

# THE ECHO

## Hill & Dale District

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



### District Meetings

- May 28, 2024
- September 24, 2024
- December 3, 2024
- March 25, 2025
- May 27, 2025

### Board Meetings

- September 3, 2024
- October 22, 2024
- February 25, 2025
- April 22, 2025

### District Garden Therapy

- May 23, 2024
- October 24, 2024
- February 27, 2025
- May 22, 2025

## District Director's

Hello Gardeners,

May is mild and sweet, a prime time for flowers. Which is your favorite, Rhododendrons, Lilacs, Roses, Wisteria, Magnolias, or many many more? While we enjoy the colors and fragrances don't forget about all the bees, butterflies and other insects that love the flowers and spread their pollen.

In March the "Frogs Come Croakin" was another great District Flower Show. We had 148 horticulture entries, 24 designs where we were "Dining At The Pond" or in the "Wetlands" and in Botanical Arts we had 28 total entries of decorated birdhouses, trowels, a rain hat and of course photos. A big thanks to all 100 of you that attended the meeting and thanks also to those that entered the flower show.

Suzann Stahl, the WSFGC President, made her official visit to our district, and we presented her with our district logo, a daffodil that she can enjoy in her yard.



## District Director’s Message *Cont...*

We all learned from our two speakers: Lance Smith from Feather Haven who spoke to us about our Spring Backyard Habitat, and Sue Goetz who taught us tips on how shapes, layers, color, texture and rhythm all play parts in designing our garden spaces.

Are you ready to continue “Along the Garden Path” because the district has a very busy spring and summer planned, plus each of your clubs have plans also. We start in the month of May with our district meeting and NGC Flower Show, “Gardens Make Memories”. Continuing along our path into June, please join in on the state activities as we celebrate our 90th anniversary at the convention. Then we have our annual Bus Trip on June 18th, and our 1st District “Blooming Botanical Bliss” home garden tours of Puyallup, University Place, and Gig Harbor. Moving right along into July & August, we continue our activities by attending Girl Scout Day Camp and sponsoring the floral building at the Pierce County Fair in early August.

Thanks to each and every one of you who have supported our district activities. From attending our District Meetings, entering our NGC Flower Shows, to all our district committee chairman that have worked so hard in planning our activities thanks to all of you for your time, energy and help.

A HUGE THANK YOU to the plant sale committee for planning, to all members that donated plants and to the 29 members that worked the plant sale on April 27th for a total of 169 hours, what a SUCCESS!!

When you celebrate May Day and leave some flowers hanging on a door, or are outside digging in the dirt, remember the pollinators and add some of their favorite plants to your shopping list this spring.

Let the Gardening Begin! Kathy

### **Hill & Dale** *Dates to Remember*

5/23	Garden Therapy
5/28	District Meeting & Flower Show
6/11-12	WSFGC Flower Show & Convention
6/18	Bus Trip & Awards Lunch
6/25	Puyallup & University Place Garden Tours
7/16	Gig Harbor Garden Tours
7/23	Girl Scout Day Camp
8/7	Fair Entries Accepted
8/8-11	Pierce County Fair

# Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs Celebrates 90 Years!

A Very Special Celebration to recognize the WSFGC 90th Anniversary will be held in conjunction with the June 10-13th Annual Meeting and State Flower Show.

**Date: June 11, 2024**

**Time: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Cocktails, dinner, a celebrity speaker, and surprises!**

**Location: Little Creek Casino & Resort, Shelton, WA**



**How It All Began: 1933-1936** Federated garden club activity began on September 28, 1933, at Frederick and Nelson Department Store in Seattle with an “extra nice” lunch for fifty cents. There were initially fifteen clubs. By January 3, 1934, the twenty-five charter clubs that formed WSFGC included South Tacoma, Better Gardens Clubs of Tacoma and Sumner. The Bylaws and Constitution were adopted, and Mrs. F. S. Greely was elected to serve as our first State President, from 1933-1934. On March 29, 1935, the President of National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., informed us that WSFGC had been accepted into National Clubs, Inc. WSFGC had 50 member clubs by the spring of 1935.

