

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

WASHINGTON Garden & Design



2023 SUMMER ISSUE JUL AUG SEP VOLUME 49, NUMBER 1
FORMERLY *SMOKE SIGNALS* MAGAZINE 1933-2016

PRESIDENT'S DESK

Nurture People – Nurture Plants – Nurture Our Planet

Hello all,

At this writing, the 2023 WSFGC Convention has just ended. It was a wonderful experience for the over 100 member participants. We were honored to have the company of newly installed National Garden Club President Brenda Moore.



The Convention offered four wonderful meals with table décor and favors provided by Black Hills Garden Club members. There were ten workshops, a fascinating design program by Corrie Ten-Have and Rosarian Deborah Erickson shared how to astonish our neighbors with Roses!

On the final evening of the Convention, ten Officers and six District Directors were installed for the 2023-2025 term. All very talented and selfless ladies, I'm grateful to all of them for their leadership commitment. They are listed separately in the newsletter.

One can never say thank you too much...thank you to Ellen Daly and Julie Darby, Convention Co-Chairmen, and all the volunteers who worked very hard to assure a very successful event.

It's nearly summer! Here are a few things you can be thinking about...

- Start collecting thin film plastic and learn about the state-wide Trex Bench Challenge on the website at wagardenclubs.com.
- Think about how you can reduce the amount of lawn you have and begin to fill that space with native plants and pollinator feeders.
- Choose your pesticides carefully so as not to hurt our wildlife.
- Make plans to attend the August 22-23 Fall Board meeting in Pasco, WA at the Red Lion Hotel. Director Alice Ver Steeg and her garden club members have some fun things planned for us, and it's a great area for wine tasting!

I'm very proud to be your new President and I'm looking forward to seeing many of you as I travel the state. If you would like to schedule a visit, please contact Julie Darby at kunGFujulie@comcast.net. She is helping me with those arrangements.

Happy Summer to all!

Suzann Stahl, WSFGC President
2023-2025

CONTENTS

- 2 **President's Message**
- 4 **Officers & District Directors**
- 6 **New Board Members**
- 7 **Environmental Interests**
- 8 **Pacific Region's 79th
Convention**
- 10 **WSFGC Convention Recap**
- 12 **Centerpieces**
- 14 **WSFGC 2022 Awards**
- 18 **Scholarships**
- 20 **Design**
- 22 **Olympia GC Community
Project**
- 24 **Horticulture**
- 26 **The Forgotten Fruit**
- 27 **NGC News**
- 29 **Book Review**
- 30 **Calendar of Events**
- 32 **Endowment Fund Grant Project**
- 34 **Managing Editor's Desk**

JUL AUG SEP

Volume 49, Number 1

On the Cover



Credit to www.almnac.com

True lilies belong to the genus *Lilium* and grow from plump, scaly bulbs. There are a number of popular lily species, including Orientals, Asiatics, Orienpets, and Species types. We say "true" lilies because there are also plants, such as daylilies, peace lilies, and canna lilies, which have the term "lily" in their common name, but they're not actually lilies at all. They do not grow from bulbs, and they are in a different plant genus. Water lilies aren't lilies at all, and neither are lily-of-the-valley.

The name Suzann means "lily flower."

WSFGC OFFICERS

Photos by Sharon McKissick

2023–2025 WSFGC Executive Committee Officers



Suzann Stahl
President



Dorrie Carr
1st Vice President



Lenda Sundene
2nd Vice President



Susan Nash,
Treasurer



Linda Haas,
Recording Secretary



Ellen Daly
Corresponding Secretary



Dorothy Bertram
Dues Secretary



Gale Baullinger
Financial/Investment
Officer



Jeanette Pruin
Parliamentarian



Anne Sullivan, Immediate Former President

WSFGC District Directors



BLACK HILLS
Becky Flaherty



BLUE MOUNTAIN
Alice Ver Steeg



CENTRAL
Terry Critchlow



CHINOOK
Penny Merriman



CROSS SOUND
Joyia Rubens



EAST LAKE WA
Linda White



GREATER SEATTLE
Mitch Grospe



HILL & DALE
Kathy Johnson



OLYMPIC PENINSULA
Linda Wells

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please WELCOME these individuals to the 2023-2025 Board of Directors and join me in thanking them for their willingness to serve!

—Suzann Stahl, President

Dorothy Bertram, Black Hills District
Diane Couraud, Black Hills District
Veronika Dunnam, Black Hills District
Chris Hill, Black Hills District
Kathy Johnson, Hill and Dale District
Tara Keen, Black Hills District
Jackie McCoy, Black Hills District
LeAnna McMahan, Black Hills District
Penny Merriman, Chinook District
Joyia Rubens, Cross Sound District
Lenda Sundene, Hill and Dale District



The Calla Lily symbolizes beauty, purity and commitment.

Vision of Beauty 2024



Many of our talented members have entered their designs and landscapes to be published.

The 2024 *Vision of Beauty* is available to purchase. Washington State Federation

of Garden Clubs in the past has typically purchased in bulk and shared the expense of shipping.

The cost of 50 or less magazines is \$10 each from National Garden Clubs, Inc plus shipping. When we

purchase together as a state group, we get a 20 percent discount on 101 or more calendars plus a break on shipping, which is a considerable help. We typically purchase over 300.

The past few years have been a logistical nightmare with covid and the distance of the districts and clubs far away from each other. Delivery to all of the districts and clubs is planned to be at the fall WSFGC meeting. Payment is needed upfront since we need to pay for them to have them delivered.

If you are interested in ordering, please see your club president. The districts usually send a bulk order to me.

Deadline to order is July 25, 2023.

—Judy Swortz 253-359-4285
judydswortz@comcast.net

ENVIRONMENTAL INTERESTS

Announcing the WSFGC NexTrex Bench Challenge – *Putting Plastic Film to Good Use!*

How can we as garden club members make a difference keeping plastic film packaging out of our environment? Enter the NexTrex Bench Challenge!

Our clubs/districts will have six months to collect 500+ pounds of plastic film. Some examples are pallet wrap, produce bags and plastic films labeled with #2 or #4 recycling symbols. This collected plastic film is then sorted to ensure it is clean and dry, then placed in larger, clear bags that will be weighed then taken to a collection site.



Once you have reached your 500+ pounds within a six-month window, you will be asked to pick out your bench color and delivery contact!

More details to come on how our various organizations can initiate their own Bench Challenge! There will be a process guide with handouts on specific plastic film types and examples of benches already received.

For more information contact Jackie McCoy, Olympia GC, Chairperson for state-wide initiative, nyjacmac@gmail.com.

WASHINGTON LEGISLATION: Climate Change

The state legislators in Olympia recently invested in a landmark \$83 million in forest conservation and ecological forest management practices when they passed the Capital budget.

