

THE ECHO

Hill and Dale District

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

#194 Sept - Nov 2019



THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

District Members,

Well, we made it through our first District meeting of a new year! Wow what a meeting it was. Our presidents had great things to say about their clubs. And the flower show was off the charts!! 230 horticulture entries, 24 designs, 2 educational, 8 photos and 13 botanical arts, that's amazing people!!

Our assistant directors did a great job getting speakers that were so interesting and entertaining, I learned so much about Dahlias and I know a lot of you did too. Jon, well talk about a fun guy, he just makes a day a lot more enjoyable. His designs were amazing and I don't know about all of you but, I need to go to the farm.

I'd like to thank all of you that could be there to enjoy the day. I know it ran a little longer than most days. I think it was well worth the little extra time. A big thanks to our bakers - what a great assortment of goodies. Thanks to all that helped set up, break down, clean up and everyone that went that extra step to help where needed. Without your extra help this all couldn't happen. THANK YOU

I'm excited for our Dec 3rd meeting. I know the club I belong to (Root & Bloom) is working hard on the items they will be bringing. It's been fun to watch them all come together and decide on the items and form groups to work on them. I hope your club is having as much fun. I know there is a lot of very creative people out there. It should be another great meeting, full of information and goodies for sale and to share.

I know we're all enjoying these cool sunny dry days getting our outdoors put to bed for the winter. Enjoy them while they're here the rain, falling leaves and snow will be here soon enough. See you all Dec 3rd.

Sincerely
Rachel Jennings
District Director
P.S. Remember to bring your shopping money!!



CLUB NEWS!

DOGWOOD

Hello fellow plant lovers! I can't believe it's already November! So much has happened in the past couple of months.

At our September meeting, we learned how to make "bulb lasagna" gardens by layering bulbs and topping off with hardy plants at Windmill Nursery in Sumner.



Then the club was treated to lunch at the Bistro. It was a small thank you for the hundreds of hours the club members have put in over the last year.

A lot of members headed back to the nursery, where we filled our carts with plants and went home to try out all the techniques we had learned. New name tags were created and donated by member Melody Stalk. Thank you, Melody!

Also in September, Dogwood club was responsible for receiving the entries at the District meeting floral show. There were a huge amount of entries, 230 or so!

Many thanks to Mary Bewley, Sherry Hanson, Geneal Palmer, Ginny Phillips, and Rosemary Nordstrom for all their help getting the job done! They missed the AM program, but thoroughly enjoyed the PM program given by florist and flower farm owner Jon Robert Thorne.

Ginny Phillips came home with one of his beautiful floral designs which were auctioned off as a district fund raiser when he was done speaking. John was very entertaining!

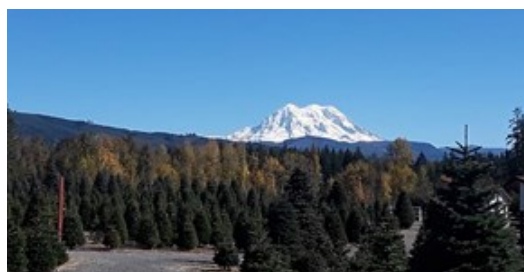
Also, Geneal Palmer won 2 blue first place stickers, congratulations!

Diane and Kathy Mettler were our hostesses for the October meeting which was held at Cox's Christmas Tree Farm. Delicious desserts were made by Kathy and enjoyed by all!

Mel Cox, who is now starting his 30th year running the farm, was very informative with his presentation on Christmas trees, and gave us a walking tour of the farm. It was a beautiful, sunny but cool, crisp fall day.

A big welcome to Susan Arthur and Katy Hoffman, who joined as new members of the club at this meeting.

Dogwood club cleaned up Dogwood park again, with its spectacular views of Mount Rainier.



Harvest season is over and we are headed into the dark time of the year. I have managed to put my garden boxes to bed and am dreaming of new fruit trees for spring planting, ready to head into my cave for the winter and rest.

There's one silver lining to getting up really early to see my kids off to school in the fall and winter – the sunrises are amazing here! Here's hoping you enjoy the coming winter season with friends and family!

~ Crystal Dorsey



GARDEN HOUR

Garden Hour had a great start to autumn with our Sept meeting, where we welcomed new member, Mary Wambold. We now have twenty-two members in our club.

At our meeting, Karla Hiers volunteered to lead our club's craft project, and Chris Krueger volunteered to lead our grow project. Sandy shared that Dorothy Bean volunteered to lead the awards program. Thank you, Karla, Chris and Dorothy!

