation, it has various uses, including culinary and medicinal applications.

Dandelion leaves form a rosette at the base of the plant, are oblong, and have jagged edges, often described as “lion’s teeth” – hence the name “dandelion.”

The bright yellow flower heads are made up of many individual ray florets.

After flowering, the yellow petals are replaced by a spherical, white seed head composed of many tiny, parachute-like seeds. These are the “puffballs” or “dandelion clocks” that are easily dispersed by the wind. Dandelions have a long, thick taproot

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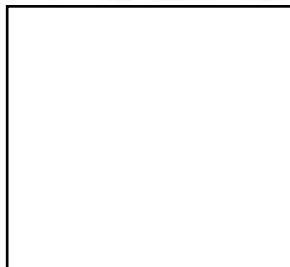
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& Nan Gordon



GREATER SEATTLE
Mitch Grospe
& Gale Kroll



HILL & DALE
Kathy Johnson



OLYMPIC PENINSULA
Pam Ehtee



PACIFIC REGION NEWS

81st Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc., “Wild and Water Wise”

The 81st Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc., annual meeting and convention was held April 28 – 30, 2025 at the Wyndham Phoenix Airport/Tempe hotel in sunny Tempe, Arizona. Attendees from WSFGC included Dorrie Carr, Terry Critchlow, Diane Franchini, Lana Finegold, Suzann Stahl, Lenda Sundene, and Brynn Tavasci. The theme of the convention, “Wild and Water Wise,” mirrored Pacific Region Director 2023 – 2025, Carol Norquist’s theme, “Unleash the Wild – Bring Nature Home.” Numerous workshops were held and keynote speakers included Kim Gray of the Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Karen Cesare of the Central Arizona Project, Rebecca Davidson National Forest Foundation/Holistic Reforestation, and Linda Larson a Traveling Gardener who has visited over 1,000 gardens worldwide. Sedona Area Garden Club hosted a post-convention tour of Sedona. Former Director Peggy Olin lead the installation of incoming officers including Tanja Swanson of Oregon, our new Pacific Region Director.

—*Brynn Tavasci*
Pacific Region Historian, Credentials, Procedures



Diane Franchini, Suzann Stahl, Dorrie Carr



Suzann Stahl, Carolyn Olley (OR)



2025 Pacific Region Officers Installation. From Left: Diane Franchini, Kristi Livreri, Launa Gould, Brynn Tavasci, Greg Pokorski, Carolyn Olley and Tanja Swanson (new Pacific Region Director from OR)

GARDENS

Photos from website

ARBORETUMS AND BOTANICAL GARDENS

This list is intended to include all significant Botanical Gardens and Arbore-tums in Washington State.

My hope is that you and your garden club members will take trips to enjoy and educate yourselves on the gorgeous gardens, plants, trees, and scenery. In addition, consider inviting other clubs; experiencing this with them is delightful. Rent a bus and leave the driving to another. Plan it in your “programs for the year” to make memories, and it is more fun being with garden club friends. Title it “Girls Just Want to Have Fun.” We will include the guys too. For a complete list go to the website listed below.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_botanical_gardens_and_arbore-tums_in_Washington_state

—Lori Robinson, Chairman



Bellevue Botanical Gardens



Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens in
Woodland



Manito Park and Botanical Gar-
dens in Spokane



Yakima Area Arboretum



Heronswood in Kingston

CONVENTION RECAP

WSFGC 2025 CONVENTION “Wonderful World of Color”

Hill and Dale District hosted this year's convention and what a fantastic job they did.

Incredible speakers included Neal Sanders, an author from Boston who has written many books about murder at garden clubs! His talk was from the husband's perspective of gardening. Did you know you have to dig three holes for each plant planted? He was not only entertaining but gave a hand to anyone that needed it. Patrica Green is the supervisor of the Salish tribe's garden and greenhouses and spoke on a number of issues they are working on to add back into the gardens plants of their ancestors. Sahshah Middleton, a

designer from San Francisco, entertained and wowed with her creative floral designs.

Workshops were led by Francine Minor, oyster shells and dragon flies; Cindy Swanberg, lanterns; Kim Munson, books as decorative planters; Randie Welcher, hanging bird feeders; Lisa Libby, gourds. They each had several helpers, and each class had members walking out with smiles. Workshops and programs are only two of the reasons to come to convention; the people you meet is the bonus.

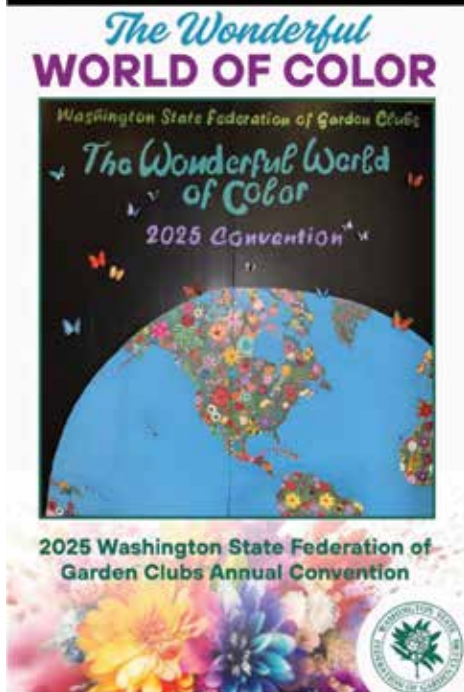
Invitational designs and horticulture from almost all districts were another highlight that delighted members.

Receptions were held for outgoing President Suzann Stahl and incoming President Dorrie Carr; they were each treated to declarations written by Debbie Spiller. Special gifts were presented by Hill and Dale District. Former NGC President Gay Austin conducted the installation of the officers. She also gifted \$500 to WSFGC. The Endowment fund matched the cost of attending the convention and it wouldn't have been possible without that contribution.

“Kathy Johnson and the members of Hill and Dale District, I am so proud of all of you and the amount of work you gave to make this convention something special and memorable.”

—Linda Maida, Convention Chairman

This wonderful 8'x8' backdrop (left) was painted by Hill and Dale member Lisa Libby. Thank you to The Center for Performing Arts Olympia who loaned us their photo equipment which allowed us to take pictures of members and have them immediately downloaded on their phone.



CONVENTION

Invitational Designs at Convention 2025 “The Wonderful World of Color”

Lucky me! I was asked by Convention 2025 Chairman Linda Maida to be the Invitational Design Chairman for the event. My job was to ask a designer from each district in our state to furnish an Invitational Design to be on display throughout the event. I chose to ask the designers to do NGC Floor Designs, as we had studied that design type at Symposium 2024, last September.

Designers from six of our seven Districts brought wonderful designs for all attending to enjoy. A big thank you to all for providing such beauty for us to enjoy.

Photos courtesy of Debbie Spiller



Black Hills District–Debbie Spiller

(hey, that's me!) (on left)
I used a metal grid superstructure, painted a bright blue, interwoven with blue plastic tubes and a multi-hued garland of metallic balls. I used some of my neighbor's saucer magnolia leaves and large white chrysanthemums.

Chinook District–Barbara Smith

A root or branch from their apple tree formed the main structure of Barbara's design. The top contained a hoop form with a beautiful cascade of flowers flowing out of it. Roses, mini-callas, palm fronds, pincushion protea, Ti leaves, Statice and Lily grass. I am sure I am missing something. The lower element was equally lovely (on right).