This will boost carbon sequestration on state lands, and it will be the first time the state government will set aside timber acreage strictly for its carbon value. Washington's oldest public forests are a key part of the identity of rural Washingtonians and are among the best forests in the world at sequestering and storing

carbon. It will conserve 2,000 acres of structurally complex, carbon dense mature forests on state managed land.

This historic investment affirms that forests are central to Washington's response to climate change, and ushers in a new era of managing state lands for both public benefit and rural livelihoods.

For further information, go to <https://conservationnw.org/news-updates/climate-commitment-act/>.

—Marva Lee Peterschick, Chairman

CONVENTION 2023

“Going Green Together” Pacific Region’s 79th Annual Convention

“Going Green Together,” the 79th Annual Convention of Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc., was held April 17 — 20, 2023 at the Lynnwood Embassy Suites by Hilton. The convention team members, Brynn Tavasci, Diane Franchini, Dorrie Carr, Terry Critchlow, and Jeanette Pruin, worked together to provide an educational, creative, and fun gathering that everyone could enjoy. Our own Lana Finegold, PRGC Director 2021 — 2023 cheered us on.

The pre-convention evening banquet featured “Fairy Tales from the Garden,” a collection of humorous skits, with PRGC members playing the parts. All costumes were created using recycled materials, in the spirit of “Going Green — Together.”

Our lunch speaker on Tuesday was Bellevue Botanical Garden Director James Gagliardi, who previously served as a supervisory horticulturist at the Smithsonian Gardens in Washington, DC. Tuesday workshops included “Engaging Our Future Gardeners,” presented by our Pacific Region Youth Team, and a hands-on workshop creating collages from recycled materials led by Diane Franchini and Brynn Tavasci. All who participated took home their own work of art. Our evening design banquet, “Putting on Another Hat,” by Tory Bennett, who indeed wears many hats, was presented with enthusiasm, inspiring us with her creative talents.

Wednesday’s lunch speaker was NW Garden Expert Marianne

Binetti, who presented her program, “Our Changing Gardens and Aging Gardeners.” The afternoon workshop was “Making Versatile Corsages,” led by WSFGC Collage Chairman, Tory Bennett. The evening awards banquet was followed by installation of our new Pacific Region Director, Carol Norquist, from Alaska, and her officers. Carol’s theme is “Unleash the Wild in Your Garden — Bring Nature Home.”

On Thursday, Terry Critchlow arranged and lead a colorful tour of Roozengarde and Tulip Town Tulip Fields that included a delicious lunch at the LA Conner Civic House. In addition, there was a tour of the Fiber Arts Museum plus the La Conner Waterfront.

Many thanks are given to those who provided educational displays; Madeline West, Linda Haas, Dorrie Carr, Kathy Cole, PRGC Youth Team, Carol Norquist, and Tanja Swanson, and the districts that donated opportunity drawing and silent auction items. Centerpieces and table favors were provided by Brynn Tavasci, Avant Designers, Diane Franchini, Judy Strickland, and Illahee Garden Club. Beautiful Invitationals were provided by Tory Bennett, Mitch Grospe, Barbara Smith, Debbie Spiller, and Linda Maida. Extra special shoutouts to LeAnna McMahan, Yolanda Nelson, and Connie Keen for helping in many ways, above and beyond. Everyone on Team Tavasci thanks everyone who lent a hand.

– *Brynn Tavasci*



"Going Green - Together" Pacific Region Convention Team hosted by WSFGC. From left to right Jeanette Pruin, Brynn Tavasci, PR Director Lana Finegold, Dorrie Carr, Diane Franchini, and Terry Critchlow. Photo from convention staff



"Fairy Tales from the Garden." Linda Haas as Tinkerbell and Robin Pokorski - CA, as Bell Pepper. Photo by Rhonda Barnklau



Tulip Tour. Photo by Anne Sullivan



From left to right: Connie Keen, Laura Curnan, Yolanda Nelson, Rhonda Barnklau - AK, Judy Stebbins - NV, and Chris Wood - AK. Photo by Rhonda Barnklau



"Putting on Another Hat," Tory Bennett's design program. Photo by Diane Franchini



PR Director Carol Norquist portraying a tomato in **"Fairy Tales from the Garden."** Judy Strickland is **"Goldilocks."** Photo by Rhonda Barnklau

CONVENTION 2023

WSFGC 2023 Convention

"Nurture Our Planet" was the theme for the 2023 Convention and Annual Meeting, and we started it off at full speed! June 5-8 was the 89th Annual Convention and the first time we've been together for this type of event since 2019.

We started Monday, June 5 with committee meetings and a pre-convention board meeting. Everyone settled into their hotel rooms and re-united with friends.

Our lunch speaker on Tuesday, June 6 was the Yelm FFA. Did you know that Yelm High School's FFA chapter had the most enrolled members in the nation? Of approximately 1,600 high school students, 1,200 are in the FFA! The four students that spoke were

Peter Dorhauer, Emma Smith, Liv Silva and Mara Ottman. Their presentation and answering questions off the cuff were so impressive – these students will go far in life! Teacher Matt Mounts



Receptions hosted by Illahee GC of the Black Hills District

shows continuous dedication to this program and these students. There were many insightful questions from the audience, and we all vowed to attend their plant sale next spring.

On June 6 there was a beautiful reception for outgoing President Anne Sullivan, provided by the Illahee GC, who outdid themselves with elegant appetizers on handcrafted cedar charcuterie boards. There were

many compliments about the lovely display of tasty savories. Anne was presented with a certificate stating two Magnolia trees were being delivered to her home, and a gift card to Maillard's Nursery in Oak Harbor.

Our dinner speaker was designer Corrie Ten-Have. Corrie provided



Sip & Paint

a unique perspective on interpreting artwork into design, using recycled items and avoiding environmentally harmful applications such as spray paint and excess floral foam. By using rocks, sand and other natural items, Corrie shows that stabilizing design elements are easily obtained. She revealed each design as she showed the artwork inspiration that started the challenge with her design group in Texas.

At our June 7 lunch, Deborah Erickson (Suzann Stahl's sister) provided an in-depth look at how to buy, grow and enjoy the best roses, how the right soil and fertilizers have such an impact on encouraging roses to flourish. She was able to answer many audience questions and give hope to those who have trouble growing roses.

June 7 celebrated the incoming President Suzann Stahl with her own reception, again provided by the Illahee GC. Attendees were enjoying it so much it was hard to break away to eat dinner! Photos with Friends was utilized to capture memories and Sharon McKissick persevered in

WSFGC CONVENTION CONTINUED



Installation of 2023-2025 Officers From left to right, Dorothy Bertram, Gale Baullinger, Jeanette Pruin, Susan Nash, Ellen Daly, Linda Haas, Lenda Sundene, Dorrie Carr, and Suzann Stahl.

obtaining photos for the *2023-2025 Directory*.

