

THE ECHO

Hill and Dale District

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

#204 Mar 2022 - April 2022



Hill and Dale District had a solid presence at the Spring Fair in Puyallup in April. Volunteers talked with a lot of folks interested in being involved in gardening and joining clubs. Some filled out forms to consider joining a garden club and those leads were handed out to the club presidents at the April Board meeting.

A huge THANK YOU to all the volunteers who manned the booth and to Rosie Trujillo who kept the momentum going on this event!



Hill & Dale District booth at the Spring Fair

District Meeting

Mar 24, 2022

Dryer Masonic Center

306 134th St S, Tacoma

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

Meeting 10 a.m. To 2 p.m.

Our morning speaker will be Jeff Johnson who will be speaking on traditional Chinese medicine with an emphasis on herbs and plants.

Serendipity Designers who are members of our district will be our afternoon speakers.

They will create designs in front of us incorporating "Playing Games" as a theme. These ladies will show and explain to us why and how they place the flowers within their designs.

Please join us on Tuesday, March 22 for our District Meeting & Flower Show.

Dates to Remember

District meetings

May 24th, 2022

District Board Meeting

Sept 6, 2022

Dogwood Annual Plant Sale

May 7th

Hill & Dale Fundraiser

May 21st

Rhythmic & Angular Design Symposium

May 21 & June 1

WSFGC Convention, Anacortes

June 13-14 via Zoom

District Bus Trip to Lake Wilderness

June 23

Pierce County Fair, Frontier Park, Graham

Aug 8-11

LOGGING INTO A ZOOM MEETING

If you do not already have Zoom loaded on your computer go to your browser bar (the www...etc. Bar at the top of the screen) and type in:

Join [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us)

Click **Open Zoom Meeting**. If you don't see a dialog; click **Launch Meeting**

If you don't have Zoom installed click **Download Now** then click on the circle at the bottom of the screen to open the download up.

- It will now ask you for the meeting ID number which is: **622 744 7615**
- Click on **Join**
- Click on **Yes** to enter with video
- Click on **Yes** to enter with audio
- It will say 'host will let you in the meeting'

If Zoom is already on your computer go to your Zoom page

- click on join a meeting
- Enter the meeting ID **622 744 7615**
- Click on **yes** to enter with video
- Click on yes to enter with audio
- It will say 'host will let you in meeting'

If you need help please contact Kathy Johnson at 253-847-4933 or kathyj16@msn.com

You do not need a camera on your computer to participate. You will still be able to see and hear everything! While others won't be able to see you they can hear you.



MARCH 22, 2022

FLOWER SHOW RESULTS

	HORTICULTURE	DESIGN	BOT ARTS	TOTAL
ASTER NOTS	<u> </u>	<u> 1 </u>	<u> </u>	<u> 1 </u>
COUNTRY GARDENERS	<u> 139 </u>	<u> 14 </u>	<u> 17 </u>	<u> 170 </u>
DOGWOOD	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
GARDEN HOUR	<u> 1 </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> 1 </u>
GLOVE & TROWEL	<u> 3 </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> 3 </u>
HAPPY THYMES	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
INTERLAAKEN	<u> 44 </u>	<u> 6 </u>	<u> 1 </u>	<u> 51 </u>
NEW CENTURY	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ROOT & BLOOM	<u> 137 </u>	<u> 28 </u>	<u> 17 </u>	<u> 182 </u>

Award of Merits: Kieith Ripley & Karen Silveus of Country Gardeners; Judy Swortz of Interlaaken

Betty Belcher Best Horticulture: Karen Silveus

Marva Lee Peterschick Best flowering branch: Kathy Johnson of Root and Bloom

Ellen Swenson Best Design: Debbie Spiller of Country Gardeners

Sherry Matthews Best Spring Design: Judy Strickland of Root and Bloom

Hill & Dale Botanical Arts Award: Jeanine Faulkner of Root and Bloom

Best Educational: Kathy Johnson of Root and Bloom

BUS Tour
June 23, 2022

Trip to Lake Wilderness Arboretum and John Thorne's Farm, Maple Valley.