CONVENTION



Central District–Diane Franchini

Diane's design embraced "the dry side" of our state using alliums, ting-ting, a few plants I don't know and even a tumbleweed. She built her mountain range out of the box from their new freezer. Great as recycling, Diane. Lovely to look at and very clever!

East Lake Washington District–Lenda Sundene

Lenda Sundene brought this lustrous silvered wood from Arizona! She used rainbow-hued dried artichoke flowers. The wood was held in place by a metal stand. Peaceful and elegant (above left).

Greater Seattle District–Lona Carter & Mitch Grospe

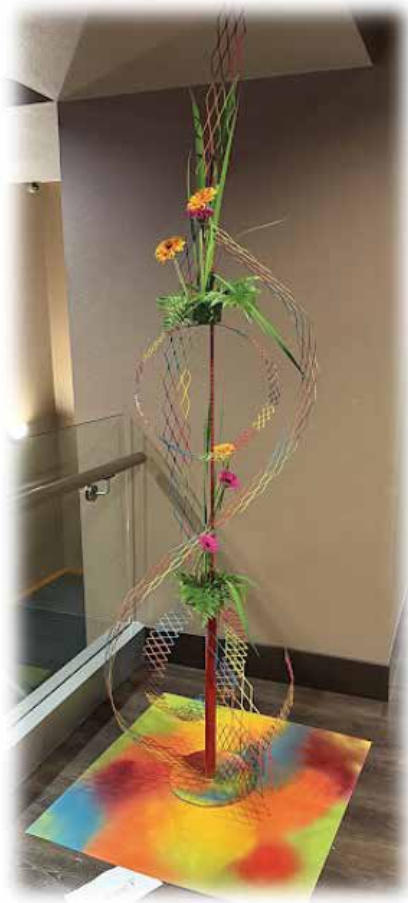
Lona Carter knew she would need help hauling her design to the convention and getting it set up and I believe Mitch helped her. The phrase "Spring Beauty" comes to mind as I look at this. Pink Peonies and leaves of Iris? Allium heads and layered glass containers swirled about with a chiffon scarf. The mosaic garden ball enhanced the color pallet. Sorry Lona, the plastic rods were moved by the staff.





Hill and Dale–Jeanine Faulkner

Jeanine's towering structure was made of a metal sculpture she may have welded herself. The "expanded metal" pieces appeared weightless and airy. Painted with a bright rainbow of paint colors on the sculpture and underlay, it was bright and cheerful. She used Gerbera daisies, ferns, and Iris foliage



Olympia Peninsula–Tina Cazzolino

Tina, all I can say is "WOW!" I watched her make this design for two hours. She assembled the bamboo A-frame using two balls made of strapping. She added Joy Parker purple plastic ribbons, fantastic *Strelitzia* (Birds of Paradise) blooms and leaves from her own philodendron.

— *Debbie Spiller*, Convention
Invitational Design Chairman

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

“Garden Party”

Chinook District holds four small standard flower shows a year, one at each of our four district general meetings. We alternate a stand-alone standard flower show in the year that we don't hold our large Christmas luncheon. Interest in entering flower shows has been building thanks to Barbara Smith's design classes (they have a waiting list!!!) and our Judges Council/Designers Guild workshops. Nora Fisher, president of our beginner's design group, ELLE, has been a steady leader with gentle encouragement for members to share their floral creations.

“Garden Party,” was held May 21 at the First United Methodist

Church in Auburn. We had great fun working together as a district setting up, entering exhibits, and enjoying the day. A basket opportunity drawing and bake sale run by Tee-nie Dillinger rounded out

the activities. Attendees included the public as well as district club members. Dorothy Weaver of our ELLE design group won four rosettes for her beautiful functional table setting titled, “Vintage Spring Lunch.” Her interpretation, with perfectly chosen components, displayed a pleasing table setting that anyone would be delighted to sit at and enjoy a bowl of soup.

For theme staging, Erin Gregory provided a trellis adorned with roses and Brynn Tavasci provided a bistro set adorned with begonias. Plaster of Paris frogs held garden-themed sayings to provide a smile, and a large paper-mâché cupcake reminded you that, “A party without cake is just a meeting.” All of the theme staging was inspired by Carrie Asselin's original

watercolor logo of a party in a garden, which was used as the schedule cover and in promotional material. Many thanks to all who helped and attended.

—Brynn Tavasci, Member, Chinook District



Photo by Erin Gregory

Above: “Welcome to the Garden Party”

Right: “Vintage Spring Lunch” by Dorothy Weaver



Photo by Brynn Tavasci

“Bistro seating theme staging for ‘Garden Party’”



Photo by Brynn Tavasci



Photo by Erin Gregory

Enjoying the horticulture

Vanridge Garden Club Final Chapter (CAL)

Greetings from Vanridge GC. The club was organized in 1976 and federated in 1977. With sadness in our hearts, it became necessary to disband our club as of June 2025. Over the years, our club donated flowers to the veterans hospital, participated in different farmer's markets, worked and donated to Habitat for Human-

ity, Second Step Housing, a few scholarships to horticulture students and other activities.

Our motto: "To plant a seed is to have Faith." Our club flower: the Marigold. Every time you plant a seed or grow marigolds, think of us!

—Marion Swendsen, Vice President,
Vanridge GC

WSFGC Bird Awards

All garden clubs are preparing for the upcoming year with interesting programs, speakers and tours.

Let's remember that there are two WSFGC Bird Awards offered. There is a monetary First place award for an individual garden club member and a monetary First place award for a Garden Club.

There are so many varied and worthwhile projects that can be accomplished by garden club members to help the birds in Washington State.

An individual garden club member: could plant a Hummingbird garden, feed the birds year round, establish a wildlife sanctuary in the yard, make birdbaths for her garden, make a DIY mister for Hummingbirds, help clean up around ocean or lake water ways, guide a bird walk, write a bird article, work with a school or club to build bird or bat houses, plant native plants, shrubs and trees in the garden, work with a school or club to make birdfeeders, create an educational display at the flower show, present a bird program,

donate bird books to a library or school.

A garden club: could make bird or bat houses, plant a native garden or Hummingbird garden at a nursing home or at a local park or business, visit a wildlife refuge or take a tour of an area where you can view migrating birds, work with a school or club to promote taking care of the birds of Washington State, present bird guide books to an organization, create bird baths for all garden club members, have a work party to clean up the water ways of the ocean, lakes or streams to help protect the birds and their nesting sites.

These are just a few ideas that might encourage you to submit an application for what project or event you are doing to help the birds of our State.

December 1 is the deadline to submit your Bird Award application via email to ckron44@msn.com.

Happy Birding!

—Ann Kronenwetter,
WSFGC Bird Chairmann

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

Glove & Trowel Garden Club

We are within the Hill & Dale District of WSFGC. We have added three new members and have two more that are going to visit in June. We are growing and excited. In March, our program was "Slug University," presented by Cori Carlton, Master Gardener from WSU Thurston County. She gave us a new appreciation of certain kinds of slugs and why we should appreciate the big, fat banana slug!!! We had no idea of the number of different slugs. April found us very busy working on our district's annual plant sale, that happened on April 26. Eight members went to a home in Puyallup and dug plants to take to our sale, we dug and potted almost all day.

We have applied for endowment funds to plant two flower beds at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Parkland. Their membership is older, and these beds have been neglected for a couple of years. We have had three members attend the Gardening schools. At our district flower show and meeting, 13 members were in attendance and the club had 129 entries. Linda Pempeck won the Carolyn Erickson "All Fresh Design" award.



