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WASHINGTON STATE FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS

PROMOTING...

WASHINGTON Garden & Design



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PRESIDENT'S DESK

*Nurture People – Nurture Plants –
Nurture Our Planet*



Happy New Year!

It's January, and winter has certainly arrived in the Pacific Northwest. It seems a long way off before I'll see my beautiful lilies in bloom again, but winter gardens also have their own beauty. Flowering kale, pansies, rose hips and colorful berries on trees and shrubs change the landscape but fill in the gap a little bit. Soon we'll see the fall bulbs start to reveal themselves in all their splendor!

The Stargazer Lily is another of my favorites. Easy to grow, Stargazers are like Hollywood celebrities in my garden. Their size and colors make a striking display in the garden, and their strong fragrance can be enjoyed a good distance away. They produce equally well in a pot and can be a lovely addition to your deck or patio.

A successful WSFGC Winter Board meeting was held in Sequim November 14–15. Many thanks to Linda Wells, District Director of the Olympic Peninsula District, and her members for hosting us. We enjoyed visits to two different nurseries, Dungeness Nursery and Friendly Natives Plants. Dungeness Nursery handed out **free** Cyclamen and other winter flowers, as well as donated a huge basket of items which were given to members in a drawing. After the nursery visits, we returned to 7 Cedars Casino to a very fun activity led by district volunteers. We made sock "snowmen," and they were adorable. If you haven't seen it yet, check out the picture on the website home page. Another of the highlights of the day was a presentation after dinner by Discovery Bay Wild Bird Rescue volunteers. If you want to learn more about their important work, go to the WSFGC website home page. Chris Hill has posted some great pictures!

Our state Committees completed some good work during the meeting. District Directors and CALs, Judges Council, Budget, Policy & Procedure, Organization Study and June 2024 Planning Committees met. These meetings took place in one room, one after the other, which provided other attendees with the opportunity to sit in and observe what goes on during these meetings. This is a practice I intend to include in all the Board meetings during my term. I believe this transparency is important to our sustainability.

Our calendars are full of activities over the next few months! The March Board of Directors meeting will be on Zoom but there are many other opportunities to learn, collaborate and network with other members. Take the time to check the list in the newsletter. Among calendar items you'll see the dates of the monthly Executive Committee and "Get Connected with Presidents" Zoom meetings. In addition to the Committee meetings, other members are welcome to sit in on these Zoom meetings. Be sure to send me an email ahead of time so I can give you the link.

SAVE THE DATE – On the evening of June 9, 2024, we will celebrate the culmination of 90 years as a Federation! This will be during the Annual Meeting and State Flower Show, "Our Extraordinary Earth" which will run from June 9–11. More information is provided in this publication. We hope to see you there!

With warm regards,
Suzann Stahl, WSFGC President 2023-2025
Suzannstahl1@gmail.com

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JAN FEB MAR

Volume 49, Number 3

On the Cover



Photo by Suzann Stahl

Lilium 'Stargazer'

Height: 3-7 feet

Blooms: July-August

Part to full sun

Oriental Lily 'Stargazer' has large fragrant flowers with deep pink stripes and speckles giving the flower the look of stars in the sky. A classic beauty. Oriental lilies enjoy full to part sun in compost enriched acidic garden soil and are cold hardy in Zones 3-9.



The 2024 NGC Convention is June 2–5, 2024, at the Westin Westminster Hotel, Denver, Colorado. Registration and information are posted on the

NGC website <http://www.gardenclub.org>. Please make room reservations early. Anyone and everyone are invited to attend an NGC Convention!

Our National President, Brenda Moore, has asked us to promote the NGC President's projects for 2023–2025: PLANT AMERICA, FEED AMERICA, National Garden Clubs, Inc.; PLANT AMERICA – PLANT FOR POLLINATORS, National Garden Clubs, Inc.; PLANT AMERICA – LANDSCAPE FOR WILDLIFE at <https://gardenclub.org/plant-america-wildlife-habitat-certification-program>. Members,

please take a few minutes to familiarize yourselves with these wonderful programs and consider incorporating them in your meeting planning.

Are you aware of the youth books offered by National Garden Clubs? Donating books to local libraries and schools is an excellent way to get the word out about NGC to the next generation. Shop NGC Products at National Garden Clubs, Inc.

NGC is kicking off a fund-raising campaign – Pathway to Success. Funds will be raised to create a walkway around the NGC property and connect to the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis. Pavers and tiles will be available for purchase.

Peruse the National Garden Clubs website for more information about these as well as upcoming Schools, NGC programs, blogs, videos and more! www.gardenclub.org

—Suzann Stahl,
WSFGC President

Saving Forests \$68 at a Time

Most of you reading this are already aware that with the US Forest Service, WSFGC participates in a very meaningful and practical conservation project, Penny Pines. Every contribution of \$68 helps to cover costs of planting replacement trees indigenous to a particular damaged area. Whether by fire or by other natural catastrophe, pine trees and other trees are replaced. It's a wonderful program that helps to bring our forested areas back to life.

Did you know that your club can designate a specific state you wish to benefit from your contribution? That your \$68.00 donation can be made in honor or memory of an individu-

al or organization? And that it's not just a single tree but a plantation!

Over the next two years, we'll be working to increase awareness and participation of this program. In the first quarter of 2024, I will be working closely with WSFGC President Suzann Stahl, and we will roll out specific goals and will encourage all WSFGC members to participate.

(And if your club's Penny Pines jar is already full, I encourage you to use the following online link: <https://sparksmilling.wufoo.com/forms/zp-krpko0f3i5r5/>)

—Julie Darby,
WSFGC Penny Pines Chairman

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

Friendly Flower Garden Club members used both their hands and their minds at our Christmas party.

Jean Whipple taught us how to weave Christmas ornaments from wheat, and then we used our minds to answer the Christmas song quiz. Laurie Brooks entertained us with the reading of *A Cup of Christmas Tea*.

Christmas crackers with hats, candy, and jokes, centerpiece houses with angels were won in a dice roll. Our wonderful potluck lunch gave us energy to continue. Reciting *"The Night*

before Christmas revised" with added left and right directions got all our regifted presents into new hands.

Our finale was the gift of our planting project for the coming year. Everyone received a package of bulbs which could be grown in a pot or in the ground. Included was *Allium karataviense* which is the only allium that does well in a pot (or ground), *Triteleia 'Rudy'* and *Ornithogalum balan-sae*."

—Donna Armitage,
President, Friendly Flower GC



Dita Hanson holding up finished ornament.

Photo by Cherry Pedrick

Des Moines Garden Club Community Wreath Workshop

The Des Moines Garden Club continued their annual free community event making wreaths and swags on November 18, 2023. Local residents and new club members came to make their own wreaths with all the provided supplies. A pile of circles of kiwi vines or wire ones, lots of pruned evergreens, pinecones and bows of ribbon filled the room with fun and laughter. Club members showed how to do it and everyone's creativity showed up in the beautiful creations.