Tickets will be available at the May District Meeting or call Chris Sherrill to reserve your seat. Ticket price yet to be determined.

Chris Sherrill
253.820.5907



A Tribute to Elly Eastlack Country Gardeners

Elly Eastlack came to our club when the garden club she belonged to for years disbanded. She was a wealth of knowledge and shared with us happily. Sadly when the coronavirus hit we were unable to meet and so we did not get to know Elly as well as we all would have liked. She tried to take part in as much of our club meetings and activities as her health would allow. The article below was written by Jean Lester, who also came to us at the same time. Jean was a good garden friend to Elly but more importantly was a confidant and a great help to Elly in recent months. This is her tribute and we all will miss Elly.

I personally got to know Elly when she joined Hope Garden Club under Capital Tahoma District approximately 10 years ago. She previously was a member with another club in Tahoma district that folded.

Elly loved gardening and had a beautiful garden herself. She opened her yard for several small group garden tours during that time.

A beautiful quote from Judy Swartz was sent to me recently. "I remember when half the horticulture at the flower shows were her first place entries. In her hey day! She was a real force to be around. Most knowledgeable lady ever."

Elly was an avid quilter and had 3 quilting friends for approx 30 years that met at her home almost weekly for their quilting. They took classes together throughout the years.

Every year Elly donated baby quilts she made to Mary Bridge Children's hospital at Christmas time. She also sold her quilts at several bazaars. Elly had 3 sons; 2 lived locally.

I was fortunate and honored to spend time with her daily the last several months as her health declined. She will be missed greatly and is forever in our hearts.

Jean Lester, Country Gardeners.



Save the Dates

August 11 to 14, 2022 Fair!

August 2, 9 a.m. clean building, potluck after chores are done!

August 8 & 9, 9 a.m. decorating building

August 10, 11 a.m.- 6 p.m. taking entries

Looking forward to your ideas and help!



ROOT & BLOOM

Designer gourds (Rachel Jennings on the right) are just one of the things the Bloomers have been doing at their monthly meetings. Our president, Lisa Libby, cut, drilled and white-washed gourds which we then painted using alcohol paints and, when dried, finished the edge with dried pine needles. It was such fun and each one turned out beautiful. And, incidentally, Lisa was featured in the spring issue of the Washington State Gourd Society's newsletter.



It's always so interesting to see which colors our members prefer, as you can see below when we made garden totems at the April meeting. (Jeanine Faulkner and Kim Munson pictured left to right below). According to <https://freshpatio.com/garden-totems>, garden totems can be made of glass, ceramic or pottery, of mosaic or wood. Ours were wood which Lisa brought along with paints, brushes and stencils.



But not to neglect plants, at the same meeting we also had a club horticulture show. I think more than two dozen blooms were brought and Judy Strickland judged each one giving the gardener helpful advice on how to enter their particular flower in a judged show, for example, rhododendrons should only have one collar, pushing a straight pin through the stem of a tulip right under the bloom might (note I said might) keep it from opening too much, and the proper bottle in which flowers should be shown. We voted for our favorite bloom and Norma Humphrey's pink camellia won.



In March we took a field trip to the Portland Avenue Nursery, meeting in their cedar building and then shopping. The nursery is always so generous when the District needs something that it is a pleasure to repay their generosity.

As I write this, we have two more field trips planed: in late April it is a visit to the Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens in Woodland (pic on the right) with an optional side trip to Tsugawa Nursery destination for plants not available elsewhere



In May our meeting will be held at the Olympia Farmer's Market.

Another thing the Bloomers did, with the help of Kathy Mettler, was plant our own Bonsais in Jeanine's garage. She and her husband have a wonderful big garage where we have had functions in the past and where Metal Magic will be held.



Root & Bloom's garage sale was on April 22nd & 23rd at Lisa's home in Mineral.

The picture below is of a large clock member Linda Bones found along side of the road and which I bought. All it needed was a new battery and it runs beautifully. I put it on the porch because on it is written, "Welcome to our home."