A shout out to Jan Hurley, who is our horticulture extraordinaire. She regularly enters many of her plants and flowers at district meetings and shares words of encouragement to those with a desire to learn more about entering competitions.

Looking ahead, our club will be visiting Vassey Nursery, where we will learn the tips and tricks of shrub pruning.

Also, our club's meeting location will soon be changing. Sandy recently procured a new location, as our current space is slated to be demolished.

Because our club started off so smoothly, Sandy considered taking the year off. Thankfully, that idea was nixed; because after all, she is a queen bee of our club!

After our meeting, we enjoyed a tour of Marty's beautiful garden.

Sherry Meyer, Secretary

"Of all the seasons, autumn offers the most to man and requires the least of him." -Hal Borland



Root & Bloom

For many garden club members, the first meeting of the season is one of the most exciting of the year. In the case of Root & Bloom, that's when the new yearbooks are handed out, and we get to see what our officers planned for the 2019 / 2020 meetings. We'll be taking more field trips and going a little farther a-field this year, but more about them when the time comes.

First order of business: planning the crafts we want to make and offer for sale at the next District Meeting. Bloomers have so many great ideas, it was hard to choose. We did, however, and then it was on to the workshops to put the ideas to—well--work.

We've had three workshops so far, and they're particularly fun because the numbers of volunteers are low enough so that we can talk and get to know each other a little better. In this case, Bridget Pilgrim, April Devereaux, Karen Hargus, Rachel Jennings, Diana Riddle, Karla Stover, and Kathy Johnson slogged away in Jeanine Faulkner's family workshop. She was absent, having started a new job, so her husband, Wayne, was our host, setting up a table with coffee, juice, bagels, and assorted pastries, providing heat, and letting their dog, Dolly, keep us company. Lots of opinions and lots of fun.

And that brings us to the September District Meeting where the Bloomers rocked, winning quite a number of blue ribbons.

Congratulations to the following, some of whom won more than one: the names should be in alphabetical order but aren't: Harriet Miller, Donna Haley, Karla Stover, Vicki Nelson, Jeanine Faulkner, Rachel Jennings, Rosie Trujillo, Eddie Joe Fueston, and Kathy Johnson. What an amazing bunch, and I hope I didn't omit anyone.





In October, we hollowed out pumpkins donated by the South Hill Winco on 176th Street, and put arrangements of greens, feathers, and flowers in them. They were then given to an assisted-living facility.

We also discussed a new community project Bridget has been spearheading, took the names of volunteers for the October 4H Cloverbuds meeting in which we will be helping the members with a horticulture-related craft, and started planning for the room we decorate at the Meeker Mansion.

And last, but not least, we have three new members: Cindy Krebs, April Devereaux, and Jeanine Faulkner.

Respectfully submitted, Karla Stover

COUNTRY GARDENERS

We had a gorgeous summer filled with fun activities with the Pierce County Fair taking center stage. It was reported that the Hill and Dale District had donated approximately 805 volunteer hours, making this year's fair a great success. All sorts of activities were planned for the young and the "young at heart" enjoyed the displays of nature in the floral building. Even though it was hard work and long hours of preparation, people are already talking of plans for next year's fair. Way to go ladies and gentleman!!

It is now fall and we have a busy time ahead of us. Our new officers have been busy planning our agenda for the year with fun and interesting things planned for us.

Our first meeting was held on Sept 9, 2019 and as promised, we welcomed 5 new members to our club. During the introduction we each shared a little of why we chose to be involved in the club. We now are a total of 23 garden happy ladies.

Our first project was to make 19 centerpieces for the District Meeting held on Sept 24, 2019. President Chris Sherrill held a work party at her home to design and create the centerpieces. They did a great job and brought them to the meeting. The sale proceeds went back into our treasury for upcoming projects.

We discussed ideas for Christmas District meeting and a Continuing Garden Project. Our agenda for 2020 was discussed and Master Gardener Larry Owens is to be our first speaker for our Oct 7, 2019 meeting.

During our October meeting, we continued to discuss our garden project and it was decided to use Hydrangea cuttings. It is a club project but done individually, we will all keep journals of our efforts. It will be fun to see the final outcome. Since we are doing this individually, there will be no two alike...just as in nature.

Linda Maida shared with us the results of the District Meeting Floral Show, which had approximately 230 horticultural entries total, with Country Gardeners having the most horticulture. Members: Paulette Mears, Randi Welcher, Debbie Spiller and Linda Maida all winning awards... Country Gardeners Rock!!