—Teenie Dillinger,
President, Des Moines GC



Members of Des Moines GC

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

Photos courtesy of Kathryn Bearden and Carrie Asselin

Nutcracker Sweet

Sometimes a district just has to let their hair down and put their nutcrackers up. Chinook District did just that with our “Nutcracker Sweet” luncheon on December 6, 2023, at Grace Lutheran Church in Des Moines. Tables were decorated by attendees and very festive indeed. A People’s Choice vote was taken to honor the loveliest of tables (a tie!) and themed tables were also chosen as well. Our Designers Guild provided beautiful designs for the silent auction, and clubs provided generous baskets for the ticket drawing, always a popular feature.

Our talented chefs included Frankie June (caterer), Heather DeFaccio, Dorothy Weaver, and Erin Gregory, who served Chicken Marsala with mushrooms, long grain and wild rice, “Frankie’s Signature Salad,” and vegetable lasagna. The “yum’s” could be heard around the room. The clubs provided a wide and decadent variety of desserts, all fitting to the theme.

Entertainment was a series of skits titled “Nutcracker Sweet,” where “all types of sweets come to compete for garden club’s title of favorite nutcracker treat.” District Director Penny Merriman, Linda Haas, Laura Curnan, Maxine Ranta, Carrie Asselin, Nancy Riedel, Teenie Dillinger, Jeanne Buchanan, Fay Lewis, Lisa Adsero, Jill Cooke, Anna Butler, Judy McDonald, Connie Keen, Debbie Angel, Susan Nash, Marilyn Cooper, Barb Purdey, and Tory Bennett all donned costumes created with mostly recycled materials to show



Nutcracker Actors in Costume

how much lighthearted fun could be had when joy and friendship are the words of the day. Script writer and costumer Brynn Tavasci narrated.

Please enjoy some photos of the event, including winning tables and talented actors. Thank you to all who attended. It was lovely to see guests from other districts. Having a sense of humor and a desire to share in the fun is the sweetest of all treats.

—Brynn Tavasci, Chinook District



Floral Delight



Snowy Sweetness



Elegance



Nuttiest



People's Choice



People's Choice Nutcracker



Peppermint Cone Tree

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

Marine Hills Garden Club Supports New School Garden

In 2023, the Marine Hills Garden Club in Federal Way, Washington, sponsored a new garden at Meredith Hill Elementary School. With the help of a monetary grant from the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs and a tool grant from Ames Tools, Marine Hills GC added funds and provided additional plants for the new garden.

The purpose of the garden is to enhance STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) learning at Meredith Hill Elementary School. Through active participation and lessons, students learn first-hand where their food comes from, its health benefits, and how to care for a variety of plants that support people and local wildlife. Students learn about the importance of the environment and pollinators.

The new garden was built on a parking lot and adjoining land. Four sizable, raised beds are the centerpiece of the garden. Native plants are featured in the surrounding area. The garden emphasizes edible plantings and plants that attract and support pollinators, especially native plants.

Members of Marine Hills GC gave advice on appropriate native and pollinator plants, provided plant starts, and helped with garden prep and planting. The club provided funding from our treasury to supplement grant funds and tools. The PTA donated additional funds for the garden and a garden shed. Students, families, and PTA members built the garden.

Timeline:

In March we broke ground on the school garden, removing sod and laying down landscaping fabric. We also built the shed during this time, and started the garden club who grew the seeds provided by the Federal Way School District. Next came the wood chips. We built raised beds in April, and got tools from the Federal Way School District. We got logs in May to fill the bottom of the raised beds, and soil from Carpinito Brothers, in addition to tools from the AMES tool grant. In June, garden clubs with grades 2–3 and 4–5, planted the starts provided by Federal Way School District, Marine Hills GC, and those additional plants purchased through Johnsons Home and Garden.

—*Debbie Angel*,
Immediate Past President,
Marine Hills GC

Before pictures below:





Photographs courtesy of Angela Wooten, Meredith Hill Elementary School, Federal Way Public Schools.

During preparation:



Children at work in the garden:



DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

Photos: Becky Westby

Evergreen Garden Club/Cross Sound District

As the cooler temperatures and rainy days heralded the end of summer, the Evergreen Garden Club of Belfair, WA rapidly geared up for this year's activities. The club held a very successful Fall Plant Sale on October 7 under sunny skies. Club members took full advantage of the gorgeous weather and raised over \$2,500 for the club's community service projects, including scholarships for local high school seniors. On October 26, EGC sponsored "Autumn Joy," a creative gardening workshop attended by district members, with help from the Washington Federation of Garden Clubs. In addition to crafting sessions, the keynote speaker was Brynn Tavasci who is well-known in the gardening world for her eye and enthusiasm for using recycled materials in crafts, gardens, and art.

Prior to Veteran's Day, members cleaned grave markers and pruned shrubs at the Twin Firs Cemetery in Belfair. Club members also prepared the Blue Star Marker Garden (next to Dairy Queen in Belfair) for winter and planted several dozen daffodil bulbs to add more color to the spring display. Then, on November 10, we celebrated Veteran's Day by adorning the Blue Star Marker with beautiful handmade wreaths in honor of local veterans. A new flag was donated to the Blue Star Garden by the North Mason Kiwanis, who also hosted a special flag ceremony for the community. A special

thank you to the North Mason Kiwanis, and Boy Scout Troop Big 19 under the leadership of Scoutmaster Spencer Pruitt for lowering/raising the colors and all the veterans who participated in such a meaningful program.

Once again, the Evergreen Garden Club is joining the other garden clubs of the Cross Sound District in a year-long project to collect over 1,000 pounds of polyethylene (plastic) refuse (about 90,000 plastic bags) for the Trex Community Challenge. (In 2021-22, the clubs completed a similar challenge and presented the high-quality Trex garden bench they earned to the Washington Veterans Home in Port Orchard.) According to chairman Violet Luce,



Brynn Tavasci



Pumpkin Sedum Creations



polyethylene materials are not normally accepted in curbside programs because they can get caught in the machines that sort other valuable recyclables like paper, cans, and bottles. So, the garden clubs will collect, weigh, and deliver clean, dry, and stretchable plastics that are free of food residue to the local participating drop sites; the Trex company will use those plastics to make premium composite decking. We are hoping to again earn a beautiful garden bench to share with local residents.

That brings us to December, and our annual “Swag Making Workshop.” This is the day our club members work together to create approximately 60 evergreen swags for delivery to local senior facilities. Making all those swags is a messy process and it takes time (picture a 30’x50’ pole building filled with piles of fresh greenery, bolts of ribbons,

and on average about 30 women wielding clippers and florist wire) but it is our way of making the holidays special for local shut-ins who are often alone at this time of year.