"Garden Totem" Poles

At the end of April, we were notified that our \$200 grant came through and we started working on the beds with new soil, new plantings and ideas to keep it beautiful throughout the year. We thank the endowment committee for the money and will use it frugally to beautify the area.

Work continued on for the district plant sale and 11 of our members worked the sale along with hundreds of donations of plants from our members. It was a very successful sale on a beautiful day. Our growing project for the year is two types of clematis, with seeds from Linda P's garden.

The Wonderful **WORLD OF COLOR**



2025 Washington State Federation of
Garden Clubs Annual Convention



Members at Convention

We are trying to get them going. May found us very busy getting ready for the WSFGC State Convention, with members being involved in the horticulture exhibition, door prizes, and best of all, the gifts to the past district directors of "Garden Totem" poles. We had five members design and paint eight four-foot-tall wooden posts. The reception of these posts was beyond belief. They were absolutely beautiful and the directors at the convention were overwhelmed by the gifts. We also filled 28 bags of door prizes for the convention, and it was fun to call the names of the winners at the convention.

Five members attended the WSFGC Annual Convention in Shelton and it was great. Hill & Dale put together the convention from beginning to end and did a marvelous job in all areas. Lots and lots of work, but when you saw the smiling faces and

happy people, it was well worth the effort. Linda Pempeck was awarded the Marva Lee Peterschick Arbo-real Flowering Shrub/Tree award for her *Cornus kousa* dogwood that had also won this award at the 75th convention! She also won the Carol Klingberg Educational Award for her "Vote for Seed Saving" educational exhibit. Winning these awards shows the time to enter is well worth it. In June, our new officers were installed, and in July we plan to visit the Point Defiance Rose Garden. August will find us at the pickle farm, making a fresh jar of pickles while learning about its history.

We are a busy group of ladies that enjoy new experiences, educational enhancement, and friendships through gardening of flowers, fruits and vegetables. It doesn't get any better.

—Linda Pempeck, Glove & Trowel GC

Let's Get Down & Dirty



Gardening School

Please join us for Course #4

**Wednesday & Thursday
October 29 & 30, 2025**

Course Topics

Outdoor Identification of Plants, Growing Woody Ornamental,
Plant Classification & Nomenclature,
Styles of Gardening & Pruning Techniques.



**Sponsored by
Hill & Dale District
Tacoma, Wa**

**Save the Dates!
October 29-30 2025**

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

Medicine Wheel Garden at a Federal Way High School

Chinook District's Marine Hills Garden Club is devoted to the community we serve. Our support for school gardens began in 2011, when the Nautilus K-8 school started their school garden. We've provided plants annually since then. Our support has extended to other schools in Federal Way with monetary and plant donations, including Olympic



Medicine Wheel Garden is almost complete.



Photo by Debbie Angel

View's perennial and fruit garden (2017-18), Illahee Middle School garden

Work party laying out the Medicine Wheel beds.

(2017-19), Green Gables School's pollinator garden (2021), Norman Center's Employment and Transition Program garden (2022), Meredith Hill Elementary School garden (2023), Todd Beamer High School Medicine Wheel Garden (2024-25), and Lakeland Elementary School garden (2025). In addition to funding from Marine Hills GC budget, we have been able to secure several grants for several school gardens from WSFGC, Ames Tools, and Espoma Organic Fertilizers.

On June 2, community members participated in a blessing ceremony to dedicate the new garden at Todd Beamer High School. This garden will have a strong focus on native plants and uses in Native American culture. The school's Smoked Salmon Native Student organization will continue to be involved in the garden, along with other students. Classroom teachers

(science, culinary, art) and other club advisors (e.g. Latino Club) will be able to integrate the garden with school



Photo by Debbie Angel

Work party volunteers in action.

academics, clubs, and social supports.

WSFGC donated to the project from endowment funds, and Marine Hills GC donated additional funding. We provided technical support/advice about constructing the cement block medicine wheel garden beds. We also helped at a work party to remove the bark from the cardboard that had been laid to suppress weeds. After raking and shoveling the bark away, student volunteers, with the guidance of Federal Way Public School Garden Specialist Danielle



Wooden beds donated.

Photo by Carrie Asselin



Harrington, shoveled out the base for the four medicine wheel beds aligned to represent North, South, East and West.

Additional work parties moved the project along. The Southwest Carpenters Union donated four wooden garden beds to add to the

garden area. The garden is almost complete.

Marine Hills GC looks forward to continuing to champion youth education in horticulture and the environment through our club's various activities and donations.

—Debbie Angel,
Member, Marine Hills GC

50th
Anniversary

September 23, 2025

**Hill & Dale District
will celebrate
50 years together!**

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

Photos by Teresa Martin

A Blooming Spring for the Port Angeles Garden Club

The Port Angeles GC has been especially active this spring, with a variety of events, tours, and community contributions that reflect our



Schouten's Bird Sanctuary

shared passion for gardening, education, and service.

April Highlights

Our April meeting featured an informative presentation, "Food Waste 101," by Jenson of Sisterland Farms, representing the Clallam Growers Collective. Located in Port Angeles, Sisterland Farms is a fully organic, no-heavy-machinery farm that also provides composting services to the local community.

Many of our members attended the district meeting in Port Townsend. Decorative lanterns, cakes, and many flower

designs were wonderful.

Our Youth Committee dispersed up to \$3,000 in grants to four of our local schools for their gardening needs that the students are tending too.

In addition to our meeting, April was packed with inspiring field trips. Members toured Arnold and Debbie Schouten's Dry Creek Waterfowl Sanctuary, a local treasure filled with serene ponds and stunning waterfowl. We also traveled to Woodinville, WA, where 16 members enjoyed the Cottage Lake Gardens "Trillium Tour." This remarkable garden features all 50+ species of the world's trilliums growing alongside rare and unusual companion plants.



Members touring Will Johnson's garden

Of course, many of us couldn't resist bringing home a few new plants!

We also had the pleasure of visiting Will Johnson's property, where beautifully maintained rhododendrons were set among park-like grounds. The landscape included camp spots and unique pieces of art placed throughout, creating a whimsical and relaxing environment.

On April 25, in honor of Arbor Day, the club planted a "Strawberry



Planting a "Strawberry Tree"



Plant Sale

Tree" in front of the Field Hall Event Center in downtown Port Angeles. Local Boy Scouts joined us, helping dig the hole and learning proper planting techniques from Hunter, who will also be caring for the tree going forward.

May Plant Sale & Meeting

Preparations for our annual May Plant Sale brought members together for a day of clean-up, potting, labeling, and loading plants at Bev Dawson's backyard. The Friday night setup was almost overwhelming—with a massive inventory of plants, all donated by our dedicated members! Saturday's sale drew a great crowd, and we were thrilled with

our success in both plant and raffle ticket sales, which help support our scholarship program.

At our May meeting, we welcomed Susan Hillgren of Sprouting Hope Greenhouse. Susan demonstrated how to plant a 16-inch wire-looped, moss-encased hanging basket, which was then auctioned off to members. Proceeds went to TAFY (The Answer for Youth), a nonprofit drop-in center for homeless and at-risk youth and young families. TAFY is volunteer-run, with Susan as the organization's only paid staff member. We were honored to support such a vital cause.

Our club was proud to award four \$2,500 scholarships to our two local high schools for 2024-2025.