After our business was completed, we enjoyed a break and welcomed Master Gardener Larry Owens as our guest speaker. He conducted more of a FAQ (frequently asked questions) talk. He was very informational, sharing his knowledge of gardening and its maintenance. Seems composting was of particular interest to the group. It would be great to be able to have him back again; when you are gardening there are always questions to ask.



It had also been mentioned that the grounds around the South End Community Center, where our meetings are held, was in need of some TLC. After the meeting was adjourned, we assembled in the garden to begin our work. At first site it looked a little daunting, but we all pitched in, weeding and visiting as we went. We were done in no time. In reality, I think we all had a great time, especially since the rain held off until we were through.

Our next meeting will be held Nov 4, 2019 and we are looking forward to old and new business, starting projects and sharing with each other our time and selves.

Respectfully submitted by:
Kathleen Muckian, Secretary

GLOVE & TROWEL

The beautiful colors of Fall. We are all surrounded by the vibrant colors of orange, burgundy, yellow, and red. The air is filled the fragrance of dry leaves.

Hydrangeas are changing their shades of color and are perfect to harvest and dry for many different craft projects. On Sept 18, 2019 some of our members visited the Soos Creek Botanical Garden. We took part in their class to make a dried hydrangea wreath



Esther Van Noy's roses proved to produce even more beauty in the fall. Her roses, along with her hydrangea and other items were entered in the District Meeting flower show on Sept 24, 2019. She had 9 entries and got 7 Blue Dots. I was so impressed with the speaker and his knowledge on Hydrangeas; I took 8 pages of notes. I am eager to apply the information on how to start new plants from the mother bulb next spring.

Oct 15 we had our Halloween Theme meeting. Members were asked to bring a Halloween Theme design from their yard.



Barbara Bias brought this stunning design consisting of: Vinca Minor / Burning Bush / Autumn Joy / Nandina / Spirea / Black Mondo Grass and a Black elbow glove over a wine bottle.

In Sept Glove and Trowel lost a very special member. Randa Conroy passed away. She was loved by all and she will be remembered forever.

Linda Bond

Hill & Dale District Web Site

<https://hillanddaledistrict.weebly.com/>

Judges Corner

This is a note that was sent to Judy Strickland regarding the September flower show from one of the judges. Compliments are always nice to share!

Dear Judy,

Thank you so much for inviting me to judge your District Flower Show. I was most impressed with the quality as well as the quantity of the Horticulture and Design.

Judging did take us a little bit longer but was handled well by all. The positive attitude of your garden clubbers is infectious.

Always a pleasure!

*Regards,
Donna Severson,*



Hill & Dale District Meeting

December 3rd, 2019

10:00 am – 2pm

Dryers Masonic Hall

306 134th Street South

Tacoma Washington 98444



Our Midland Judges Council will be both our morning and afternoon speakers. In the morning, they will be showing us how to dry and preserve our plant material, step by step. Then in the afternoon, they will use this plant material showing us how to incorporate it into our designs and Botanical Art Crafts. To finish off the afternoon each club will display its handmade garden art items and sell them with all proceeds going to the club. Don't forget your cash or checkbooks. This will be a lot of fun.



DISTRICT FLOWER SHOW RESULTS

September 24, 2019

HORTICULTURE 230 entries

Horticulture Excellence	Patricia Grimes, New Century
Arboreal Award	Bridgit Pilgrim, Country Gardeners
Award of Merit Section A	Jean Lester, Country Gardeners
Award of Merit Section B	Jewel Doering, New Century
Award of Merit Section C	Paulette Mears, Country Gardeners
Award of Merit Section E	Jo Martin, New Century
Grower's Choice Award	Patricia Grimes, New Century
Hill & Dale Harvest Award	Eddie Jo Fueston, Root & Bloom

DESIGN 24 entries

Designer's Choice	Linda Maida, Country Gardeners
Carolyn Erickson All Fresh	Not given
Ellen Swenson Flower Arrangement	Linda Maida, Country Gardeners

Other Awards

T. C. Photograph Award	Randi Welcher, Country Gardeners	7 entries
J. G. Artistic Craft	Karen Hanson, Interlaaken	13 entries
C. K. Educational Award	Judy Swortz, New Century	2 entries

CLUB POINTS	Horticulture	Design	Bot Arts
Aster Nots	18	8	0
Country Gardeners	275	29	34
Dogwood	18	0	0
Garden Hour	71	2	0
Glove & Trowel	55	6	0
Happy Thymes	0	0	0
Interlaaken	0	6	9
New Century	102	9	2
Root & Bloom	246	10	14
9/30/19			

GARDEN THERAPY



On Thursday, October 24th, Garden Therapy hosted a garden craft at Silver Creek Assisted Living in Puyallup. This is our new location and it is wonderful! The Activities Director, Jinjer Kunde, is delighted to be working with us. The room they allow us to use is large, open, and has all the amenities we could ever need.