**1936 – 1938 September 29, 1936**, WSFGC Convention “Salute to the Rhododendron,” was adopted as the Washington State Flower and Federation Emblem. The official logo is used on all stationery and forms. Nine districts were established, each governed by a Director. Capitol District was the name of our district at that time.

**1941 - 1945**, Our Victory Garden Program was recognized as one of the best efforts in the nation. Our eighth President’s term was filled with War Bond Drives, Savings Stamps and Victory Gardens. Our “Christmas Project,” whereby the Federation paid for phone calls home from soldiers in the city at Christmas time. Community support was foremost in garden club members’ minds.

**1945 - 1949**, Postwar Expansion, Peacetime Activities strengthen the Federation. In 1956, the Margery V. Bardon District Publication Award was created. It was the first WSFGC Past President Award. She also established our State Publication, Smoke Signals, naming it and serving as Managing Editor for two years.

**1949 - 1957**, A guide for judging yearbooks was distributed to the Districts and 137 books were judged. Two Blue Star Memorial Highway Markers were installed (Peace Arch Park in Blaine, and Vancouver, WA) at a cost of \$92.50.

Since that time, the mission of the WSFGC has driven the organization to provide programs to benefit tens of thousands of members and their communities over these 90 years. WSFGC Garden Club members throughout the state share inspiration and friendship as they explore their individual passion.

Hill & Dale District of Garden Clubs presents the  
*"Blooming Botanical Bliss Garden Tours"*

Tour 1: Puyallup &  
University Place  
Tuesday, June 25  
10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
5 gardens



Tour 2: Gig Harbor  
Tuesday, July 16  
10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
6 gardens



**Prices: One Tour \$20; Both Tours \$30**  
Sign up and pay to reserve your tickets

Carpooling is strongly encouraged

No facilities at the gardens so plan for  
restroom and lunch stops

Proceeds support  
The Hill & Dale Youth Horticulture  
Scholarship Program



We are excited to work with our local Girl Scout Troops again this summer. July 23, we will be attending day camp at Camp Curran near 128<sup>th</sup> & Canyon Road.

Please sign up to help at our  
May District Meeting



## Directions for Totems & Dish Flowers

### Totems

- \*vases/variety
- \*plates
- \*clear caulking

Figure out how you want to stack them. Put together with caulking, let dry for 24 hours. If desired add plant and rocks onto plate.

### Dish Flower

- \*colored plates/bowls
- \*saucers, rebar,
- \*bottle & plastic bag

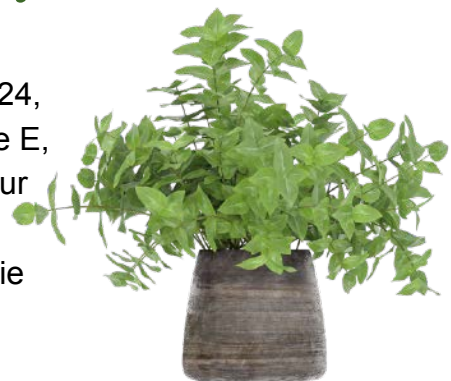
Place together as desired, then apply caulking and let dry for 24 hours. The next day caulk the bottle on backside and let dry for 24 hours (can put a plastic bag inside bottle to help secure when placing flowers onto rebar). Pound rebar in your desired spot in the ground, then just slide bottle onto rebar.

Enjoy Forever Flowers, Randie Welcher



## Garden Therapy

Please join us for Garden Therapy on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at Silver Creek Assisted Living located at 17607 91st Avenue E, Puyallup, WA, 98375. Please ask for two volunteers from your club to participate in Garden Therapy and visit with the members who live there. It's a wonderful time for camaraderie and relationship building. I'm looking forward to seeing you there. -SammieJo



# Dogwood

Well fellow plant-lovers, spring has sprung! Here is the news since February.