Looking Ahead

In June, we gathered for our Officer Installation Luncheon at the beautiful Field Hall Event Center, celebrating the transition of leadership and the continued growth of our club.

—Teresa Martin,
President, Port Angeles GC



DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

Tribute to Eliza Jane Meeker

Photos by Kathy Johnson

An NGC Horticulture Specialty Flower Show

Presented by
Hill & Dale District

Saturday, May 17, 2025
12:00pm – 4:00pm

Meeker Mansion
Puyallup, WA



Hill & Dale District was invited to participate in the first Eliza Jane Meeker Day. We hosted an NGC Horticulture Specialty Flower Show inside the Large and Small Parlors of the mansion which was built in 1890.

Our district started its relationship with the Meeker Mansion in 1975 when our district had just separated from the Capital District. We were asked that First Christmas to assist the Jr. Women's Clubs of Puyallup and Twin City Florist in decorating the rooms and halls of the Meeker Mansion. The next year they asked if we would take it over which we did

and have done for several years.

Christmas at the mansion was still going strong in 2001 when the nine clubs continued to decorate the entire home. In 2017, only two clubs were still involved and decorating rooms; they were Glove & Trowel and Root & Bloom.

With the onset of covid, in December of 2020, we did not participate with the mansion. Then in 2023 the Root & Bloom GC participated in the craft areas working with the kids where two members dressed up as elves.

—Kathy Johnson, Director, Hill & Dale District



Entrance into the
Drawing Room



Drawing Rooms were the social center of a Victorian home and acted as guests' first impression of the household. A drawing room was designed to be a statement piece reflecting the wealth and status of the home's owner.



Meeker Mansion built in 1890



This Walnut finished room hosts the family square Grand Piano, as well as a beautifully painted ceiling designed to replicate the Widow's Walk on the top of the mansion.



**Small Parlor
Furnished
in walnut
was used
for visitors
and private
gatherings.**



**NGC Award of
Merit
Iris germanica
Tamara Lar-
son**

Eliza was a gardener and on the grounds was a conservatory heated by the same boiler as the house gardens and an orchard.

She grew prize winning entries like her La-Marque, Hermosa and General Jacqueminot Roses.

Eliza also grew and sold *Gladiolus* flowers and bulbs along with the produce that she grew for Ezra's Mercantile in the Yukon.

The grounds were maintained by the Meeker's gardener and contained fruit trees, red-woods, cedar trees, English holly, pine, and yew trees among flora and fauna.

In 1892 she managed a multi-day flower exhibition as part of a fundraiser by the Murphy Temperance Society of Puyallup.

Prize winning flower entries were grown in her garden on the mansion property.

The grounds were maintained by the Meeker's gardener.



**NGC Award of Horticultural
Excellence
NGC Award of Merit
WSFGC Betty Belcher Horticul-
ture Award
Clematis virginiana
Jeanine Faulkner**



**NGC Educational Top
Exhibitor Award
WSFGC Carol Klingberg
Educational Award
"Eliza's *Gladiolus*"
How to Grow *Gladiolus*
Kathy Johnson**



**NGC Arbo-
real Award
Marva Lee
Peterschick
Arboreal
Flowering
Shrub/Tree
Award
*Rhododen-
dron*
Sherry
Matthews**



**NGC Award
of Merit
Rosa
Sherry
Matthews**

Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs 2024 Awards

Congratulations to all the winners and to all the participants in the 2024 award year. Awards were presented at the WSFGC Annual Meeting and Convention in Shelton at the Little Creek Resort and Casino owned by the Squaxin Island Tribe. Amongst pompoms, cheers and laughter the winners were announced.

The first-place winners are listed below as well as the Pacific Region Garden Clubs and National Garden Club winners.

ARBOR DAY: Kelso Garden Club – Lexington School Garden Frost Peach, Spartan Apple, and Jefferson Filbert trees.

BLUE/GOLD STAR MARKER: Evergreen GC, Belfair memorial garden, and Port Angeles GC, Gold Star roadside memorial garden

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENTS AND SERVICE:

Community Beautification: Carleton Park GC - Fire Station #41; Tri-Area GC - Tri-Area Community Center; and Garden Hour GC – Milton City Hall

Community Gardens: Marine Hills GC – Light of Christ Community Center

Community Special Achievement: Hill & Dale District - sponsorship of floral building at the Pierce Co Fair; Marine Hills GC - Environmental children 236 book donation; Evergreen GC and Port Angeles GC - Forever Streamfest; Tending our Gardens Beyond our Backyard.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION: Root

& Bloom GC - Hill & Dale District, Backyard gardening for wildlife
GARDEN CLUB GROWING PROJECT: Bogachiel GC – Olympic Peninsula District, Potatoes in a bag.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN: Sherry Granger, Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District; Carleton Park GC – Greater Seattle District

THERAPY GARDENS: Marine Hills GC – Chinook District, Brookdale Foundation House; Garden Hour GC - Hill & Dale District, Fall Pumpkin floral arrangement, Des Moines GC - Chinook District, Stafford Rehabilitation Center, and Hill & Dale District, Silver Creek Living Care.

HONOR CLUB: Illahee GC - Black Hills District

HORTICULTURE ESSAY: Cindy Swanson, Scotch Broom, *It's All About Flower Power*, Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTIONS:

Social Media/Website: O'Brien GC – Chinook District, Tri-Area GC – Olympic Peninsula District, and Hill & Dale District,

Digital Media: Suzann Stahl – The Beauty of Lilies, Olympia GC – Black Hills District; Tara Keen – 90 Years of Service – WSFGC; Olympia GC – The Olympia Garden Club Centennial - Black Hills District

PUBLICATIONS:

Newsletters: Enumclaw GC – Chinook District, and Chinook District.

Membership Awareness and Educational publications: Tri-Area GC – Olympic Peninsula District; Hill & Dale District; Marine Hills GC – Chi-

nook District; Bogachiel GC – Olympic Peninsula District; Evergreen GC – Cross Sound District; Brynn Tavaschi – Chinook District; and Vicki Westerberg – Illahee GC - Black Hills District.

Yearbook – Award of Excellence: O'Brien GC – Chinook District; Rosalia GC - CAL; Tri-Area GC – Olympic Peninsula District.

YOUTH

Working with Youth: Hill & Dale District – Girl Scout Fire Prevention with Smokey Bear-Environmental, Girl Scout Day Camp Horticulture; Marine Hills GC – Chinook District – environmental donation of 236 books, Pollinators - HS Ag class

PAST PRESIDENT'S AWARDS: The Past President's awards are the top awards offered from WSFGC, judged to be the best in their categories.