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, our monthly meetings are on the third Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the North Mason Bible Church.

—Geri MacArthur,
Member Evergreen GC



Wreath Making

All three clubs in Cross Sound District have grown membership since September. Long Lake is often out in public events, they participated in Oktoberfest in Manchester where they helped children make leaf prints. They decorated a Christmas tree with hand-made gnomes in a competition on the main street in Port Orchard.

Evergreen Garden Club held a Creative Workshop “Autumn Joy” with a WSFGC grant; Brynn Tavasci was the featured speaker. Forty members from the district attended “a fun day of making Pumpkin Centerpieces and other crafts.” They also hosted a ceremony at the Belfair Blue Star Memorial replacing the flag and placing a wreath in honor of

Veterans Day. Central Valley Garden Club celebrated their 75 Year Anniversary (Organized November 2, 1948.) They had tote bags made with a new logo. The club hosted our November district meeting where members displayed holiday décor and tabletop arrangements. Tara Keen from Olympia gave a very informative program on Keystone Plants for Pollinators.



—Joyia Rubens, District Director,
Cross Sound District

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

FALL in Love with Flower Shows, an NGC Standard Flower Show, sponsored by East Lake Washington District was held on September 23 and 24, 2023, at the beautiful Bellevue Botanical Garden in Bellevue, Washington in the Education Center. This free public garden welcomed 425,000 guests in 2022. This location gave us an opportunity to expose a wide range of people, local and out of the area, to NGC, WSFGC, and our District Clubs to Flower Shows and their inspiration, beauty, and creativity.

Our *Fall in Love* theme was evident throughout the show in the schedule cover, staging, and entry titles. Signs inside and outside, our standing division signs, section and class cards reflected the theme.

Here is a brief trip through our show: after walking by outdoor signs and a banner with cornstalks, pumpkins, and mums, guests were welcomed in a decorated festive entry hall. The guest registry, floral arrangements, more fall plant displays, garden club brochures, and smiling faces of ELWD directed guests to the large show area. Once inside, guests were treated to the Horticulture tables with the title "Fall Treasures" laden with 119 exhibits. They included Dahlia, Cut Perennials, Fruits, Herbs and Veggies, Hydrangea, Container-Grown Plants, and "Autumn Grandeur" which included shrubs and trees.

The Design Division impressed with the theme "Fall Fantasy," it included appropriate tables and pedestals. The Petite Designs were called "Tiny Treasures." A Creative Advanced Design class was called "Fall

Focus." Table Design classes were called "Cornucopia," and included a spooky class titled "Dining at Draculas." The exhibition tables intrigued guests.

There were two educational exhibits, "Fall in Love with Bellevue Botanical Gardens," and "Fall in Love with Garden Club."

To make you smile, the youth section theme was "Pumpkin Patch" along with fun and clever Artistic Crafts called "Autumn Inspirations." It included cards, baskets and hats. Photography was included with the theme "Fall Memories" with classes "Fall Landscapes," "Wildlife," and "Harvest Photos." All of the exhibits entertained our guests and posed some difficult choices for the judges to just pick one first place winner.

Bulletin boards covered with large garden flags, "Join Garden Clubs" poster and banners, an "Art of Garden Club" display, and a Smokey Bear 80th Birthday table added ambience to the room.

More than 430 guests signed in, with others coming in the back door. Viewers asked questions and had many thank yous, positive comments and some even asked, "When are you doing this again?" Mission accomplished!

Thank you to our Flower Show Committee, participating club members, invited guests, judges, everyone who visited the show and the Bellevue Botanical Garden. Without the help of all these people, the show would not have been a success.

—Linda White, Director, ELWA District and Show Chairman

NOTE: Photos of the winning entries are displayed in the FLOWER SHOW section on page 25.

Greater Seattle District of Garden Clubs



Hi, My Name is Mitch Grospe. I have been the Greater Seattle's District Director for the past two years and I'm happy to say I will

continue on for another term. Our District spans I-5 from Des Moines to Lynnwood. Currently we have six clubs that form Greater Seattle District. We welcome new members and groups that want to join our district. People who like plants, gardeners, Master Gardeners, arborists or friends of plant lovers, there's a place

here where one could learn from seeds to fruit. Our district meets four months out of the year. Flower Shows, short programs and informative speakers round out each meeting. Each club has a variety of activities from horticulture education, civic projects to plant sales, private/public garden tours. Come, learn, and share your experiences.

—Mitch Grospe,
District Director, Greater Seattle



Creating a Pollinator-Friendly Native Garden

In October, shovels finally felt the dirt as Root and Bloom Garden Club in the Hill and Dale District planted a new pollinator-friendly native garden. The space is small, but we think the impact will be large. In 2019, a member suggested that the club rehabilitate the neglected garden at the front door of the Pierce County Library at South Hill. Many meetings, written proposals, and an official Memorandum of Understanding between the club and library system were required. Then, before we could plant, Covid shut the library for two years. In 2023, we dusted off the proposal, designed a native-focused planting plan and secured a grant from WSFGC to buy plants. We prepared the bed by adding compost, covering it with recycled cardboard and bark nuggets and planted it with 55 native plants of 24 species. The library gained a more welcoming entry, and the club and library are cooperatively working on plans for children's workshops, handouts, and new interpretive signage in 2024.

—Cindy Swanberg, Member Root and Bloom GC

Photos Cindy Swanberg



The club removes old soil in preparation for compost.



Fifty-five native pollinator plants were added in October.

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

Photos by Carol Woodard

The Nordland Garden Club has been busy with their “live fence” project on the garden club grounds with the assistance of a grant from Meerkerk Gardens. We had water hydrants installed, a berm built up under a row of skirted trees and 15 rhododendrons with four hydrangeas planted on the berm to create a flowering live fence from February through September. Huge thanks to Ellie from Whitney Gardens who personally came out to oversee the planting to help us achieve this goal.

Our annual “Wreath and Swag” fundraiser ran from November 13 through November 20 with over 500 items completed. The members all gathered in the clubhouse to fill custom orders and make wonderful traditional “wreaths and swags” while enjoying homemade soup, bread, and desserts. We had the wreaths displayed on racks for the customers to come in and pick out their



Completed with bark

favorites, as well as custom-ordered wreaths.

Our plant sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the Nordland Garden Club (320 Garden Club Rd, Nordland, WA), so please SAVE THE DATE to join us.

—Carol Woodard,
President, Nordland Garden Club





Carol Self with Locks and Keys Wreath



Andrea Lawson with her first swag; in background Colleen Ebken after completing a ten wreath order.