Attendees enjoyed a large selection of free workshops on Tuesday and Wednesday, leaving everyone with many ideas to take home and integrate. Thank you to the following Black Hill District members: Jeff Johnson, Debbie Spiller, Theresa Wilkerson, Bobbie Moody, LeAnna McMahan, Diane Harper and Donna Bogumill; and Hill & Dale District Members Linda Maida, Kathy Johnson and Lisa Libby. Cori Carlton with Thurston County held Slug University, and the paid workshop Sip & Paint with Pinot's Palettes was a blast!

Terry Critchlow and Billie Fitch presented multiple awards and there was a lot of excitement from the districts as they cheered their members.

We were honored to have NGC President Brenda Moore and her husband Ron join us from West Virginia. Brenda spoke at the June 7 dinner and installed the new board for 2023-2025.



Bucket Raffle Items

All four meals had so many prizes

es awarded – 50/50 money draws, door prizes, bucket raffle prizes and centerpieces were spread around to ensure a large number of people walked away with something fun!

The centerpieces and table favors reflected the speaker and topic at each meal: Tuesday lunch featured lettuce bowls for the Yelm FFA horticulture program and table favors of individual lettuce plants. Dinner with designer Corrie Ten-Have showcased clear acrylic tubes with white mums and ferns and the table favors were handcrafted notebooks. Lunch on June 7 featured roses in painted recycled pickle jars and the table favors were beautiful handmade cards with various rose photographs.



Horticulture display

A raffle ticket was stapled inside and the lucky winner took home a stunning rose bush! The installation dinner on

June 7 wowed everyone with handcrafted bird cages containing a Bird of Paradise design inside, and the table favors were handmade bird seed hangers. All these items were created by the Black Hills District Friendly Neighbors GC and Black Hills Designers.

The vendor room received lots of attention as the sale tables provided an array of interesting items from pet toys to aprons, earrings to soaps and pottery. The designs placed around

Continued on page 14

WSFGC CONVENTION

Convention 2023 “Nurture Our Planet” Centerpieces and Table Favors

Tuesday, June 6, members of the National award-winning Yelm FFA were our speakers. Four young people spoke on their school's program that includes plant propagation and greenhouse management. It was an exceptional PowerPoint presentation



and gave us all hope for the future of agriculture.

Members of the Black Hills Flower Designers and Friendly Neighbors Garden Club grew colorful lettuce bowl centerpieces. Individual table favors were lettuce plants grown by the Olympia Garden Club. Tiny paper purses containing Hershey's Kisses were made and donated by Hill and Dale member Judy Strickland. Yum!

The Design Night centerpieces were abstract plastic forms with white spider mums and fern foliage made by the Black Hills Flower Designers. Our guest designer was NGC Master Judge Corrie Ten-Have, from Victoria, B.C. Corrie gave a wonderful design program that included photographs of works of art and then designs that were inspired by the artworks. Her PowerPoint presentation was a wonderful use of technology to incorporate art appreciation into her program. Table favors were clever notebooks made by the Friendly Neighbor's Garden Club. Wednesday's lunch speaker was Rosarian Deborah Erickson. The Black Hills Designers presented centerpieces that included "Recycled Pickle Jars, with roses". A metallic "tangle" and water beads were used as their mechanics. The Friendly Neighbors Garden Club made table favors of lovely greeting cards of rose photographs, each containing a raffle ticket for the prize of a rosebush they donated!

Wednesday evening was Awards Night. The Black Hills Designer's

CONTINUED

Photos by Debbie Spiller and Sharon McKissick



provided Golden Bird Cages with Birds of Paradise. The Friendly Neighbors Garden Club supplied table favors of individual hanging bird seed hearts to feed our feathered friends. The “cages” were made from recycled fencing wire.



—Debbie Spiller, Design

Friendly Flower Garden Club
Presents

Follow the
YELLOW BRICK ROAD

An NGC Standard Flower Show
October 13, 2023

A Free Flower Show
Open to the Public 1:00-2:00

Thurston County Fairgrounds
Sokolik Building
3054 Carpenter Rd SE,
Lacey WA 98503 360-786-5453

Thank You!

Rachel Jennings
Hill & Dale District Director
2019 - 2023

Thanks for holding our district together & keeping it strong.

AWARDS

Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

2022 Awards

Terry Critchlow, Chairman

Congratulations to all the winners and to all the participants in the 2022 award year. Awards were presented at this year's in-person WSFGC annual meeting and convention. It was a reminder of the good times we have been missing, pom-poms, cheers and laughter as the winners received their awards.

The number of applicants increased this year as we all moving forward out of the pandemic mode. With renewed enthusiasm this coming year, our membership will reap the benefits. The first place winners are listed below as well as the PRGC and NGC winners.

Continued from page 11

the hotel created interest as they were unique, and the horticulture set up in the hotel lobby caught many eyes, especially with the stunning display of iris and hosta.

Our convention concluded with the post-convention board meeting hosted by Suzann Stahl, which introduced us to the new and returning board members and empowered us to go forward with nurturing our planet! We sincerely thank everyone who attended, contributed, worked, and advised our committee to complete this amazing event!

—Ellen Daly and Julie Darby,
2023 WSFGC Convention
Committee Co-Chairs

ARBOR DAY: Queens of Spades GC – Central District

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENTS AND SERVICE:

Roadside Beautification: Carlton Park GC – Greater Seattle District, Queens of Spades GC – Central District

Container Gardening: Garden Hour GC – Hill & Dale District, Olympia Garden Club – Black Hills District

CIVIC ACHIEVEMENT /

MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT:

Marine Hills GC – Chinook District, Garden Hour GC – Hill & Dale District, and Hill & Dale District

COMMUNITY SERVICE / SPECIAL

ACHIEVEMENT: Queens of Spades GC – Central District

COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION:

Enumclaw GC – Chinook District

Garden Club Growing Project: Illahee GC – Black Hills District

Landscape Design: Queens of Spades GC – Central District

Therapy Gardens: Auburn GC – Chinook District, North End Garden Club – Greater Seattle District

HONOR CLUB: Rosalia GC – CAL

HORTICULTURE ESSAY: Cindy

Swanson *The Forgotten Fruit* – Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTIONS:

Social Media/Website: Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District, Port Angeles GC – Olympic Peninsula

CONTINUED AWARDS

District, and Hill & Dale District

PUBLICATIONS:

Newsletters: Illahee GC – Black Hills District, Des Moines GC – Chinook District, and Hill & Dale District

MEMBERSHIP: Marine Hills GC – Chinook District

YEARBOOK – AWARD OF EXCELLENCE:

Rosalia GC – CAL, Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District, Queens of Spades GC – Central District, Tri-Area GC – Olympic Peninsula District, Olympia GC – Black Hills District, and Chinook District

Youth: Working with Youth: Marine Hills GC – Chinook District, Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District, and Hill & Dale District