Linda is one of our new members. Sue Thompson also joined Root & Bloom as did Bev White. It's lovely to be a growing club.

The poet t.s. eliot (he refused to capitalize his name) wrote that "*April is the cruelest month*" but Stephen Foster came back with "*the merry merry month of May*, and Rodgers and Hammerstein topped them all with "*June is bustin' out all over.*"

Ah, June, when the butter is always soft in the dish. You'll be here soon.

Karla Stover
Secretary

GLOVE & TROWEL

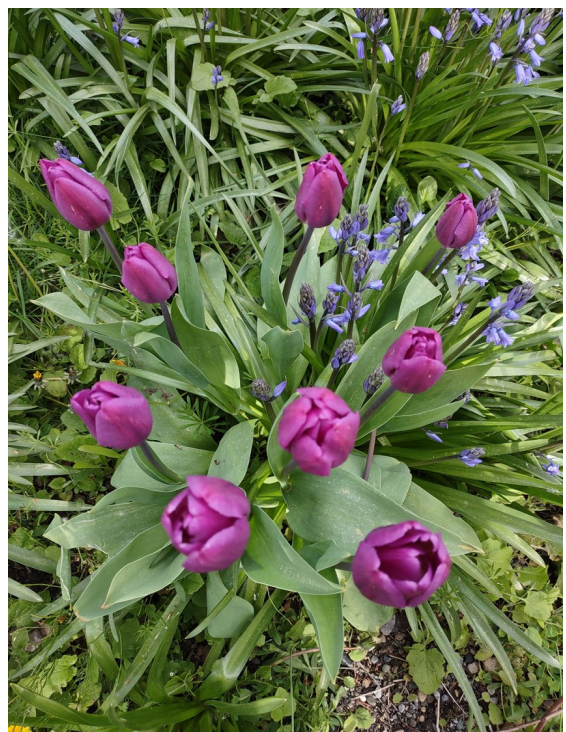
The March meeting was held at Jan Morgan's home. We learned all about growing mushrooms on an oak logs presented by Linda Pempeck, Linda had mushroom on the log from the previous owner that grew but didn't look too appetizing.... Four members attended the March 24 District meeting.

April took 10 of us on a tour of DeGodes Wholesale greenhouses led by the owner Phil DeGodes. It was tantalizing to see all the very healthy plants that will be delivered to select stores in the area. We wanted to go shopping but could not! Then it was on to Aversano's for lunch. Several members gave progress reports and, in some cases, pictures of the plants in our Garden Growing Project.

ASTER NOTS

Our April meeting was a planning meeting and lunch at the home of Andrea Hodges. May and June will include flower arranging and a tour.

Peggy Warren



COUNTRY GARDENERS

WELCOME SPRING! Isn't it wonderful to live in an area where within a day you can visit the beautiful Pacific Ocean and take in the spring flowering of the mountain meadows..AND no surprises here, the changing weather. Where in a matter of minutes we can be witness to hail, snow, rain and sunshine all at the same time! Country Gardeners are not afraid of a little weather, we have plans.

During our March meeting, Linda Maida brought again a wealth of creativity by showing us what we could do with a simple straw, jar lids, bottle caps, twisted wire or anything else you might think could be thrown away because it is of no use. Linda will find a way and now so will



we. She showed us how we could use these items to create "miniature" designs. It was great fun seeing how we could use these and make them come together as something to adorn our shelves. Who knew?! We were also able to deliver to the Heartwood Care Center some 120 Tray Favors just in time for Easter (pic on lower left)

In April we had our regular meeting and planned a field trip to the Purple Geranium only to discover they do not open until May...no worries, will do that in the future.

Our next scheduled field trip is on April 25, 2022 to Flower World in Maltby. It's a wonderful experience if you have not yet had the opportunity to check out their many green houses. Although it is a bit of a drive it is worth it and is mostly under cover so don't let our North West weather deter you from a great adventure!.