BEE INSPIRED

I would like you to BEE inspired as I am inspired by the bees on my Sedum 'Autumn Joy.' They remind me of us in many ways. They have a queen who guides and leads the hive to be productive. Without her, the hive would wither and die. Thank you, Suzann. There are many worker bees, that's us, who work at many different jobs. There are drones, worker bees, house bees, guard bees and foragers. They actually work their way up through the different jobs much the way we do. They become successful at a job and then move on to the next one. We also tend to take a small job and after being successful, we move on to something requiring a little more effort, a little more work. Everything the bees do, they do for the benefit of the hive, much as we work for the benefit of our club, district, and state. They

have individual areas where they work. That's our individual clubs. They strive to make their whole hive productive, full of honey, pollen, and bee glue. This would be our districts. Instead of making honey, we work to educate members and the public, and we make money to be donated to good causes. I see bees doing a dance to let their sisters know where the best pollen and nectar can be found, and that's us at our meetings and conventions as we learn from our fellow members how to grow the best plants and how to make the most beautiful arrangements. So, BEE inspired and go out and produce your own 'honey.'

Author: *Marti Bolcer*
Former Director ELWD
Edited by *Gale Baullinger*

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

PAGC: We're not your Grandmother's Garden Club

It happened gradually, almost without us noticing.

Port Angeles Garden Club began as a design and horticulture group, and we enjoyed floral arranging, learning about gardening in the Pacific Northwest, sharing our knowledge and visiting with like-minded friends at garden club meetings. And potlucks. Lots and lots of potlucks. But over the years, some things changed. We began to focus more on our fundraising efforts. PAGC wanted to give scholarships. We needed income for granting to local non-profits that might need a boost. We even helped a sister garden club when they were struggling. Over the years, many organizations benefited from PAGC fundraising.

PAGC members have really opened up to the realities of life on the North Olympic Peninsula. Living in an (imperfect) Eden as we do, the not-so-sudden realization hit us: We are all part of nature, so let's treat our world with more care and kindness! Hardworking gardeners in PAGC sponsor a section of the Olympic Discovery Trail for all to use. We care for a waterfront garden downtown. We invited a local beekeeper to speak to us about caring for our native bees. And so much more! Some of our members got together and revived StreamFest, a much-loved celebration of our waters, wildlife, and other natural resources. And StreamFest was (and continues to be) very good. Money is raised, then given away.

Now, change gears and think holiday wreaths. PAGC's biggest yearly



Photo by Laura Kriese

Natural Wreath

fundraiser: Can we bring nature more into it?

You may know where this is headed: Why don't we make more wreaths decorated with natural materials? Sure, glitter and shiny bows and baubles are lots of fun to decorate as well as to admire, but beautiful, natural decorations are everywhere you look on the Olympic Peninsula! Maybe it's time for a move toward using these materials. What if we make more wreaths with these treasures? Would people like them? First a few, then a dozen. Soon it became a trend. Whoa. People love the naturally decorated wreaths. This year, we had orders for and made 81 wreaths just with nature's gifts (and some very talented designers). Our idea is a success!

Look at the picture above. Nothing on this wreath is artificial, painted or dyed. I would certainly hang it proudly on my door! In fact, I did. What do you think of it? Lively,



colorful, and interesting, this wreath is decorated with the craziest stuff. Mosses, lichens, (my personal favorite, frog pelt: look it up), dried flowers, grasses, mushrooms, tree bark, dried fruits, seedpods, all manner of things members found around the area.

We've got a committee to research the best ways to preserve matter so that next year, we'll have even more. There is seemingly no end to the supply of dried plant parts, and our customers are enchanted by the results.

As usual, PAGC members make sure to work hard while having fun!
 —Teresa Martin,
 Co-President, Port Angeles GC

I'm not a fan of ridicule,
 I do not use it as a tool
 Sarcastic comments I despise,
 Kind words work well.
 So please be nice.
 —Lana Finegold

Advertise your next district or club event in your magazine, *Washington Garden & Design*. Download information from wagardenclubs.com or from your *WSFGC Program and Meeting Guide*. There is no charge for 1/4 page ads from districts, clubs, or judges' councils or other affiliated organizations.

Plant Sale

SAVE THE DATE

Hill and Dale District
 Plant Sale

Saturday, April 27, 2024
9am – 2pm

United Methodist Church
 1919 West Pioneer, Puyallup

DISTRICT/CLUB NEWS

Photos by Angela George.

The Tri-Area Garden Club has been busy this Fall. Tours in and around the Olympic Peninsula have included Wilderbee Farm in Port Townsend to enjoy the last of the dahlias and purchase fall pumpkins, and Bainbridge Gardens for wreath making. In December, we toured the W.W. Seymour Botanical Conservatory and Chihuly Bridge of Glass in Tacoma.

Several members attended the State Board Meeting in Sequim. Our talented group of Designing Ladies created the fantastic fall centerpieces for the dinner which were then raffled as door prizes.

As always, we are busy dividing and propagating plants for our plant sale in May. Our club has found over the years that plants divided in the fall look so much better by May. We have a new club Website Chairman this year. Joyce Fell has designed the site and is constantly updating it and adding content. One recent addition was to add photos of each member with first names only. Our club is growing, and it makes it easier for new members to put a name with a face.

Our Yearbook Chairman, Angela George, has worked with a local printer to design a logo to be embroidered on vests and aprons which we will wear on tours, workdays and during our plant sale.

We have started plans to create pollinator friendly areas around the community center which is our club's home. We will have monthly workdays to trim trees, freshen up flower boxes, and sow wildflower seeds. In November, we added 100

new bulbs to the 600 daffodils we planted last year. In late summer, we had an Award application meeting to discuss any awards we were eligible to apply for this year and to plan for the future. We were able to apply for three by the December 1 deadline. We were also able to compile a list of goals for 2024. Wildflowers and pollinators work perfectly with our community center plans. We also plan to work on a written history of our club during the cold months of winter. Although we always participate in Arbor Day, we have discussed making some changes to our planting schedule. The summers here are so dry that we are considering planting in the fall and simply having a dedication on Arbor Day. This past year the water system failed during the hot summer months at the site of our Arbor Day planting and by the time it was discovered, our little tree had died.

Our collection of change to be contributed to Penny Pines continues to grow and a collection jar is passed around at every meeting. We were able to contribute to our first tree and are more than halfway to paying for one more.

We have had a fun 2023 and are looking forward to 2024. Happy New Year!

—*Maribeth Lynch*,
Co-President, Tri-Area GC



Clockwise: Centerpiece, Wilderbe Farm, Port Townsend Farm, Wreath Making and Club Members



SCHOLARSHIPS

Although Chuckanut District went inactive in June 2019, the Chuckanut District of the WSFGC Scholarship Fund at Western Washington University, College of the Environment was established with its completion of \$25,000 in 2022. It is their longest scholarship, originally begun in 1970 as the Mary Ruggles Chuckanut District Scholarship, the year after the College of the Environment was established. Gerry Douglas and Judith Juno helped complete this endowment along with generous donations from Tulip Valley GC, Oak Harbor GC, and individuals. Additional donations to this scholarship will make larger scholarships possible.