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

Pat Crawford's Arbor Day award: Queens of Spades GC – Central District

Cerita Goody Civic Achievement award: Marine Hills GC – Chinook District

Joyce Lounsberry Therapy Gardens award: Auburn GC – Chinook District

Jeanette Pruin Youth award: Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District, and Hill & Dale District

Violet Gose Club Achievement award: Rosalia GC – CAL

Helen Wolff Club Program award: Des Moines GC – Chinook District

Marion Larson Club Newsletter award: Des Moines GC – Chinook District

Glad Reusch Corsage award:

Diane Franchini Queens of Spades GC – Central District

President's Flower Show awards: Bertha Demming Blue Ribbon award: Cindy Swanson Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District

Margaret Titlow District Flower Show Staging award: Hill & Dale District
June Willard Club Flower Show

Staging award: Terra Tillers GC – East Lake Washington District

Vern Armstrong Schedule award: Illahee GC – Black Hills District

Terry Critchlow Photography award: Cindy Swanson Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District

Phyllis Danielson Table Setting (functional) award: Diane Harper Illahee GC – Black Hills District

Phyllis Danielson Table Setting (exhibition) award: Debbie Spiller Black Hills Floral Designers GC – Black Hills District

Carolyn Erickson All Fresh Floral Design: Debbie Spiller Country Gardens GC – Hill & Dale District

JoAnne Goldman Artistic Crafts award: Susan White Black Hills Designers GC – Black Hills District

Judith Juno Petite Design award: Debbie Spiller Black Hills Designers GC – Black Hills District

Ellen Swenson Flower Arrangement award: Linda Nutter Black Hills Floral Designers GC – Black Hills District

Carol Klingberg Educational award: Kathy Johnson Root & Bloom Garden Club – Hill & Dale District

Betty Belcher Horticulture Excellence award: Gale Baullinger West Sammamish GC – East Lake

AWARDS

Washington District

Marva Lee Peterschick Arboreal

Flowering Shrub/Tree award: Gale Baullinger West Sammamish GC – East Lake Washington District

YOUTH CONTESTS

Pollinator Power Poster contest:

Kindergarten Lexi Chaplin Illahee GC – Black Hills District, 1st grade Tyler Maine Illahee GC – Black Hills District, 2nd grade Jude Snyder Marine Hills GC – Chinook District, 3rd grade Christopher Werbel Illahee GC – Black Hills District, 4th grade Nareenah Aron Illahee GC – Black Hills District, 5th grade Evelyn Snyder Marine Hills GC – Chinook District, 6th grade Uma Jakubowski Illahee GC – Black Hills District

Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl Poster

contest: 1st grade Brielle Bonners Hill & Dale District, 2nd grade Jude Snyder Marine Hills GC – Chinook District, 3rd grade Nia Cook Parkside Garden Club – Chinook District, 4th Nickolas Galen Rosalia GC – CAL, 5th grade Evelyn Snyder Marine Hills GC – Chinook District

Recycled Sculpture contest: 4th grade Sydney Friedt, 6th grade Hailey Larson, 7th grade Mary Smythe, Liam Friedt, 8th grade Ashley Morke all from Rosalia GC – CAL

WSFGC SCHOLARSHIPS: Winners are noted on pages 18 & 19 of this issue

Thank you to the following **Scholarship Boosters** for their donations: Issaquah GC – East Lake Washington District, Tri-Area GC – Olympic Peninsula

District, O'Brien GC – Chinook District, Port Angeles GC – Olympic Peninsula District, Queens of Spades GC – Central District, Chinook District, Olympia GC – Black Hills District, Esther Banholzer Auburn GC – Chinook District, Jeanette Pruin Des Moines GC – Chinook District, Gale Baullinger West Sammamish GC – East Lake Washington District.

PACIFIC REGION GARDEN CLUBS AWARDS

Scholarship \$1,000 Matthew Donaldson College of the Environment Western Washington University

Arbor Day: Kelso GC – CAL

Civic Achievement: Marine Hills GC – Chinook District

Membership Campaign: Garden Hour GC – Hill & Dale District 2nd place

PUBLICATIONS:

YEARBOOK: 2nd place winners: Rosalia GC – CAL, Root & Bloom GC – Hill & Dale District, Queens of Spades GC – Central District, Tri-Area GC – Olympic Peninsula District, Olympia GC – Black Hills District. Chinook District 3rd place

OTHER PUBLICATIONS: WSFGC 2021-23 Program & Meeting Guide 1st place, 2021 Awards Booklet 2nd place

MEMBERSHIP PUBLICATION: Marine Hills GC – Chinook District 3rd place

FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE: Hill & Dale District 1st place, Illahee GC – Black Hills District 2nd place

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA: Root &

Bloom GC – Hill and Dale District,
Hill & Dale District, WSFGC

GARDEN THERAPY: Auburn GC –
Chinook District

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Root & Bloom
GC – Hill & Dale District, and Hill
& Dale District

YOUTH CONTESTS:

*Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl Poster
contest:* Jude Snyder 1st place
grade 2 Marine Hills GC –
Chinook District

Recycled Sculpture contest: Sydney
Friedt 1st place 4th grade, Hailey
Larson 1st place 6th grade, Mary
Smythe 2nd place 7th grade,
Ashley Morke HM 8th grade. All
entries were sponsored by Rosalia
Garden Club.

Pollinator Poster contest: Lexi Chaplin
1st place Kindergarten, Tyler
Marine 1st place 1st grade, Jude
Snyder 1st place 2nd grade,
Emmy Bell 2nd place 2nd grade,
Christopher Werbel 1st place 3rd
grade, Nareenah Aron 1st place
4th

Marine Hills GC – Chinook District
sponsored the 1st place winners
in the 2nd and 5th grades.
Illahee GC – Black Hills District
sponsored grades K-6th.

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB AWARDS

Violet Gose Scholarship \$3,800
Matthew Donaldson Western
Washington University

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

NGC Standard Flower Show: Illahee
Garden Club – Sweater Weather -
Black Hills District

*NGC Horticulture Specialty Flower
Show:* Des Moines GC – Green
Thoughts – Chinook District

Gardening - Container Gardening:
Olympia Garden Club – Black
Hills District

Newsletters: Washington Garden &
Design Judith Juno, Editor

NGC CERTIFICATE OF

COMMENDATION: These winners
are runners-up to the Certificate
of Merit awards.