Pat Crawford's Arbor Day Award: Kelso GC - CAL

Cerita Goody Civic Achievement Award: Carleton GC – Greater Seattle District

Joyce Lounsberry Therapy Gardens Award: Garden Hour GC – Hill & Dale District

Jeanette Pruin Youth Award: one time program – Smokey Bear Fire Prevention - Hill & Dale District,

Jeanette Pruin Youth Award: continuing programs – Girl Scout Day Camp, Hill & Dale District



August 7 – 10

Visit the Pierce County Fair

21718 Meridian E
Graham, WA

Hill & Dale District Sponsors the Floral Building



Violet Gose Club Achievement

Award: Illahee GC - Black Hills District

Helen Wolff Club Program Award:

Hurrah for Heuchera - Des Moines GC – Chinook District

Marion Larson Club Newsletter

Award: Enumclaw GC – Chinook District

Margery V Bardon District News-

letter Award: Chinook District

President's Flower Show awards:

Bertha Demming Blue Ribbon

Award: Cindy Swanson, Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District, Horticulture-53, Design and Botanical Arts-3, Total 56 ribbons

Margaret Titlow District Flower

Show Staging Award: Hill & Dale District – Frogs Come Croakin'

June Willard Club Flower Show

Staging Award: Illahee GC, Black Hills District – As the Pages Turn

Vern Armstrong Schedule Award:

Illahee GC – Black Hills District – As the Pages Turn

Terry Critchlow Photography

Award: Diane Franchini - Central District - Our Extraordinary Earth

Phyllis Danielson Table Setting

(functional) Award: Kathy Johnson – Hill & Dale District – Fall Roundup

Phyllis Danielson Table Setting

(exhibition) Award: Leanna McMah-
an – Black Hills District – As the
Pages Turn

Carolyn Erickson All Fresh Floral

Design Award: Dorothy Bertram –
Black Hills District - As the Pages
Turn

JoAnne Goldman Artistic Crafts

Award: Linda Bones – Hill & Dale
District – Our Extraordinary Earth

Judith Juno Petite Design Award:

Brynn Tavasci – Chinook District –

Our Extraordinary Earth

Ellen Swenson Flower Arrange-

ment Award: Donna Haley – Hill &
Dale District – Fall Roundup

Carol Klingberg Educational

Award: Linda Pempeck – Hill & Dale
District – Fall Roundup

Betty Belcher Horticulture Excel-

lence Award: Ellen Daly – Black
Hills District -

Marva Lee Peterschick Flowering

Shrub/Tree Award: Linda Pempeck
– Hill & Dale District – Fall Roundup

YOUTH CONTESTS

Pollinator Power Poster Contest,

Beatles: Kindergarten – Kaycee
Fanara, Rosalia GC - CAL; 1st Grade

- Evelyn Schu, Rosalia GC - CAL;
2nd Grade - Owen Buffington, Illahee

GC – Black Hills District; 3rd Grade
- Emma Werbe, Illahee GC – Black

Hills District; 4th Grade - Lillian
Durga, Illahee GC – Black Hills

District; 5th Grade - Ally Hanson,
Illahhe GC – Black Hills District; 6th

Grade - Cyndal Berryman, Illahee
GC – Black Hills District.

Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl Poster

Contest: 1st Grade - Ashton Hol-
dren, Rosalia GC - CAL; 2nd Grade

- Emberly Pardis, Rosalia GC - CAL;
3rd Grade - Leila Snyder, Marine

Hills GC – Chinook District; 4th
Grade - Amelia Hornby, Illahee GC

– Black Hills District; 5th Grade -
Brooklyn Prock, Hill & Dale District

Recycled Sculpture Contest:

4th Grade - Bridgette Schumaier,
Queens of Spades GC – Central Dis-

trict; 5th Grade - Rhett Larson, Ro-
salia GC - CAL; 8th Grade - Jullian

Kuth, Rosalia GC - CAL

WSFGC Scholarships: Winners are
noted on pages 28 & 29 of this issue

Thank you to the following **Scholarship Boosters** for their donations: Jeanette Pruin and McEachern Foundation; Bogachiel GC, Capital City GC, Central Valley GC, Des Moines GC, Issaquah GC, Kelso GC, Olympia GC, Parkside GC, Rosalia GC, Sherwood Forest GC, Queens of Spades GC, Minnehaha GC, and the clubs of Chinook District and Hill & Dale District

PACIFIC REGION GARDEN CLUBS AWARDS

Publications:

Yearbook: 1st Place Tri-Area GC – Olympic Peninsula District; 3rd place Rosalia GC - CAL

Newsletters: WG&D, Veronika Dunnam – WSFGC; Enumclaw GC – Garden Chatter – Chinook District

Other Publications: Illahee GC - Vicki Westerberg – Black Hills District (Calendar); Karla Stover, Hill & Dale District (Horticulture Essay); Brynn Tavasci, Parkside GC – Chinook District Judges Council – (Floral Design Techniques)

Membership Publication: Hill & Dale District – (membership hand-book), Marine Hills GC – Chinook District (membership flyer), Bogachiel GC – Olympic Peninsula District (membership flyer)

Flower Show Schedule: Illahee GC – Black Hills District (As the Pages Turn), Hill & Dale District (Gardens Make Memories), Black Hills Designers – Black Hills District (Off to the Races)

Website/Social Media: O'Brien GC – Chinook District, and Hill & Dale District

Garden Therapy: Garden Hour GC – Hill & Dale District

Youth Activities: Marine Hill GC – Chinook District (Environmental 236 book donation), Hill & Dale District (Horticulture – Girl Scout Day Camp classes, Environmental – Fire Safety).

Youth Contests:

Pollinator Poster Contest: Grades 1-5: 3rd Grade - Emma Werbe - Illahee GC – Black Hills District, 5th Grade - Ally Hanson – Illahee GC – Black Hills District, 6th Grade - Allen Clark – Illahee GC – Black Hills District.

Poetry Contest: Grades 1-12: 1st Grade - Lydia Everett – Enumclaw GC – Chinook District, 4th Grade - Jude Snyder – Marine Hills GC – Chinook District, 8th Grade - Ave Everett – Enumclaw GC – Chinook District.

Recycled Sculpture Contest: Grades 4-8: 4th Grade - Bridgette Schumaier – Ellensburg GC – Central District, 5th Grade - Rhett Larson – Rosalia GC - CAL, 8th Grade - Jullian Kuth - Rosalia GC - CAL.

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB AWARDS

NGC Certificate of Merit: Judged to be the best overall in this category.

Certificate of Commendation: runners ups

**Certificate of Appreciation
Community Enhancements**

Certificate of Merit: Carleton GC – Greater Seattle District – Landscaping of Fire Station #41 – Seattle.

Certificate of Commendation: Carleton Park GC - Greater Seattle District – Community Garden Fire Station #41 - Seattle

**Certificate of Appreciation
Blue Star/Gold Star Memorial**

Marker: Evergreen GC – Cross



Sound District, Port Angeles GC – Olympic Peninsula District
Permanent Community Improvement: Tri-Area GC – Olympic Peninsula District

Community Beautification: Garden Hour GC – Hill & Dale District

Environmental Conservation: Port Angeles GC - Streamfest – Olympic Peninsula District, Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District (member's residential wildlife garden)

Membership Awareness and Education:

Publications Certificate of Commendation: Hill & Dale District – Meet and Greet Booklet, Chinook District Judges Council – Chinook District – Floral Design Techniques, Brynn Tavasci, Chinook District – Newsletter Chinook Winds, Debbie Angel editor

Membership Awareness: Hill & Dale District – Stars and Stripes and Summer Nights in the Garden

Social Media and Websites:

Digital Media Certificate of Commendation: WSFGC – Tara Keen creator – 90 Year History, Olympia GC – Black Hills District – 100 Year History

Flower Show Award of Achievement: Illahee GC – Black Hills

District - As the Pages Turn, Hill & Dale District – Frogs Come Croakin', Hill & Dale District - Fall Roundup, WSFGC – Our Extraordinary Earth – Celebrating the Natural Beauty of the World

NGC YOUTH

Violet Gose Scholarship: \$3,800 - Sasha Crawford

Recycled Sculpture Contest: 4th Grade, 3rd Place Bridgette Schumaier – Queens of Spades GC – Central District, 5th Grade, HM Rhett Larson - Rosalia GC - CAL.