The first scholarship in perpetuity of \$2,000 was awarded in 2023 to Keegan Curry, an Urban Planning major with a non-traditional route to his Bachelor of Arts degree.

He earned his GED while working full-time at the age of 16 and worked a variety of jobs. He returned to school at the age of 23 to complete an AA degree and explore subjects that led him to think deeply about the world's environmental problems, specifically, those fueled by systemic inequalities and anthropogenic climate change.

After he finished his AA degree, his interest in urban planning began while living abroad in Munich, Germany. While visiting European cities he was struck by the differences in comparison to the U.S. He found that many answers lay in urban planning with deliberate choices made about how places were utilized that led to their outcomes of accessibility, walkability, and livability. He studied urban planning in the Spatial Planning and Design program at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. This deepened his understanding of how the physical layout and regulatory landscape of the

urban environment can lead to outcomes that serve its population for better or worse. He began to see how culturally centered planning is and decided to complete his education where he would most likely end up working.

He and his wife moved back to the United States, choosing Bellingham and WWU's Urban Planning and Sustainable Development program in the College of the Environment. He works as Operations Manager at Gardenview Tiny House Village, a temporary housing shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness, often seniors living on SSI or citizens disabled and unable to work, society's most vulnerable although not the only ones affected.

There are pathways to success for realigning the urban environment to adapt to the needs of the time to address the housing crisis, climate change, stresses on resource lands, urban inequality, and many others. He hopes to be a small part of this shift, working to reduce the pressures everyday folks feel which are influenced by where they live, work, and recreate. He feels drawn most towards work in housing as he sees the moral imperative is to reverse the trend of unaffordable housing which is fueling the levels of homelessness in our cities. Work in most areas within the general sphere of planning is an opportunity to move closer to accessible, equitable, and sustainable places he experienced while living abroad.

—Judith Juno,

Former WSFGC President 2011-2013,
Chuckanut District Director 2003-2007



Keegan Curry

Photo Courtesy of Keegan Curry

Let's Get Down & Dirty

with



Gardening School

Courses 1 - 4

GARDENING SCHOOL COURSE CONTENT

Course 1 – Botany, Soils, Techniques for Growing Outdoor Flowers, Plant Propagation

Course 2 – Plant Diseases, Garden Pests, Irrigation and Water, Lawn Alternatives and Growing Grass, Growing Fruits, and Growing Vegetables

Course 3 – Factors that influence Plant Growth, New Plant Development and Evaluation, Container Gardening Outdoors, Houseplant Basics, Native Trees, and Shrubs

Course 4 – Plant Classification and Nomenclature, Outdoor Identification of Plants, Specialized Garden Styles, Techniques of Growing Woody Ornaments, and Pruning



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Hill & Dale District
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Save the Dates!

April 29-30 & October 28-29 2024

April 28-29 & October 29-30 2025

HORTICULTURE

Early Garden Cheer

Most days a walk around the garden is a pleasure. In the deepest heart of winter, however, this can be an ambiguous endeavor unless some preparation has been done in advance. The two large happy canines cavorting and expressing their thoughts that every moment outside with you is a pleasure is genuinely nice, but a sparkle of color in the mostly resting garden would make it spectacular. The irregularly yellow blotched leaves of *Osmanthus heterophyllus* 'Goshiki' and *Ilex aquifolium* 'Golden Milk Boy' add their brightness to a mostly dull winter setting. Both these shrubs are fairly slow growing and medium size. Neither shrub is really picky about soil and is happy in partial sun. *Osmanthus* is hardy in Zones 6 to 9 and the *Ilex* Zones 7a to 10b.



Helleborus niger 'HGC Jacob'

Photo: Courtesy of Gardens of the World

While not nearly so large as a medium size shrub, the Christmas Rose and its cultivars are a treasure to find in my garden as early as late November some years. This is pretty early for this plant, and it will bloom later in colder Zones. My garden is Zone 7a or looking at the new USDA Hardiness map out recently it is a Zone 7b which is one-half Zone warmer. The newer cultivar *Helleborus niger* 'Snowbells' has semidouble pure white flowers that are naturally side facing versus downward. The flowers are abundant and are two and one-half to three inches across. Perfect for naturalizing in moist woodland areas, these hellebores will do quite well in a less than perfect siting. *Helleborus*

While not nearly so large as a medium size shrub, the Christmas Rose and its cultivars are a treasure to find in my

niger 'Double Fantasy' is another excellent choice with its ruffled white petals and outward facing flowers. It is also a semidouble. *Helleborus niger* 'HGC Jacob' is not the newest cultivar, but it is gorgeous with its large, single, pristine white flowers, three inches across, adorned with crowns of showy golden-yellow stamens. As they mature, the blooms turn a rose pink in cool weather and pale green in warmer weather. Their flowers also face outward, so they are easy to see across the garden. This is the early bloomer in my garden. These hellebores are approximately 12 inches wide and 12 inches across. These hellebores are a boon for the early pollinators.

Species or botanical crocus have been recommended by me previously. They are such a treat when so many other plants in the garden are dormant and waiting for spring that they are well worth considering. If the winter is a little bit warmer than usual, my first crocuses appear in January. In a more normal colder winter, they are not daunted for too much longer and show their colorful blooms

starting in February. One of my favorites is *Crocus sieberi* ssp. *sublimus* 'Tricolor.' It is a lovely lilac-blue with a white band and a yellow throat. A newer culti-



Crocus sieberi ssp. *sublimus*

var is *Crocus olivieri* ssp. *balansae* 'Orange Monarch.' The color is a vibrant golden-orange with dramatic garnet-merlot striations on the petals' re-

Photo: Courtesy of John Scheepers

verse. *Crocus chrysanthus* 'Goldilocks' is not the newest cultivar available, but it is hard to resist its bold yellow color with variable exterior brown feathering. All of these crocuses really catch your eye from a distance and can't help but make you smile.