Horticulture Education with Youth: Hill
& Dale District

Social/Website: WSFGC – Suzann
Stahl webmaster

Gardening – Container Gardening:
Garden Hour GC – Hill & Dale
District

Community Enhancements: Marine
Hills GC – Chinook District
providing vocational gardening
and cooking skills

**NGC CERTIFICATE OF
APPRECIATION:**

*Community Enhancement – Roadside
Plantings:* Queens of Spades GC –
Central District, Carlton Park GC
– Greater Seattle District

Newsletter: Hill & Dale District

Website: Hill & Dale GC – East Lake
Washington District, Port Angeles
GC – Olympic Peninsula District

NGC YOUTH RECYCLED

SCULPTURE CONTEST: Sydney
Friedt 3rd place 4th grade, Mary
Smyth 2nd place 7th grade,
Hailey Larson HM 6th grade,
Ashley Morke HM 8th grade. All
the above WSFGC entries were
sponsored by Rosalia GC.

**NGC/USFS SMOKEY BEAR
WOODSY OWL POSTER**

CONTEST: Marine Hills GC –
Chinook District Jude Snyder 5th
place 2nd grade

—Terry Critchlow, Chairman

SCHOLARSHIPS

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

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



College of the Environment

Keegan Curry

is a student of Urban Planning and Sustainable Development. He has a passion for

cities and is hopeful for a future working in the planning field to help combat climate change, increase livability and find harmony between the natural and urban.



WSU School of Design and Construction

Renee Li is a junior pursuing a degree in Landscape Architecture. She

hopes to work on projects that

integrate natural elements with contemporary design and looks forward to becoming a licensed Landscape Architect.



WSU Department of Soil and Crop Science

Lauren Stubbs is currently a junior majoring in Field Crop Management and minoring in Soil Science. She plans

to pursue an advanced degree in agronomic sciences to work as an extension agent.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



WSU Department of Horticulture

Mrs. Frank Greely Scholarship

Sophie LeBard is a junior majoring in Landscape, Nursery and Greenhouse

Management. She is planning on pursuing a career in cut flower production where she can grow flowers for wholesale and wedding floral designs.



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON



U of W School of Environmental & Forest Services

Violet Nevitt Gose Scholarship

Josephine Meier

is majoring in Plant Biology and

minoring in Environmental Science and Terrestrial Management. She currently works as an intern at Seattle City Light where she assists in climate change adaptation and mitigation research. She plans to pursue a PhD in Plant Biology and eventually work for a state or local agency.



U of W Department of Biology

May Garrett Hayes Scholarship

Nathan Greenwood

is a junior studying Molecular, Cellular and Development

Biology. He is now interning with the Baker Lab at the Institute for Protein Design. He plans to pursue a PhD in Biology after receiving his undergraduate degree.



U of W Department of Landscape Architecture

Vera J. Weiler Scholarship

Matthew Jernigan is a master's candidate in Landscape

Architecture focusing on integrating ecological systems into urban landscapes. Combining his Public Health degree from the University of North Carolina, he aims to enhance both human and environmental health through his design work.

PACIFIC REGION GARDEN CLUBS, INC. \$1,000
NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC. \$3,800



Matthew Donaldson

is a post-baccalaureate student at Western Washington University. Pursuing Environmental Studies with an

emphasis in Environmental Science, Geographic Information Systems and Ecological Restoration. It is his hope to be an ecological restoration practitioner as well as an ally in promoting public land management and ecological restoration practices that are more inclusive of indigenous values and rights.

—Jeanette Pruin,
WSFGC Scholarship Chairman

Congratulations Scholarship Winners for 2023

Invitational Designs from “Nurture Our Planet”

Our recent WSFGC Convention 2023 was held at the Olympia Hotel in Olympia, WA. Every Convention has Invitational Designs on display around the facility, provided by our members. Here are photographs of these beautiful works of art. It is always an honor to be asked to provide an Invitational Design for a WSFGC event.

JoAnne Sandell, Black Hills Flower Designers, Black Hills District. JoAnne used fruits, vegetables, foliage and flowers on a Ken Schwartz metal sculpture.



Linda White, East Lake Washington District. Linda's design featured a pottery vessel that might be a small fountain, flowers and foliage to create this beautiful Mass Design.



Judy Swortz, Serendipity Designers, Hill and Dale District. Judy used a hoop form and hanging orb in her Luminary Design. She included a ceramic Dove accessory, battery powered lights, flowers and foliage.



Debbie Spiller, Black Hills Flower Designers, Black Hills District. Hey, that's me! I made my Floor Design out of recycled materials. A recently pruned large cut lilac limb provided the structure for painted Styrofoam packaging materials that provided the frames and forms. Corn Husk contrived flowers complete the design. The “tree” will become a bird feeder in my yard when it's done being a sculpture.



Photos by Sharon McKissick,
Vicky Kammerer, Debbie Spiller



Lana Finegold, Avant Designers, East Lake WA District. Lana used a metal sculpture to support her hoops, alliums and dried foliage in this Creative Design.



Vicki Kammerer, Black Hills Flower Designers, Black Hills District. Vicki's Mass Design used a plethora of flowers and foliage, with lots of it from her garden. She assembled the vase from pieces of glasses and bowls.

—Debbie Spiller, Design



Brynn Tavasci, Chinook District. Brynn's Creative Design used a "ghost wood" piece of wood, rhododendron flowers and foliage, and a paper mache sculptural form.

WSFGC NEWS

OLYMPIA GARDEN CLUB BRINGS BEAUTY AND CHEER TO PLUM STREET TINY HOME VILLAGE

Olympia Garden Club is involved with various community projects in the Olympia area. One of the latest is to help beautify the Plum Street Tiny Home Village, a transitional housing community that helps homeless persons move into permanent housing and self-sufficiency. The site has 29 tiny homes, and the residents rotate out of the village when they are able to hold a job and move into regular housing. The village contained four two-foot by eight-foot by two-foot planter boxes that were in disrepair and were not being used. In October of 2021, Olympia Garden Club made the decision that the Plum Street Tiny Home Village could use our help. **So, we got busy!** We applied for a grant from WSFGC Endowment Fund and were granted \$950. Olympia Garden Club donated approximately \$300. Members donated all the labor and some of the bulbs and plants.

In the spring of 2022, we divided into teams of at least six people per team. During the next four months or so, the first two teams removed the old soil from planters and rehabilitated them by reinforcing some of the lumber, relining the interior with landscape fabric and chicken wire. They also stained the exterior with natural whey-based stain so that food-producing plants could be planted. The next team shoveled new soil into wheelbarrows and wheeled it to the planter boxes. In one of the boxes, the Hügeltur method was used. This is a method of using organic matter and as it breaks down, it creates an environment for beneficial fungi and microbes. This method improves the soil quality and allows for water retention, result-

ing in minimal maintenance. The final team planted: edible plants such as lavender, rosemary, blueberries, strawberries and tomatoes; flowering perennials such as heucheras, sedums, geraniums and coreopsis, phormium, a climbing rose, dwarf iris, and teta-tete daffodils for early spring color. In recognition of the Village name, we also planted two Dwarf Plum Trees in two large planters. The planter boxes are located at the front entrance and throughout the village.