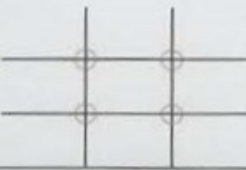
In April, some of us are also helped at the Spring Fair and preparing for the Pierce County Fair in August. We are also planning for the District Meeting in May, where we, along with the Aster Nots Garden Club, will provide the table centerpieces.

There are many things going on in the next couple of months for all of us; club yard/ plant sales, Metal Magic, club fundraisers, Symposium, as well as the Lake Wilderness Bus Trip we have all been anxiously awaiting.

With all the great activities planned, we still need to make time for our own gardens and the spring planting. A Gardeners work is never done! Enjoy!

Country Gardener
Kathleen Muckian

PHOTOGRAPH Information For Flower Shows

Judging Criteria Quality of Photo technically well done	General appearance is neat, orderly	Interest to viewer	Perspective Leading Lines Pulling us into the picture, towards the subject, or on a journey "through" the scene. Different types of lines. -	Viewpoint photographing from high above, at ground level, from the side, from the back, a long way away, very close up
Category Photograph meets class description Exposure Contrast Light/dark Shadows Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composition • Simplicity in design • Dominance • Color • Texture • Proportion 	Rule of Thirds Place the most important element(s) in your shot on one of the lines or where the lines meet. Fill the Frame 	Depth of Field include objects in the foreground, middle ground and background	Balance A composition evens out the main subject's "visual weight" by including another object of lesser importance to fill the space
Mounting: Secure Neat	Cropping cropping tight around the subject eliminates the background , ensuring the subject gets the viewer's attention.	Framing natural frames, such as trees, archways and holes help to isolate the subject and focus on the subject.	Symmetry and Patterns Repetition and similarity provide interest	Background a plain and unobtrusive background so that it doesn't distract or detract from the subject of the photo.
NGC Photography			Point Scoring:	
Conformance			5	
Interpretation of Class Title			10	
Composition			25	
Artistry/Creativity			25	
Technical Achievement			25	
Distinction			10	
Total Points			100 total points	

Source: Tahoma District formatted by Judy Swortz 253 582-0373
 Given from professional photographer classes, Rose Society, 4-H
 Other info gleaned from NGC website

DROUGHT TOLERANT GARDENING IN WESTERN WASHINGTON

The Master Gardener website provides a wealth of information to gardeners. Here is some information from their website on drought tolerant methods in Western Washington.

- Rain comes between fall and spring and on average we receive about 40 inches per year.
- Only 7 inches fall between May and September.
- Western Washington follows a Mediterranean Climate pattern with cool wet winters and warm dry summers.

Watering Methods Can Help

Install a rain garden * install a rain barrel

Lawns: Water deeply 1-2 times per week * they need 1–1.5 inches per week year round
Mow grass long leaving clippings on lawn
Add compost and aerate in the spring

Borders: Use drip watering if possible
Water deeply but less often
Group water thirsty plants together, preferably out of the direct sun

Compost helps almost any soil: Helps sandy soil retain moisture
Helps clay soil drain more readily
Provides nutrition

Plant native plants: Typically well suited to environment
Almost always need less care
When selecting non-natives, choose plants from a similar climate

Perennials for dry sun: Lewisia * Achjillia * Coreopsis * Lupine * Sedums * Butterfly Weed *
Agastache * Salvia * Lavender * Russian sage

Perennials for dry shade: Viola * Maidenhair Fern * Wood Aster * Foam Flower * Sword Fern *
Jacob's Ladder * Epimedium * :Pulmonaria * Heuchera * Hellebore *
Bleeding Heart * Hosta

Drought tolerant trees and shrubs: Vine Maple * Noble Fir * Shore Pine * Mock Orange *
Kinikininik *Ceanothuis

Herb Gardens: Sage * Lavender * Thyme * Rosemary * Borage * Savory * Echinacea *
Oregano * Basil

Anne Hartman, Editor
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Graham, WA 98338



SPREAD A LITTLE SUNSHINE!

Do you know a member who could use a cheerful note or card? Let **Chris Sherrill** know and she will send out a card. smittywalt@centurylink.net or 253.820.5907

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.