Poetry Contest: 1st Grade, 3rd Place - Lydia Evertt, 8th Grade, HM Ave Everett – Enumclaw GC – Chinook District

Recycled Sculpture Contest: 4th Grade, 3rd Place – Bridgette Schumaier – Queens of Spades GC – Central District, 5th Grade, HM - Rhett Larson – Rosalia GC - CAL, 8th Grade – Jullian Kuth – Rosalia GC - CAL.



Advertise your next district or club event in your magazine, Washington Garden and Design. Download information from wagardenclubs.com or from your WSFGC Program and Meeting Guide. Half-page advertisements in WG&D for Clubs and Districts are now **FREE**.



Saturday, September 20, 2025
10:00 am ~ 3:30 pm
Pebble Beach Park, Port Angeles
(North of Field Arts & Events Hall)

Free to the Public

Join us for a fun family event with food, wine garden, music and environmental exhibits that will educate you on how you can become involved in efforts to protect, restore and preserve our streams and natural resources throughout the North Olympic Peninsula.

**Presented by the
Port Angeles Garden Club**

Exhibits include:

North Olympic Land Trust, Feiro Marine Life Center,
Friends of Ennis Creek, WA Dept of Natural Resources,
Peninsula Trails Coalition, Streamkeepers
and many more.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs awarded the following \$2,000 scholarships.



WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

College of the Environment

Kadan Gustafson

is pursuing a BS in Environmental Science. He has decided to emphasize in

Freshwater & Terrestrial Ecology and a certificate in Geographic Information Science. This education will not only grant him a meaningful career path, but the knowledge and fulfillment he has been seeking regarding the environment.



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
School of Environmental Forest Services

Madison Galiman

is a senior undergraduate studying plant-microbe interaction in the Doty

Plant Microbiology Lab. Specifically, she researches endophyte colonization dynamics in Poplar plants and hopes to translate the findings to bioenergy feedstock improvement application. She intends to find a professional position as a lidar analyst, environmental consultant, botanist, restoration manager, or ecologist after graduation.



College of Built Environments – Department of Landscape Architecture

Emma DeBoer is a graduate student in Landscape Architecture studying ecological design. Her

goal is to design climate resilience in urban spaces by restoring natural systems and processes. Inspired by her background in ecology, she hopes to create designs that foster multispecies interactions, reconnecting people with the natural world they are situated within. She looks forward to a career as a Landscape Architect, prioritizing public access to nature within cities.



Department of Biology

Stephen White is an undergraduate junior from Spokane studying Biology with a concentration in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation. Camp-

ing with his family, he developed a profound appreciation for nature, forests and wildlife. One of the highlights of his undergraduate career was participating in a study abroad program in Costa Rica and Olympic rainforest, where he contributed to an ongoing research project looking at how plants and microbes interact. His eventual goal is to study nature and ecosystems through research as a scientist.



**WASHINGTON
STATE UNIVERSI-
TY**

**Department of
Crops and Soils**

Ilana McGrath is a senior studying Organic and Sustainable Agriculture and Field Crop Manage-

ment. These interests stem from her passion for human and environmental health and how they are interconnected, and the need for practical approaches to sustainability. After graduating, she hopes to apply skills from university to hands-on work in agricultural production.



**Department of
Horticulture**

Sophia Rees is a third-year student pursuing a BS in Integrated Plant Sciences with a major in Landscape, Nursery and Greenhouse Management. She

chose to study plant science because she has a passion for plants. She is specifically interested in greenhouse and nursery management, plant and pollinator conservation and arboriculture. She hopes to own her own greenhouse/nursery business and become a certified arborist in the future.



**School of Design
and Construction –
Landscape Architec-
ture**

Zachary Record is a junior in the landscape Architecture program. He was inspired to pursue an education in landscape architecture

after taking an environmental science class in high school and learning about the importance of the built environment in ecological health. In his career he hopes to design meaningful landscapes that address client needs through thoughtful planting and material choices, doing his part to help solve issues like the climate crisis, habitat loss and sustainability.



**NATIONAL GARDEN
CLUBS, INC. \$3,800**

Sasha Crawford holds two BAs in Psychology and the History of Art and Visual Culture from the University of California, Santa Cruz. He is currently pursuing a Masters of Landscape Architec-

ture. Through his work on both the UCSC and UW Farms, he has developed a deep understanding of the importance of urban agroecology as a tool for education in sustainability, food sovereignty and self-efficacy. He hopes to position himself as an advocate for urban agriculture within his career as a landscape architect. He is committed to serving the public through regional and local planning and the design of publicly accessible green spaces, with a critical focus on climate adaptation and ecological resilience.

—Jeanette Pruin,

WSFGC Scholarship Chairman

CONVENTION 2025

Photos courtesy of Debbie Spiller

Design Night Featuring Designer Sahshah “Ko Sen” Middleton

Sahshah grew up in Asia and now lives in the San Francisco area. She began studying Sogetsu Ikebana floral design at age seven and now holds the rank of “Riji” the highest teaching level in the Sogetsu School of Ikebana.



Centerpieces for Design Night were made by the Hill & Dale Arrangers Guild and featured pickle balls pierced with black bamboo sticks, holding yellow petite Calla Lilies and *Fatsia japonica* leaves. (On left)

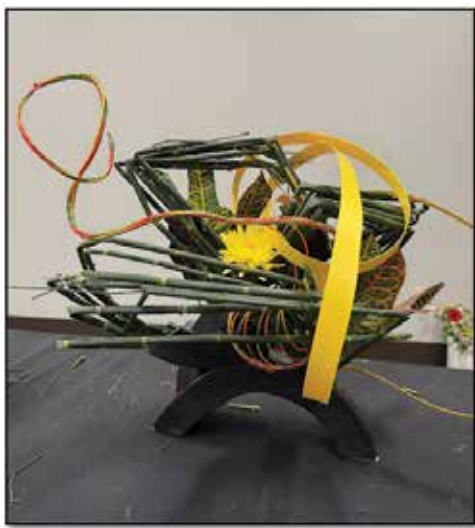


Shasha used a mounted piece of driftwood and added a metal hoop threaded with brilliantly colored chunks of "pool noodles" to create this floor design. She used sunflowers, orchids and magnolia leaves to finish the design. (On left)

Photo courtesy of
Chris Hill



A pottery container holding sunflowers and philodendron foliage, as well as clear acrylic sheets painted with mandala patterns. (On left)



Before and after. A creative pottery container holding manipulated *Equisetum* (Horsetails), croton leaves, *Chrysanthemums*, a yellow plastic “ribbon” and a weed-wacker line spiral. A pottery container holding sunflowers and philodendron foliage, as well as clear acrylic sheets painted with mandala patterns.



Before and after. A metal sculpture with a giant rainbow slinky, dressed in peonies and hosta leaves.

CONVENTION 2025



Before and after.

A tripod-like structure of curly willow branches, over a large pottery container. Magnolia leaves were inserted into the vase along with white mums and sail-like forms made from mindalino reeds and tissue paper.



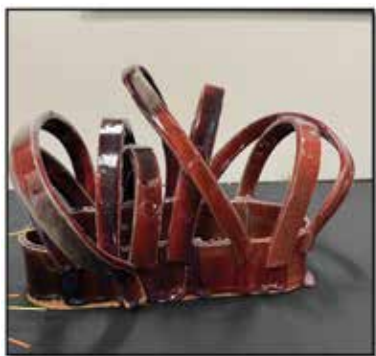
Before and after. A very creative pottery container holding a rhythmic twirl made from fencing wire and painted zip ties. Lots of orchids and some simple foliage.