We provided the current residents with tools, gloves, and literature so they can maintain the beds for future use and enjoyment. Our projected budget for the entire project was \$1,330. The project was intended to be completed in the fall once all of the planting was done. Since we are currently below budget, we'll be checking soon to see how the plants survived the winter. We'll use the remaining funds to replace plants as necessary and to provide gloves and tools for newer residents.

It didn't quite end there! Some of our members have volunteered at the village in other ways and have given household items for the residents. AND, for the past two years, Olympia Garden Club provided Christmas Stockings for each resident. Club members donate warm hats, gloves, socks, various snack/food items to fill stockings members have created. About a week before Christmas, we gather to fill the stockings and deliver them to the village. Residents are very grateful for this bit of Christmas Cheer.

—Joanne Sandell and Nancy Junk,
Olympia Garden Club



Top left and below: Planters by entry after rejuvenation

Left: Tomatoes and herbs in separate containers



HORTICULTURE

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Looking back on the past season is a good way to critique your garden while its performance is fresh in your mind. What perhaps surprised you with its looks and growth this spring? Are there some plants that disappointed you with their lackluster appearance and bloom? Is it time to remove a favorite plant that has outgrown its place in your garden? These are just a few of the thoughts to assess what might improve your special place, your garden.

Aucuba japonica 'Mr. Goldstrike' is a long acquaintance in my Zone 7a garden.



Aucuba japonica, 'Limбата'

Aucubas are a hardy evergreen that grow well here in full to light shade. Good-sized bright green leaves with yellow to chartreuse markings add a loud pop even in the winter landscape. I won't be removing the two of them I have had for many years as they still look good and accept my random pruning well. However, one of their most endearing qualities to me is how they handle the weather when it drops below freezing. The one that stands sentinel outside one of my front windows lets me know, at a glance, it is cold outside. Each leaf is partially curled and rolled inwards as if it is shivering! A new cultivar, *Aucuba japonica* 'Limбата' (aka A. 'Sulphurea') has also done well the several years it has been planted

right outside my front door. This is a shorter plant than many older cultivars as it only grows about 48 inches high. It has a width of about the same dimension. Its leaves are the show as they are about six inches long and toothed.



Aucuba japonica, 'Cecil-Alice'

They are a dark green until spring when the new growth shoots out and they have a bright white to yellow border. Some of the branches this year had new leaves that were a marvelous pure golden yellow. *Aucuba japonica* 'Cecil-Alice' is a dwarf that only grows two to three feet tall and maybe a foot or so wider. Its smaller green leaves are heavily mottled with cream and white. In can be damaged by cold winter winds but recovers



Geranium x magnificum

quickly come spring. Most *Aucubas* are easily grown in Zones 7a through 9 and they are not fussy about soil type. Perennial geraniums are another of spring's delights. My *Geranium x magnificum*, Showy Cranesbill, burst out with an almost astounding show of deep violet-blue flowers with bold contrasting veins this spring. It is a very reliable



strong bloomer in the spring with a sprinkling of blooms through the summer if deadheaded. Its foliage remains attractive all summer and into the fall. My plant of many years is about 30 inches wide now but does not spread by rhizomes as do many geraniums. Looking for something a little different you might try *Geranium pratense* 'Midnight Reiter' that has dark plum purple foliage with vibrant lilac-blue flowers. This is a dainty geranium with a height of eight to ten inches and a width of twelve inches. A similar cultivar is *Geranium* 'Hocus Pocus' that has larger lavender-purple flowers with sparkling white eyes and dark contrasting anthers. The dark-leaf foliage emerges bronze, purple in the spring transforming to deep green with purple edges in the summer. The saucer-shaped flowers of this perennial are larger than those on many other geraniums. A new cultivar is *Geranium* 'Dragon Heart' that with time will form a clump two feet tall and three feet wide with an abundance of two inch wide magenta-purple flowers, each highlighted by a nearly black center. Flowers start in the late spring and will continue well throughout the summer in cooler climate. Many perennial geraniums will bloom longer and more reliably though the summer when deadheaded. Geraniums are not fussy about soil type and generally do well in Zones 5a to 8. I have not had problems with the many geraniums I have in my garden in spite of the extreme hot temperatures that

are experienced here in the Lower Columbian Basin.

I will admit to not having particularly good luck with agastache even though their tags insist that they like the sun and many are touted as being drought hardy when established. They often try to fake their hardiness and bloom in the summer only to forget to return in the spring. But alas, I have succumbed again to their siren song and have planted *Agastache* 'Queen Nectarine' – Meant to Bee. Like others of its ilk, it falls easily within my 7a Zone as most *Agastache* are hardy in Zones 5 through 9, which should cover both the summer and the winter here. 'Queen Nectarine' is not a small plant at thirty to thirty-six inches high and equally wide. Soft peach flowers are held on mauve calyxes and the calyxes hold their color after the plant has stopped blooming, allowing its color to show into fall. The flowers are fragrant, and the plant is drought tolerant when established. It wants full sun to do well, and an added bonus is the deer do not care to dine on it. Soil requirements are from average to fertile and alkaline to neutral. It should be perfect for the sunny spot in which it was planted! The question will be did it read its own tag?

Please, keep gardening and having fun doing it. Always be ready to try something new as it might turn out to be the "Best Plant Ever!"

The Forgotten Fruit

I waited patiently that first fall in my new home for the “pears” to ripen on the small tree along the fence line. They were increasingly golden and a bit fuzzy and lumpy. I had never grown a pear, so figured this must be an unusual variety. I consulted my garden bible, Google. What is a fuzzy yellow pear, I asked? She answered that it was not a pear, it was a tree quince, *Cydonia oblonga*. I watched as my fruits yellowed and grew larger than pears. My sources told me to leave them on the tree as long as possible. As the fall progressed, I could actually smell the lovely aroma of the fruit just by walking into my backyard.



My research told me that quince originated in the Caucasus Mountain foothills of Iran and Turkey. In ancient Mesopotamia, it was called the golden apple. Some believe it was the apple in the Garden of Eden. It was brought to the Court of King Edward of England in 1275, and it is likely English colonists carried it carefully tucked away on ships crossing the Atlantic, the hopeful start to a new life. It is sure to have graced the gardens of my ancestors as they moved west, from farm to farm from Connecticut to Kansas. Quince became a common tree on American farms because the skins are full of pectin needed for setting jams and jellies. It also made amazing pies when mixed with honey and apples. Once powdered pectin was developed in 1934, the quince declined in importance. Until recently it had almost been forgotten.

But why was the small quince tree in my suburban subdivision? Did the

former owners crave some jam? The following spring, I had my answer when it was covered with exquisite pale pink blooms. The previous owners loved pink flowers and gnarled trunks, and this checked both boxes. The flowers looked a bit like single-petalled roses. This makes sense because quince is in the Rosaceae family, like apples and pears, but sits in a lonely genus with only one species. It is resistant, hardy in Zones 5-9, and a lover of sun and low summer humidity. It is also self-pollinating so only one is needed to make fruit. It has been promoted by today’s gardeners as a tree for the future.