As we all know winter will pass and spring will arrive. Now is the time to consider new plants for the garden. Many of us are selecting plants that are native or can live in our gardens without special treatment like additional water, heavy fertilization, or "remaking" the soil. I was able to pick up Penstemons this fall while shopping with the local Native Plant Society. The plants were planted in areas of my garden. They will need water in addition to rainfall here as our normal precipitation is about six inches or less a year. The majority of the moisture arrives in late fall, winter to early spring with very little falling when it is extremely hot. *Penstemon wilcoxii* – Wilcox's penstemon grows in a wide range of habitats, from shrubby areas, forested slopes, open rocky sites, and even moist soil. It has blue flowers in large, loose, broadly spreading panicles with 10 or more flowering stems. It occurs east of the Cascades. It can flower from May to July depending on where it is growing. *Penstemon venustus* - Blue Mountain Penstemon is a long-lived, herbaceous to woody sub-shrub with several ascending to erect stems boasting showy wands of large lavender to purple flowers in early to mid-summer. Height varies from one to three feet tall. It will take full sun, but also does well in part shade and tolerates poor, rocky soil. Native plants that are not well known or grown often do not have a listing for hardiness zones but are well worth a try! *Penstemon strictus* – Rocky Mountain Penstemon is native to our southern Rocky Mountains. It is drought tolerant and like the above-mentioned penstemons it per-

forms best in soils with good drainage that dries well between waterings. In my garden it blooms first in late June or early July and if dead-headed it will rebloom in late August or September. If "happy," it is long lived and very reliable in its blooming. It is hardy in Zones 4 to 9.



Photo: Courtesy of High Country Gardens

Penstemon strictus

Balsamorhiza sagittata–Arrowleaf Balsamroot is the most common and widespread of the native balsamroots. It is extremely drought hardy and has grown well and spread on its own where I planted it. Its clumps of upright widely triangular leaves and erect stems can be eight inches to two feet tall. My plants are about 18 inches tall when each yellow flower about four inches across appears. Each flower arises on a single stem. The plants put on quite a show in the late spring in my front area and scattered across the desert steppe off eastern Washington. When the heat really turns up, they quietly go to seed and go dormant. I do not supply them with any extra water except maybe the first year or two. They have done well for me in quite sandy soil and several hours of direct sun each day since 2001.

Gardening is all about helping plants grow. I hope a suggestion or two presented here will inspire you to beat the winter blahs as well as select a plant that is at "home" wherever you garden.

—Ellen Rector, Horticulture Editor

Memorable Bird Sightings

What an exciting moment when you see a bird you haven't seen before. You get out your binoculars to try and identify the bird and then you start searching in your bird book. It is so rewarding when you find the bird's photo and read about the bird's description, voice, habitat, nesting, and range. It is also great to find interesting information about the special bird you have discovered.

A memorable sighting occurred in Surprise, Arizona, this November. A flock of green parrot-looking birds came to our backyard and were eating the blossoms of the yellow trumpet shrub (*Tecoma stans*). I located the binoculars and was surprised to find six beautiful birds in the shrub. The birds had a bright green body, rosy-red head, brilliant blue rump, and light-colored bill. I could not locate this particular bird in my bird books so checked Google.

This bird is the rosy-faced lovebird (*Agapornis roseicollis*). The bird is native to the arid regions of southwestern Africa. The bird is fairly small (6.7-7.1 inches). They are very social and congregate in small groups in the wild. Plumage is identical in males and females (monomorphic). The birds form extremely strong bonds and can be observed feeding and grooming each other. The birds mate for life.

The birds are sold as pets and in the 1980's in the Phoenix, Arizona area, birds escaped their aviary. There are now about 2,000 rosy-faced lovebirds in the greater Phoenix area. The birds are now being seen in the suburbs, in parks and backyards. They have adapted to the desert of Arizona which has a similar arid region as their native southwestern Africa. The birds are dependent on water sources and



Photo by Charles J. Sharp

Flock of Rosy-faced lovebirds

gather around pools or fountains to drink. The rosy-faced lovebirds have also been observed in the wild on Maui and the Big Island in Hawaii.

The rosy-faced lovebirds came to the Surprise backyard on two separate occasions to eat the bright yellow blossoms. What an exciting memorable sighting!

—Ann Kronenwetter,
WSFGC Bird Chairman



Honor Club Award recognizes a club which excels in all aspects of garden club activities.

Horticulture, design, environmental awareness, and other garden-related activities during the calendar year is an Honor Club. Additional points are given for club projects, flower show participation, attendance at NGC sponsored schools, monetary donations to various activities including scholarships, arboreta/botanical gardens, etc. The number of points will be divided by the number of members in the club for a proportionate representation of participation.

The highest-scoring Honor Club earns the Violet Gose Past Presidents Award. This Chairman will notify the Past Presidents Awards Chairman of the winning club.

New Application form is on the WSFGC Website.
Deadline – February 1 to Chairman Kathy Johnson.

FLOWER SHOW

Photos courtesy of Charlene Trent Lewis, except where noted otherwise

East Lake Washington District Flower Show Horticulture Winners



Above: NGC Award of Horticultural Excellence, NGC Award of Merit, WSFGC Betty Belcher Horticulture Award, *Dahlia*, 'Cecil Hemmet' Pat Kaald



Above: NGC Arboreal Award, *Prunus laurocerasus*, 'Marble White' June Ann Hassebroek



Above Right: NGC Grower's Choice Award, *Anthurium andraeanum*, Lana Finegold



Above: WSFGC Marva Lee Peterschick Arboreal Flowering Shrub/Tree Award, *Hydrangea macrophylla* mop head, Charlene Trent Lewis



Right: NGC Award of Merit, *Brunnera microphylla*, 'Sterling Silver,' Gale Baullinger

Below Right: NGC Award of Merit, *Cucurbita pepo*, 'Baby Boo,' Gale Baullinger



Design



On Left: "Dancing Leaves" Multi Rhythmic Design, NGC Award of Design Excellence, NGC Designers Choice Award, WSFGC Ellen B. Swenson Flower Arrangement Award and Carolyn Erickson All Fresh Design Award, Terry Critchlow

Exhibition Table



Above: "Dining at Draculas" Exhibition Table, NGC Table Artistry Award, WSFGC Phyllis Danielson Table Setting Award, Brynn Tavasci

Artistic Crafts



On Left: "Autumn Inspirations" Artistic Crafts, Decorated Hat, NGC Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award, WSFGC JoAnn Goldman Artistic Crafts Award, Mitch Grospe
Photo: Mitch Grospe

FLOWER SHOW

Petite Design



Above: "Fall Equinox" Petite Creative Mass Design, NGC Petite Award, WSFGC Judith Juno Petite Design Award, Lenda Sundene

Educational Division



Above: "Back to School" Education Exhibit "Fall in Love with Garden Club" NGC Educational Award, WSFGC Carol Klingberg Education Award, Mandy Carter

Photography Division



Above: "Fall Harvest" Photography, NGC Botanical Photography Award & WSFGC Terry Critchlow Photography Award, Marti Bolcer

Youth Division



Above: Youth Division "Pumpkin Patch" NGC Youth Top Exhibitor Award, Eli Conway

—Linda White,
East Lake Washington Director
and Show Chairman

ENVIRONMENT

Golden Paintbrush (*Castilleja levisecta*)

“Gem of the Pacific Northwest Grasslands”

Thomas Jefferson Howell first collected golden paintbrush in 1880 near Mill Plain, Vancouver, Washington and Jesse More Greenman described this plant as a perennial herb in 1898, growing in clumps of up to 15 stems. Native to the prairies of Washington State, Golden Paintbrush is a rare species in the family *Orobanchaceae* commonly known as Golden Paintbrush or Golden Indian Paintbrush. It has been listed on the Endangered Species List since June 1997.