Before and after.

A large creative pottery container the designer had prepared with wire mesh hardware cloth and Oasis brand floral mesh along with a vividly painted form of zip ties. Lobster Claw *heliconia* and Little Claw *heliconia* adorn the structure.



Before and after. The designer made the pottery piece on the left and used it on this lovely mass design on the right. So many flowers! The container “hoop” worked as her mechanic.

CONVENTION 2025



Before and after. The designer made the lustrous blue pot at a workshop. Here we see it filled with chartreuse green acrylic rods which hold up blue *Delphinium* spikes, *geum* and a giant *allium*.



Sahshah is a member of OFAD-Organization of Floral Art Designers and FURU as well as her position in Ikebana International as a Riji Instructor.

—Debbie Spiller, Design Chairman

HORTICULTURE

Mini's But Mighty Roses

Is there anybody who doesn't love roses of all kinds? If I could only have one rose type, it would be a miniature rose. They are tough and dependable. What classifies a Miniature Rose? It's considered a Modern Rose, and the flowers are one-half to 1-1/2 inch diameter. How many times have you gone to the grocery store, and you find Miniature Roses for sale. Sometimes they are discounted as they might look like they need some tender loving care. So many exciting colors are available in yellow, white, pink, red, and apricot. Don't worry if they don't look in tip-top shape, take a chance and take at least a couple home with you. They won't take up much room or demand too much care. If growing indoors, they need a sunny window sill, preferably with morning sun. First thing you want to do is check the pot. Are the plants root bound? It's a good idea to repot into some good rich fresh potting soil. (I prefer Miracle Gro Moisture Control, it has some fertilizer mixed in with the soil.) Once established, you can use some 10-10-10 fertilizer drops in the water. Even miniatures are heavy feeders like all roses. But whoa—let's back up a little. The most important thing you can do for your little crown jewel is to give it a shower daily. Take it to the sink and hose it down, this will keep any dust for spider mites or other critters from hiding out in your new



Miniature Rose

little pot of love. Roses love moisture. So, cleanliness is next to godliness, take out any yellow or discolored leaves. And don't forget the sunshine, not hot afternoon sun. Moisture, keep it well watered at all times with good drainage and don't forget the food. What? You say your window sill is

Photo by Cottage Farms Direct

full of healthy blooming miniature roses, and you might want to plant some outdoors in a special spot.

Let's prepare the location, it needs at least six hours of sunlight, and a little shelter from strong hot winds.

We want a lot of organic matter worked into the

soil, with the proper preparation, these miniature roses in the garden could be in place for many years to come. After the plants are put in place, make sure they have plenty of space in between for good air circulation. Don't let the soil dry out. Add some mulch, chopped up old leaves work great. Never allow the mulch to touch the plants, could cause rot. Very little pruning needs to be done on miniatures, only a small amount to shape the plant from time to time. If you should have a severe winter, give them plenty of time to show new growth, and lots of water.

Don't give up because Miniature Roses won't give up, they will keep on growing with a little love. Bargain roses from the grocery store are just waiting to be taken home. Take a chance.

2023 – 2025 WSFGC TREX Bench Challenge – Final Comments/Results

Black Hills District – Earned Two Benches

“It has been a wonderful learning experience. My garden club members still collect plastic and recycle at local grocery stores or Home Depot. We will continue this endeavor for the 2025-2027 term. Like many of us, we are now more aware of microplastics in our lives. I personally have moved to glass containers for food, silicon safe serving utensils and included bamboo and wooden spoons. Wood cutting boards, etc. I also save beans, rice, etc. in glass jars — make yogurt and again put it in glass containers. “

—Donna Armitage, President, Friendly Flower GC (former)

Continuing to recycle plastic, either individually, through group TREX efforts or through Ridwell.

Chinook District – Earned One Bench

Chinook District completed the collection challenge in April 2024. Maple Trails GC plans to place it at Shadow Lake Nature Preserve. A total of 1,000+ pounds was collected. “Thank you, Jackie, for all you did to promote this program.”

—Penny Merriman, Director, Chinook District (former)

Cross Sound District – Earned One Bench

In the last year between Cross Sound District and two spinoffs collected approximately 2,200 pounds of polyethylene! Our other clubs continue

to collect plastic, passing on to Long Lake GC.

East Lake Washington

Linda White and member MaryLee are club contacts and have reached out for information as they begin researching the process.

“Yes, ditto on that statement Penny, Jackie has done a wonderful job.”

—Linda White, Director, East Lake Washington District (former)

Hill and Dale – Earned One Bench

Completed their challenge with 1,000 pounds, donating an additional 400 pounds to another district's clubs.

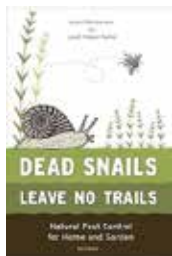
Oak Harbor

Thanks, Jackie, for being so helpful. The Oak Harbor GC got off to such a good start. We moved up our date to April 1 and have already logged in 150 pounds and expect no problem hitting 1,000 pounds in a year. Unfortunately, we won't be a member of the WSFGC next year as there is such uncertainty about where clubs at large are going, but we will keep doing the Challenge.

—Kathy Chalfant, President, Oak Harbor GC

Jackie McCoy, Chairman – Thank you, Suzann, for the opportunity to make a difference with this project statewide! It has been a pleasure meeting and working with WSFGC gardeners/recyclers throughout the state, both helping and learning along the way. Remember: “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!”

BOOK REVIEWS



Dead Snails Leave No Trails
Natural Pest Control for Home and Garden
Loren Nancarrow and Janet Hogan Taylor
2013 Ten Speed Press
\$12.99 paperback

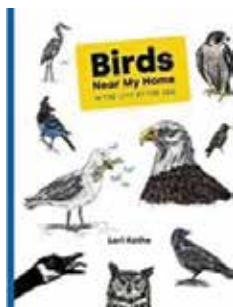
This should be a book that all gardeners have at home as a reference. The authors are very informative about all the bugs living in your garden—both pesky and beneficial. Your goal is to consider how nature seeks balance; infestations most often happen when that balance is upset (using chemical pesticides) allowing a single harmful species to grow out of control. There are natural pest recipes, beneficial plants to grow together, and what to do about those four-legged intruders?



Wildflowers & Native Plants
Step-by-Step Successful Gardening
Peter Loewer
1995 Better Homes and Gardens Books
\$16.95 hard spiral bound

This book is very good to describe planting wildflower type plants in your small or large meadow. Many tips, including removing lawn grass, matching soil to plants, seed growing, and transplanting. It has been organized into knowing about wildflowers, designing your garden, planting and propagating, and then caring for your wildflower garden meadow. An extensive plant list at end with color pictures, time of bloom, hardiness, and other growing conditions. Maybe you could take out some lawn for a meadow?

Two kids books given to me by a self-published author:



Birds Near My Home
In The City By The Sea
Lori Kothe
2025 kcreate-books.com
\$12.00 Hard-bound

An all-ages picture storybook the author has cleverly written with an illustration of each bird with a poem, the sounds they make, a fun fact and a link to a resource. It will be a great book to give your child, and you will enjoy it too. You will be able to point out all these birds as you have hikes around your area.