This story of my little quince tree has just begun. I have harvested only six large fruits each year but after peeling them and cutting them up, then letting them bubble away for eight hours with some sugar in my crock pot, they magically turn from bitter, grainy white to sweet rose-pink. I have served the jam to my garden club on crackers and put it on my morning yogurt. But most importantly, this forgotten fruit has sweetened my garden journey and taught me to dig a bit deeper for the story behind the pretty flower.

—Cynthia Swanberg,

2022 Horticulture Essay winner, Root & Bloom GC, Hill & Dale District





This summer while things are slowing down in Garden Club, start planning to write your PLANT AMERICA Grant! Get your team together and brainstorm.

Application Procedure Timeline: Plant America Community Project Grant applications are open to NGC member clubs from April 1 through October 15 of the calendar year to fund new or continuing projects carried out during the following year. **DUE DATE FOR APPLICATION IS October 15.**

PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants help enhance and beautify our public areas and community gardens. Project grants to NGC member clubs help educate adults and children about the joys of gardening and create a pride throughout the community. Grants may be used for physical landscaping or environmental projects, or for horticultural or educational opportunities for the community. Grants have been awarded to NGC member clubs since 2017. More than 250 grants have been awarded, totaling more than \$225,000. Grants are awarded in amounts up to \$1,000.

Committee members review applications and notify grant recipients in December. Funds are released in January or February for projects to be implemented during that year. Project completion must be within approximately one year, but no later than February 28 of the year after funds are received. Final reports are

due by April 1 of that year. <https://gardenclub.org/plant-america-community-project...#PLANTAMERICA>.

Up to \$1,000.00 is made available to be used for direct expenses of projects. Projects submitted for receiving a grant may be a joint venture with another organization/s. The scope of these projects in communities may include:

- Beautification and/or restoration
- Community gardens
- School gardens/classrooms
- Landscaping for Habitat for Humanity Homes
- Landscaping of Blue Star or Gold Star Memorial Markers
- Implementation of environmental practices
- A horticulture or environmental educational event for the public

Grants will not be provided for:

- Projects in which the club does not participate in some aspect
- Purchase of Blue or Gold Star Markers
- Competitive Flower Shows
- Scout projects
- Salaries or benefits of personnel
- Political action programs
- Capital drives and fund building
- Scholarships and endowments
- Private gardens
- Lawsuits and litigation

Call if you have questions
Judy Swortz 253 359-4285
judyswortz@comcast.net

Penny Pines the NGC Conservation Pledge in Action

"I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forest, land, and wildlife."

The Penny Pines program is a valuable part of our garden club heritage. Its purpose is two-fold: to help replant and restore National Forests and to raise public awareness about the importance of forests. Healthy forests provide many benefits to people, including clean air and water, wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities.

We would like to encourage each district to have speakers and programs about forests, wildlife and current environmental issues affecting them. The request is that each District Director report at least once per year, that it has one or two educational programs each year about forests in their written and oral reports.

We ask that every garden club bring a Penny Pines container to each meeting and to set a goal to collect at least \$136 each year. We would like to double the amount of donations for Penny Pines from Washington state to the NGC from June 2023 to June 2025. Although donations can come from members directly, we welcome fundraising efforts and ideas. Donations may be made in honor or in memory of one individual, organization or theme.

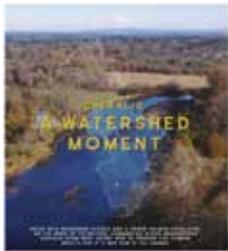
Penny Pines donations go directly to replanting and restoration efforts. Your money goes into a fund

that is used to purchase seeds and seedlings which are then grown by nurseries and planted in a local national forest to help repair natural disasters. Types of seed collections and multiple species of trees make it difficult to say how much is spent on seeds for any one particular area, but your donation goes directly to helping national forests in your area. There are currently about 130,000 acres of Forest Service land in Washington State that need to be restored after recent fires. The cost of seed and seedlings for that work over the next three to five years will be at least \$100,000, but every year Penny Pines buys seeds for thousands of new trees across the country.

Washington and Oregon are grouped together to make Forest Service region 6. In this region, you can see your donations at work by visiting forest service tree nurseries and seed collection facilities. If you are in the area, you would be welcome to arrange a visit. Forest Service nurseries are located in Coeur d'Alene, ID, and Central Point, OR; and Washington Department of Natural Resources grows some Western Red Cedar for reforestation in the Olympic National Forest at a large nursery in Olympia. Seed is extracted from the cones at a Forest Service facility in Bend, OR. Another facility near Cottage Grove, OR is an important part of the reforestation program for some tree species.

—*Diane Couraud*,
NGC Penny Pines Chairman

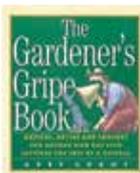
BOOK REVIEWS



Chehalis: A Watershed Moment
Shane Anderson and Jesse Andrew Clark.

**Produced by Pacific Rivers.
\$9.99 PBS DVD**

This informative 60-minute documentary is a great environmental selection that we should all learn about. Faced with worsening floods and a prized salmon population on the brink of extinction, communities along Washington's Chehalis River must decide how to prepare for climate impacts and if a new dam is the answer.



The Gardener's Gripe Book:
Musings, advice, and comfort for anyone who has ever suffered the loss of a petunia.

Abby Adams

**1995 Workman Publishing
\$10.00 paperback**

What an interesting author who has written down what we are thinking. Want to have a good laugh as you garden? She started with figuring out how to grow houseplants to her moving to a home with yard....so many more questions and trials to deal with. We never seem to know what can grow at our own house until our trials and tribulations and the various experts only sometimes help. I also liked the brief history of gardening around the world with so many interesting quotes. Gripes about starting seeds, lawns or not, trees in the wrong place, perennials, why do weeds grow so well, the timing of veggies – there is such a learning with gardening.



Gardening in the Northwest
Editors of *Sunset Magazine*

**2003 Sunset Publishing Corp
\$19.95 paperback**

Sunset knows how to draw you in with beautiful pictures of our region. The majestic Columbia River and Puget Sound to meadow and mountain and suburbia. You can get ideas for your

garden or deck from all the choices that are in words and photographs through walking into local gardens to a plant list in various climate types. You can have large or tiny spaces to grow plants to enjoy – doesn't matter if on the ground or on the rooftop. Make your space interesting with art and color in your garden – a statue, an interesting pot, rocks, a water feature – and don't forget the seat for you to sit and rest in your garden.