We made centerpieces out of small pumpkins, flowers, and greenery. There were several Hill & Dale District members there to lend a helping hand and to visit with the residents. Many thanks to Chris Kruegar from Garden Hour, Sherry Mathews from Glove and Trowel, Kathy Johnson from Root and Bloom, Lisa Libby from Dogwood, Linda Evaro from Dogwood, Patty Swenson from Country Gardens, and SammieJo Thirtyacre from Dogwood.

Lisa Libby found baking sized pumpkins at two for fifty cents to use as the vessel for our craft. She cut the tops off, but we let the residents clean out the seeds and insides. LeeAnn, the Assistant Resident Activities Director, collected the seeds for the residents to roast and enjoy.

Lisa Libby and Linda Evaro spent many hours searching for all the beautiful greenery and berries used to accent the centerpieces. They could even be seen crawling on their hands and knees up a steep hill to secure beautiful berries and greenery! Once at the top, Lisa looked over and discovered there was a walking trail just a few feet or so to the side of them that they could have taken instead. What an adventure!

Thank you to Mary Schactler of Eatonville Nursery for allowing Lisa and Linda to freely cut from her wonderful nursery selection to add to the greenery and berries.

SammieJo Thirtyacre and Katy Hoffman went to the Washington Floral Service wholesale market in Tacoma to buy the flowers. That was a fun outing as well with lovely Christmas trees decorated in a host of color schemes are displayed throughout the warehouse.

The event was attended by 7 residents. Several of our Garden Club members made extra centerpieces to leave at the front desk of Silver Creek for them to use as decorations.

Please join us on Thursday, Feb 27, 2020 for our next Garden Therapy session at Silver Creek.





OFFICERS

Thanks to all who serve!

Hill and Dale District

District Director: Rachel Jennings
 1st Asst Director: Kathy Johnson
 2nd Asst Director: Patti Isom
 Secretary: Marjorie White
 Treasurer: Keith Ripley
 Parliamentarian: Rosie Trujillo

Garden Hour

CoPres: Sandy Parr
 Marty Roper
 VP: Sue Miller
 Sec: Sherry Meyer
 Treas: Lorinda Jenkins

Interlaaken

CoPres: Judy Swortz
 Gloria Wing
 VP: Karen Hanson
 Sec: Trish Lewis
 Treas: Cynthia Olsen

Aster Nots

Pres: Edith Harlow
 VP: Andrea Hodges
 Sec: Allison Moser
 Treas: Ann Read

Glove & Trowel

Pres: Jan Morgan
 CoVP: Michele Candiloro
 Randa Conroy
 Sec: Linda Bond
 Treas: Shery Matthews

New Century Design

Pres: Karen Hanson
 CoVP: Patricia Grimes
 Judy Swortz
 Sec: Madeline West
 Treas: Keith Ripley

Country Gardeners

Pres: Chris Sherrill
 VP: Gail Harte
 Sec: Hellen Wilson
 Treas: Linda Maida

Happy Thymes

Pres: Patti Johnson
 VP: Cathy Pitts
 Sec: Rosana Letourneau
 Treas: Pat Smithson

Root & Bloom

Pres: Diane Riddle
 VP: Rosie Trujillo
 Sec: Donna Haley
 Treas: Lisa Libby

Dogwood

Pres: Diane Mettler
 VP: Kathy Mettler
 Sec: Ginny Phillips
 Treas: Lisa Libby

UPCOMING EVENTS 2019 / 2020

District Meetings;

Dryers Masonic Hall
 306 134th St S, Tacoma
 Dec 3, 2019
 Mar 24, May 26, 2020

District Board Meetings:

Midland Community Centre
 1619 E 99th St, Tacoma
 Feb 25, April 28, 2020

Workshop

March 31, 2020





SPREAD A LITTLE SUNSHINE!

Do you know a member who could use a cheerful note or card? Let **Doris Yuckert** know and she will send out a card.

dyuckert@centurylink.net or
253.845.8720

MISSION STATEMENT

National Garden Clubs, Inc. provides education, resources and national networking opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility.

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