It is believed to have historically occurred in the well-drained soils of upland prairies that were maintained by fires set by Native Indians and is assumed to have inhabited gravel outwashes of the Columbia and Santiam Rivers being restricted to 11 known areas in the Puget Trough of Washington and British Columbia. It also appears in the counties of Benton, Lane, Marion, Linn, and Multnomah in Oregon. It does poorly in areas where Douglas Fir and Scotch Broom are present, not being able to survive the enclosed canopy conditions of the trees and encroachment of native and non-native woody shrubs. It is short-lived (about five to six years). By the late 1990s, the paintbrush had been

eliminated from the Willamette Valley due to habitat loss caused by fire suppression, invasive species, development, hand picking and recreational causes.

Habitat loss due to agricultural, residential, and commercial development is one of the number one threats facing Golden Paintbrush. Summer drought and herbivory by wild animals may be the main causes for seedling

mortality. There is no collecting allowed for commercial or home use. Seed production is likely to be of critical importance to *Castilleja levisecta* because the species does not appear to be capable of reproducing by any other



Golden Paintbrush

Photo by A. LaValle

means.

If you can attain some seeds, seeds must be stratified for six to eight weeks then set on a moist paper towel or germination paper in a dark place at 41°F for six to eight weeks followed by a post-chill incubation: set in a warm, well-lit place for two weeks and kept moist. Seed life may vary but it is best to use within one to two years. Once germination begins and they have their first roots (radicle), carefully put the seeds in soil. After four to six weeks,



the seedlings may be transplanted into a container with an associated species host plant such as *Eriophyllum lanatum* (wooly sunflower), *Festuca roemerii* or *Potentilla gracilis*. Outplant after at least three months but make sure the host plant is not outcompeting the golden paintbrush seedling. Use well-drained soil for propagating this species. Fish and Wildlife researchers have also had success with liquid fertilizer (15-30-15) every two weeks when watering. Try scattering some seeds along a lowland meadow or along a mountain trail. Check with your Department of Fish and Wildlife to see if this would be a viable project for your club to accomplish.

The upland prairies and grasslands of the Pacific Northwest support many unique and beautiful species and without the Endangered Species Act this fragile flower would have become extinct.

This perennial plant has green leaves, containing chlorophyll to undergo photosynthesis, but like other Castilleja it is a hemiparasite, capable of tapping the roots of other plants via haustorial (a rootlike structure that grows into or around another structure) connections to obtain nutrients and water. It is thought to be pollinated by bumblebees, including *Bombus californicus* and eight other species

including *Occidryas editha* (a plume moth) and a species of parasitic wasp.

No commercial or traditional uses are known for this species except its showy flowers may make it vulnerable to occasional picking.

As of June 2021, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has proposed removing the Golden Paintbrush from the Endangered Species list due to the Recovery Plan that identifies population reintroduction, development of propagation methods, and studies of the pollination biology of the species as high priority actions to meet recovery objectives and efforts to hybridize it with other like species. Whatever the outcome, this plan will improve butterfly habitat (like Taylor's checkerspot butterfly) and three subspecies of Mazama pocket gopher in Washington, the endangered Willamette daisy and the threatened Kincaid's lupine and Nelson's checker-mallow in Oregon.

Source:

*Center for Biological Diversity – June 29, 2021

*Institute for Applied Ecology – December 10, 2014. Hybridization efforts

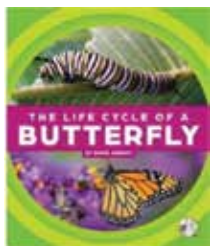
*The Golden Paintbrush Recovery Story/U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

*Wikipedia – Castilleja levisecta

—Madeline West,
Environmental Concerns

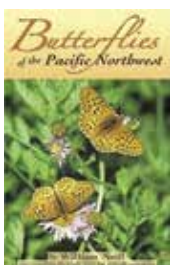
Advertise your next district or club event in your magazine, *Washington Garden & Design*. Download information from wagardenclubs.com or from your *WSFGC Program and Meeting Guide*.

BOOK REVIEWS



The Life Cycle of a Butterfly
Robin Merritt
2023 Wonder Books, The Child's World
\$27.00 hardcover

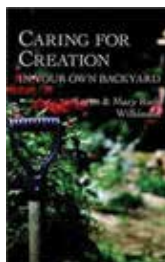
This is a children's nonfiction book about the butterfly. Young minds will enjoy this description of their life cycle with pictures and words about their multiple body types. Very informative and a clear narrative about their molting and how they eat at each stage.



Butterflies of the Pacific Northwest
William Neill
Photography by Doug Hepburn and William Neill
2007 Mountain Press Publishing Co
\$14.00 Hardcover

This is a field guide listing the 118 most commonly found butterflies in the northwest corner of the USA and Canada. Full of photographs of both larvae caterpillar and adult butterfly. Informative description, habitat, living range and host plants for the caterpillar larvae.

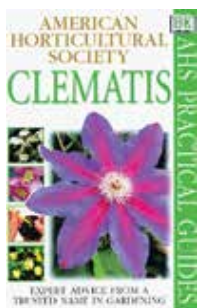
The Purple Copper is a west of the Cascades example that likes marshy places. Its host plant is the dock or knotweed. The Lilac Bordered Copper likes the higher mountain meadows near the forest or on rocky ridges above the tree line. Their host plant is also knotweed. It is good for us gardeners to know what to plant for the caterpillar stage too. Holes in leaves are good.



Caring for Creation in your own Backyard
Over 100 Things Christian Families can do to Help the Earth
Loren & Mary Ruth Wilkinson
1992 Servant Publi-

cations
\$17.00 Paperback

This book has been divided into ideas of what you can do for each season for simple helps for the environment. Start with a meditation then descriptions of those ideas: like how to shop, how to save money, recycle, be creative making things and meals and support businesses that care for creation. This is a down to earth guide for anyone wanting to be responsible for our earth.



American Horticultural Society CLEMATIS
Charles Chesshire
1999 DK Publishing
\$5.00 Paperback

This is an excellent field guide to get you started in growing the lovely vine Clematis.

Provides you with ideas on the many kinds to plant and how they grow on trellis, climbing roses, or trees and in containers. Practical advice on the three kinds of pruning requirements and if you want to try propagation. Lots of pictures to get creative to choose one or twenty for your yard or deck.