The March meeting was held at the Ohop Grange, the April meeting was held in Mineral at Mineral Lake Lodge and were hosted as follows:

- March: Louise Harris, Darlene Nelson, Bev Holze with assistance from Creig Kerwitzky, who provided a St. Patrick's Day theme
- April: Carolyn McKelvie, Lisa Libby, Leslee Dunlap, Tina Moore

Nancy Schank shared the following plants that make terrific habitat for birds –

- March: *Enkianthus campanulatus* 'Jan Iseli Red', which was won by member Donna Rahier for guessing the Yearbook Challenge question correctly!
- April: Echinacea/coneflower - blooms into fall, great winter bird food; beneficial insect nesting habitat

We have fantastic news – our garden club was awarded a \$765 grant from the Washington State Federal of Garden Clubs for Dogwood Park! Thank you to all of you who have had feet on the ground at the park and have labored to make it a better place to visit. Thank you for your hard work, and also for your contributions to the committee. Thank you to Beverly Holze for her dedication and hard work in leading the committee!



A new Historian is needed as Melody has stepped down from that position.

The special programs for the months were:

- In March, master gardener, Barbara Samora, gave presentation about Eatonville's Community Garden. The garden was established in 2012 with the vision to provide opportunities for people to grow food with sustainable methods.
- In April, Lisa Libby shared her love of gourds – her garden know-how for growing and drying gourds, and the skills and artistry for carving and decorating gourds. Lisa wowed us with her gourds, including a "thunder gourd" that is so loud when you bounce the attached spring, it stops conversations.

Here at Dragonfly Gardens I'm working on getting my seedlings in the ground in my garden, and potting up all the extras for our two upcoming plant sales! Until next time!

~ Crystal Dorsey

## Garden Hour

This month, Garden Hour is submitting a different type of article. We are sharing an excerpt from a “Meet the Member” article from our newsletter, The Gazette, by our very own Mary Wambold. Each quarter we highlight one of our members as a way to really get to know each other. *Enjoy!*



## Meet the Member

by Mary Wambold

Meet Jan Hurley! Jan is a native Washingtonian. Throughout the years, she moved to crazy places like North Dakota, Montana, and Michigan with her husband and young children. When she and her finally settled, they lived for 31 years in what is now Edgewood...

Jan has been a member of Garden Hour since about 2007. She learned of our club from our own Karla Hiers! Jan, Karla, and Karla’s mother, Alice Repp, were all a part of a much smaller garden club, called Plant and Hope. Because of its size, Plant and Hope eventually disbanded, and Jan, Karla, and Margie VanVolkenburg all moved their membership to Garden Hour. Jan, who was reluctantly president of Plant and Hope, is responsible for bringing the Holiday Centerpiece fundraiser to our club. It’s been a regular part of our club’s annual fundraising (and December socializing) for several years.



Garden Club meeting  
6/2020 @ Marty's

After 30 years working for Great Northwest Federal in various locations and in various functions, Jan joined Bank of America. There, she was robbed at gunpoint in Tacoma in “the late 90’s” (really, Jan, that date is not etched in your memory?) and worse yet, held hostage along with 5-7 other people in a 1997 situation in the Auburn facility. REALLY? Yes, really! She can laugh about it now, but remembers how terrifying the whole event was. Talk to Jan for more details...

Jan is very social, and her enthusiastic positive attitude makes her really fun. She loves people, loves to be of service, loves her church and roses... but she is “in love with” the trumpet flowers. (FYI...not a rhododendron fan. Can we forgive her for that?)

*Say hello to Jan!*



## Glove & Trowel

March was our first meeting of the year with 15 members and two guests (who became members) in attendance. We made a donation to our new meeting place (SE Tacoma Community Center). It was reported that Joan Bauer and Raunie Grottolo attended the NW Flower & Garden Show. Raunie Grottolo and Jan Morgan planted herbs with the residents of Silver Creek. Great Plant Picks for this month: Sally Evans gave an interesting report on Dwarf Sweet Boxwood and Raunie Grottolo gave an informative talk on Helleborous. Linda Pempeck ordered 20 trees to be potted up for the plant sale. The club planting project: everyone will plant zinnias for our September meeting. Several members signed up to work the plant sale in April and to take the bus trip in June. 10 members showed up at Eileen Smiley's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party at her clubhouse. Our meeting ended with two Rose Society members sharpening our tools and giving us tips on how to take care them as well. Our club was honored to receive the first Golden Shovel Award at the March District. A very nice surprise!