EVENTS

- July 12 **NGC Standard Flower Show** will be hosted by the Midland Judges Council at the Dryer Masonic Center, 306 134th St S, Tacoma, WA 98444. The flower show schedule will be circulated electronically. **SAVE THE DATE.**
- July 26-30 **An NGC Flower Show, “Just Kidding Around,”** will be hosted by Black Hills District Garden Club at the Thurston County Fairgrounds, 3054 Carpenter Road SE, Lacey, WA 98503. The flower show schedule will be circulated electronically. **SAVE THE DATE.**
- July 29 **Sequim Prairie Garden Club “75th Anniversary Festival”** at Pioneer Memorial Park, 387 E. Washington Ave, Sequim, WA. Featuring Cisco Morris, Exhibits, live music and more.
- Sep 23-24 **An NGC Standard Flower Show, “FALL in Love with Flower Shows,”** will be hosted by East Lake Washington District at the Bellevue Botanical Garden, Aaron Education Center, 12001 Main St., Bellevue, WA 98005. The flower show schedule will be circulated electronically. **SAVE THE DATE.**
- Oct 13 **An NGC Standard Flower Show, “Follow the Yellow Brick Road,”** will be hosted by Friendly Flower Garden Club at the Thurston County Fairgrounds, Sokolik Building, 3054 Carpenter Road SE, Lacey, WA 98503. The flower show schedule will be circulated electronically. **SAVE THE DATE.**
- Oct 17-19 **NGC Flower Show School III**, Savage Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1740 SE 139th Ave, Portland, OR 97233. Horticulture Instructor: Judith Newman, WI. Topic: *Container Plantings/Succulents*. Design Instructor: Francis Thrash, VA. Topic: *Creative Angular Design* and Creative Line Mass Design. Registration form on webpage: wagardenclubs.com.



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 10-12 (mini) Convention & Annual Meeting & Flower Show	Seattle or Tacoma area		Possibly Chinook 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

WSFGC NEWS

2022-2023 WSFGC Endowment fund grant project completed.

It was just a short year ago that Rosalia Garden Club applied for WSFGC Endowment funds after the WSFGC spring meeting where the chairman Diana Franchini announced she had only two applicants for funds and the deadline was just a short week away on March 15, 2022. I immediately thought of that eyesore on the backside of the mini park that needed to be cleaned up. I knew we would need help financially to get the job done so wrote the grant for \$500. Our proposal was accepted and in just a few weeks we received a check from WSFGC for \$500. Members were overjoyed to hear the news.



We decided the best time to get this project started would be in the fall. The club meets each Tuesday at the mini-park and grooms it; so from April to November, it is a busy time to keep up with everything.

The summer flew by; it was September and we needed to get this cleanup project started so members recommended a landscape service that several members used on their own gardens. The service came and gave the club a proposal for cutting down brush, trees and cleaning up

the area. Much to the grant writer's surprise, the proposal came to almost \$2,000. We soon realized we could not hire a professional landscaper, too expensive. We would

be dependent on volunteer help that might have a kinship to the Rosalia Garden Club. We knew chainsaws and other heavy equipment would be in demand. Several husbands of garden club members had helped before and yes, they would help again. We had a plan and felt it might match the budget set up in the grant proposal. October was a whole month of unusual hot weather just like summer.

No one was available to work on the project until November, except for a couple garden club members who pruned and cleaned to the best of their ability in one afternoon. A sigh of relief, at least the project had a start, and the grant writer could send in a six-month progress report.

November arrived with a nasty snowstorm and unusual wintry weather for early November. Nope, no one again willing to brave the weather. The project was put on hold till early spring, and we were all hoping March would turn nice and we would

have some 70-degree days, but old man winter just kept hanging on, not a single warm day would appear. Club members met one afternoon when the weather was tolerable; we pruned and cleaned up the bank in a small area in a couple of hours making a small dent in the progress. One member's grandson offered to bring his chainsaw and cut down the larger trees, another new member offered a donation to see about hiring help on the project. Yes, she found a tree service right in town, they cleared the rest of the brush by cutting and chipping everything. Wow, what a difference this made, and her family made a hefty donation of \$1,300 to Rosalia GC to pay the bill. There still was a lot of work to do, and garden club members pitched in and finished the job. The Arbor Day Planting was planned for the new area. An expensive tree (*Crataegus crus-galli* 'Crusader') was purchased for around \$300 and lo and behold, we were going to succeed in a lovely



Arbor Day Planting open to the public in the newly cleared area on the National Arbor Day, April 28. The tree was chosen for its compact size and beau-



Rosalia GC President Carley Dube and member Barbara Wallace

tiful coloring (orange to red) in the fall and the orange-red fruit for the birds. The final report to the state chairman for the grant was filed just in time. With the WSFGC grant money, a member and her family donation and lots of tough volunteer hours, the job got done. The biggest mistake on the project, the grant writer totally missed the cost of the clean-up, but garden club members will find a way to succeed!

—Marva Lee Peterschick,
Grant Writer for Rosalia Garden Club

WASHINGTON Garden & Design

FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Garden Club Members,

I'd like to introduce myself to you as the new Managing Editor of the WG&D. My interest in gardening started at an early age when I helped in my parents' garden back in Germany where I was born and raised. Now I live with my husband in Lacey, WA. Our home is surrounded by numerous trees, shrubs, and flower beds of various types.

I am a member of the Friendly Flower GC where I'm also the club treasurer. I joined GC about ten years ago when a friend asked me to come to a meeting. But it's only been in the last few years that I've become involved with activities at club and district levels. So, when Suzann Stahl, our new President, was looking for someone to take Judith's place, I volunteered. I hope I can live up to Judith's success. I will certainly work hard to continue to publish an excellent product with the help of our staff to guide me along. As for this issue, I'm learning as I go (on the job training). I think the issue has some interesting stories.

Sincerely,

Veronika Dunnam
Managing Editor

Official Publication of, and Published by, the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs. 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

Becky Westby, bkwestby@gmail.com

Logistics

New Managing Editor

Veronika Dunnam, vdunnam1950@gmail.com

Advertising Coordinator

Judy Swartz, judyswartz@comcast.net

Calendar of Events

Information and dates to

Veronika Dunnam, vdunnam1950@gmail.com

Department Editors

Book Reviews

Christine Dillinger, Teenie.Dillinger@gmail.com

Floral Design

Debbie Spiller, dunespill@gmail.com

Horticulture

Ellen Rector, perwa@aol.com

Pacific Region News

Brynn Tavasci, brynn-tavasci@comcast.net

Contributors

Diane Couraud, Terry Critchlow, Ellen Daly and Julie Darby, Jackie McCoy, Marva Lee Peterschick, Jeanette Pruin, JoAnn Sandell and Nancy Junk, Cynthia Swanberg, Judy Swartz

Washington Garden & Design (formerly *Smoke Signals*) (ISS 0195-1912) is published quarterly by Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs.

www.wagardenclubs.com



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 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