GOLD STAR MARKER NEWS

Kelso Garden Club Unveils Gold Star Memorial By-Way Marker



Photo by Emily Urfer

Gold Star families Jake and Jaime Baker, Kelso, WA, and Denise Rockwood, Clatskaine, OR unveil the Gold Star Memorial Marker. The Baker family lost their son, Keigan, during a fatal Air Force training accident in March 2020.

A crowd of over 130 attended the Kelso Garden Club's (KGC) dedication of a Gold Star Memorial By-Way Marker in Kelso's Tam O'Shanter Park on Veterans Day, November 11, 2023. The dedication ceremony included speeches, music performances and the unveiling of the new Gold Star Memorial Marker following guidance from the National Garden Club Blue and Gold Star Memorial Marker website and correct military protocol.

The Gold Star Memorial Marker honors families who lost loved ones while serving in the American Armed Forces. It is located immediately adjacent to a Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker dedicated on Veterans Day 2021. The Blue Star Marker pays tribute to all who have served in the military. Both markers are located on a parking lot island between baseball and softball fields and two covered picnic pavilions, making it a high foot-traffic area.

The Blue and Gold Star Memorial Garden is landscaped with Dwarf Golden Hinoki Cypress, Dwarf Carsten's Wintergold Mugo Pine, Burgundy Wine Nandina, Flirt Heavenly Bamboo Nan-

dina, Black Mondo Grass, and Coreopsis. A flagpole with solar light has also been placed in the landscaped area.

Diane Franchini, Pacific Region Secretary, provided the Pacific Region tribute. The City of Kelso Deputy Mayor accepted the marker on behalf of the city. Two Gold Star families unveiled the marker and laid a wreath. The American Legion Patriot Guard concluded the ceremony with an Honor March.

Club members especially appreciated the dedication ceremony tributes offered by three WSFGC officers: Suzann Stahl, President; Dorrie Carr, 1st Vice President; and Judy Swartz, Blue/Gold Star Committee Chair.

KGC invites you to visit the memorial garden, located just off of Exit 39 on Interstate 5.

—Sarah Koss, President, Kelso GC



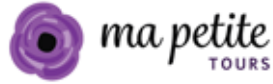
Photo by Chris Hill

WSFGC officers join KGC members at the Gold Star Memorial Marker Dedication Ceremony



Photo by Emily Urfer

The unveiled Gold Star Memorial Marker and laurel wreath



garden adventures

for small group travel

2024 Garden Tours

The Wonders of Spain & Portugal

May 14th- 31st, 2024

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- Madrid & Royal Palace
- Toledo & Segovia
- Granada & the Alhambra
- Cordoba Courtyard Gardens
- Seville & the Royal Alcazar
- Lisbon, Sintra and Porto
- Douro Valley



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October 2024 details tba



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WSFGC 2023-2025 Board Meeting Schedule

Status as of 5/29/23- More details will be announced

Mark your Calendar and plan to join in the FUN!

2023	Location	Name of Hotel/Resort	District or Club Host(s)
August 22-23 Fall Board meeting	Pasco	Red Lion Hotel, Pasco	Blue Mountain
November 14-15 Winter Board Meeting	Sequim	7 Cedars Casino	Olympia Peninsula
2024			
March 5 Spring Board Meeting	Zoom		
June 9-12 (mini) Convention & Annual Meeting & Flower Show	Shelton	Little Creek Casino	Black Hills District
September 10-11 Fall Board Meeting	Leavenworth/Ellensburg/Yakima area		Central District
November 5-6 Winter Board Meeting	Olympia	Little Creek Casino	Possibly Black Hills District or Cross Sound District
2025			
March 4 Spring Board Meeting	Zoom		
June 2-5 Convention & Annual Meeting	Lakewood/ Tacoma area		Possibly Hill & Dale District

WASHINGTON Garden & Design

FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR'S DESK

Happy New Year, Garden Club Members,

I hope everyone had a nice, peaceful holiday season. It was a very busy season for me with garden club activities and then, of course, Christmas and family.

I am very excited about this issue. When late November came around and there was basically nothing to print, I put out a call for articles and you responded. Thank you to all the District Directors and Garden Club Presidents who followed my call and submitted articles and, in many cases, several photographs (remember, a picture is worth a thousand words). And thank you also to our regular contributors for their interesting and informative articles.

So, in this issue we learn about the many fall activities of our districts and clubs. I see that wreath making is a very popular activity clubs use for fundraising. I also found some of the club histories informative and interesting.

I wish everyone a happy, healthy, and successful New Year!

Sincerely,

Veronika Dunnam
Managing Editor

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www.wagardenclubs.com

EVENTS

- Jan 26 **Executive Committee**, ZOOM 10:00 a.m.
- Jan 29 **“Get Connected with Presidents,”** ZOOM 10:00 a.m.
- Feb 24 **Executive Committee**, ZOOM 10:00 a.m.
- Feb 26 **“Get Connected with Presidents,”** ZOOM 10:00 a.m.
- Mar 1 **Washington Garden & Design deadline** for Spring Issue
- Mar 5 **WSFGC Spring Board Meeting** via ZOOM
- Mar 12-14 **NGC Flower Show School Course 4**, Tacoma, Washington-
Registration form on webpage: wagardenclubs.com
- Mar 26 **An NGC Standard Flower Show** will be sponsored by Hill & Dale District of Garden Clubs at the Dryer Masonic Center in Tacoma, Washington. Please join us for a fun day including the flower show, two speakers and lunch
- Apr 12 As part of Black Hills District General Meeting, Black Hills Designers will sponsor an **NGC Standard Flower Show “Off to the Races”** at the Thurston County Fairgrounds, Lacey, Washington.
- Apr 26 **Executive Committee**, ZOOM 10:00 a.m.
- Apr 27 **Hill & Dale District plant sale** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., United Methodist Church, 1919 West Pioneer, Puyallup, Washington
- Apr 29 **“Get Connected with Presidents,”** ZOOM 10:00 a.m.
- Apr 29-May1 **NGC Gardening School Series 13, Course 1**, sponsored by Hill & Dale District, held at Dryer Masonic Center in Tacoma, Washington
- Jun 2-5 **NGC Convention**, Denver, Colorado
- Jun 8-11 **WSFGC Annual Meeting & Flower Show** (Little Creek Casino, Shelton) **“Our Extraordinary Earth” State Flower Show**



Promote the WSFGC 90th Anniversary in your Community

WSFGC is celebrating the 90th year since its founding in the 2023-2024 Garden Club year. This is a good time to promote your connection to the Federation, the Region and National Garden Clubs and share the positive impact that we have on our Communities. Go to the WSFGC website and download the 90th Anniversary Press Release. Members are welcome to use any or all its content.

<https://www.wagardenclubs.com/member-only-forms>



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.

Spring Deadline: March 1

All electronic articles should be e-mailed to New 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