Oh Poo! A Cautionary Tale
Lori Kothe
2020 kcreate-books.com
\$24.00 Paperback
The for all ages illustrated story of a young boy who walks his dog and leaves the poo behind. What surprising consequences will you find out?

Join the poogooder.com movement to help our community be healthier.

More Dandelion Information

In addition to being an early spring nectar source for bees and other insects, the dandelion has many herbal uses as in teas, tinctures, and salads.

Rabbits love the blooms as a food source. See healthline.com/dandelion for more information.



EVENTS

- July 31-August 3 **An NGC Flower Show “Strut Your Stuff”** presented by Black Hills District Garden Club during the Thurston County Fair “Disco Dave” at the Thurston County Fairgrounds Expo Center, 3054 Carpenter Rd., Lacey, WA
- August 7-10 **Pierce County Fair, “Blue Jeans and Country Dreams” Flower Show, Floral Building** sponsored by Hill & Dale District
- September 10-11 **WSFGC Fall Board Meeting** - Spokane, WA--Northern Quest Resort & Casino, 100 N Hayford Rd, Airway Heights, WA (Deadline for Special Hotel Rates - August 8) (For more information check the WSFGC website under Events.) (*wagarden-clubs.com/event-calendar*)
- September 23 **NGC Flower Show and Hill & Dale District Meeting**, Dryer Masonic Center, Tacoma, WA
- October 10 **Black Hills District General Meeting & Luncheon**, and NGC Standard Flower Show, Thurston County Fairgrounds, Sokolik Building, 3054 Carpenter Rd SE, Lacey, WA

BY LANA FINEGOLD

POETRY CORNER

Just Say “Yes”

Dedication, motivation.....do these things exist right now?
Covid changed us, rearranged us, please say “Yes” and make a vow.

Help your group to be successful, surely you have minds that grow.
Be a leader, garden weeder, nature nurtures us, and so.....

Keep on bending, pulling weeds. Gardening feeds our soul and needs.
New beginnings, we are winning. Learning, growing, that’s our thing.

Saying “Yes” may save your troop.....just say “Yes,” support your group!

BLUE STAR MARKER

Photos courtesy of Cherry Pedrick

An unveiling of a new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker was held on Saturday, May 17, 2025, outside Tim's Pharmacy in Yelm, Washington. The re-dedication included community leaders, a local pastor, state and local garden club board members and the owner and store manager of Tim's Pharmacy.

The original marker was installed at the same location in 1991 by the now defunct Lake Lawrence Garden Club; however, the marker went missing after landscape renovations were made to the pharmacy garden some years later. The Black Hills District of Garden Clubs collaborated with the current owner of Tim's Pharmacy, Will Quinby, in the re-beautification of the street corner that includes the new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker. Two additional plaques were placed to commemorate the Lake Lawrence Garden Club



and the other stating the new marker was donated by Tim's Pharmacy.

WSFGC chairman for the Blue Star & Gold Star Memorial Marker Program, Judy Swortz, recognized the large military community in Yelm. "They are our friends; they are our neighbors. They are our future and our present and, of course, our past, because we have such a long history here, (a) very long history of the military presence in this area."

Dee Smith, chairman for the Black Hills District of Garden Clubs Blue Star Program, noted that "Most of the people in Yelm understand how important the military is to their city, both in protecting the country and the city. They are our neighbors, they live here, they shop here, and a lot of the military who get stationed at JBLM (Joint Base Lewis-McChord) end up retiring here."

After the official unveiling by Tim's Pharmacy owner, Will Quinby and manager Joel Sponton, Yelm City Mayor Joe DePinto accepted the marker on behalf of the Yelm's veterans. Mayor DePinto noted, "The marker was once lost, now finds its rightful place again, reminding us of all the sacrifices made our military."

Other notable attendees included J.W. Foster, former Mayor of Yelm, and current mayoral candidate, Yelm City Councilmember Joshua Crossman and Dorrie Carr, then WSFGC incoming president.

—Chris Hill,
Managing Editor, WSFGC Website



From left to right, Yelm Mayor Joe DePinto, Black Hills District of GC Blue Star Program chairman, Dee Smith; Pharmacy Manager, Joel Sponton, (then) WSFGC Incoming President, Dorrie Carr; Tim's Pharmacy Owner, Will Quinby; WSFGC Chairman for the Blue Star & Gold Star Markers, Judy Swortz and Pastor Georgie Brown of Living Water Church in Yelm.



Tim's Pharmacy owner, Will Quinby and Manager, Joel Sponton unveil the new Blue Star By-Way Marker

WASHINGTON Garden & Design

FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Garden Club Members!

Why gardening? I started thinking about what it was that got me interested in gardening when I read the editorial comments in one of my gardening magazines.

As a child, I probably didn't like gardening very much. Although my parents had a garden, growing all the family's vegetables and even some fruit trees seemed a lot of work. We were always told to go pull the weeds from this or that bed. In those days we (children) didn't appreciate the advantages of growing and preserving (canning) our own food. It really wasn't until many years later; after generally just buying fruits and vegetables in the stores, did I come to love and appreciate our home-grown vegetables. But just being exposed to gardening at an early age made it easier to start the hobby as a middle-aged adult.

Let me take this opportunity to thank all of you who help to get this newsletter / magazine published. The publication award from the Pacific Region Garden Clubs wouldn't have happened without your diligence.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing directors and presidents and those of you who are staying for another term for your support of the magazine by providing interesting stories and photos of the activities of your districts and clubs. Welcome, also to all the new directors and presidents. Looking forward to another successful two years.

Happy summer!

Veronika Dunnam
Managing Editor

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Member of Pacific Region and National Garden
Clubs, Inc.*

Editorial Staff

Managing Editor

Veronika Dunnam, vdunnam1950@gmail.com

Production Editor

Shawna Murphy, shawnamurphy@comcast.net

Proofreaders

Debbie Angel, debbielangel@gmail.com

Judith Juno, jjuno@frontier.com

Marva Lee Peterschick,

davidpeterschick@hotmail.com

Logistics

Advertising Coordinator

Judy Swortz, judydwortz@comcast.net

Calendar of Events

Information and dates to

Veronika Dunnam, vdunnam1950@gmail.com

Department Editors

Birds

Ann Kronenwetter, CKRON44@msn.com

Book Reviews

Christine Dillinger, Teenie.Dillinger@gmail.com

Design

Debbie Spiller, dunespill@gmail.com

Horticulture, Guest Writer

Marva Lee Peterschick,

davidpeterschick@hotmail.com

Contributors

Debbie Angel, Dorrie Carr, Terry Critchlow,

Lana Finegold, Chris Hill, Kathy Johnson,

Linda Maida, Teresa Martin, Jackie McCoy,

Linda Pempeck, Jeanette Pruin, Lori Robinson,

Marion Svendsen, Brynn Tavasci

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WSFGC 2025 Board Meeting Schedule

Status as of 1/1/2025 - More details will be announced

Mark your Calendar and plan to join in the FUN!

<u>2025</u>			
September 10-11 Fall Board Meeting	Spokane, WA	Northern Quest Resort & Casino 100 N. Hayford Rd, Airway Heights, WA	Central District



OUR MISSION:

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

Fall Deadline: September 1

All electronic articles

should be e-mailed to

Managing Editor

Veronika Dunnam,

vdunnam1950@gmail.com.

Annual Submission Reminder

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