April brought Andy Matelich from Washington State Beekeepers Association, to tell us all about bee varieties, what they do and what they need to stay here. Our meeting started after Andy's presentation. Thirteen members and one guest were present. Our club was in charge of the horticulture at the March District flower show, which included identification, placement and clerking. Seven members worked diligently to insure a smooth-running horticulture flower show. We voted to change our meeting time and month to 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, from February to December. A Great Plant Pick presentation was given by Terryann Westby. The subject was viburnums, showing examples of Oregon Grape and a dwarf variety of double-file viburnum that's only 3 feet tall. Linda Pempeck delivered a large quantity of plastic to Judy Strickland after the meeting.



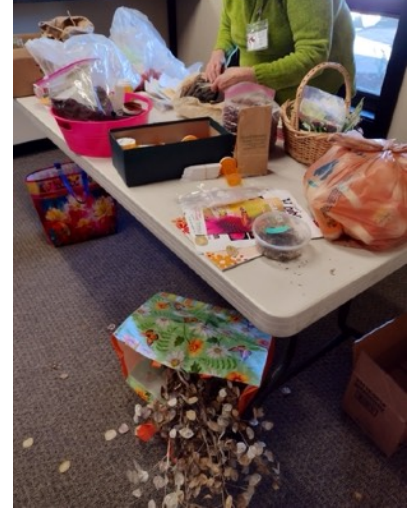
## Glove & Trowel *Cont...*

Sally Evans and Ruth Prins are attending Gardening School. We had a seed sharing session where members brought lots of seeds to share, plus containers.

May meeting plans are creating a raffle basket for the May 28th District meeting with a Patio Party theme. We will visit the Weyerhaeuser Species Botanical Garden with a short meeting and lunch at Celebration Park.

We look forward to our June meeting with a potluck at Barb Patterson's home, and then a visit with Ed Hume and touring his gardens in spring. The last time we visited was in the fall. We'll see lots of changes, I'm sure.

Sherry Sinclair, Secretary



## Backyard Wildlife

My favorite part of our property is the meadow in our backyard. I always dig up those yellow flowered weeds; this year, I am going to plant red clover in those spots.

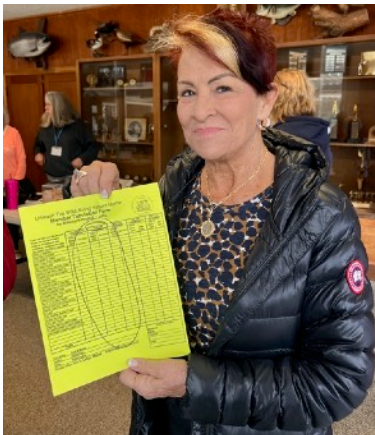
Susy Hunt, Chairman



## Root and Bloom

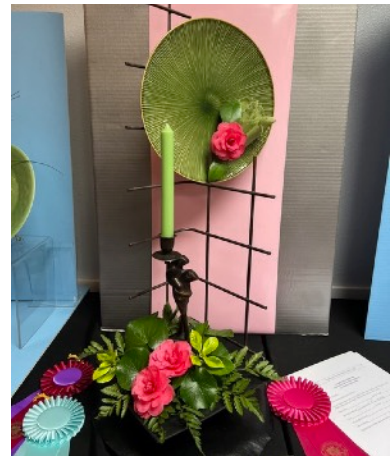
With the lengthening of our days, and the warming temperatures, it gives one an extra burst of energy for all the extra endeavors around gardening and the club. There is no shortage of things to do at Root and Bloom! Here we go with just a few of the activities in the last few months.

Super Saturday for 4H was February 3rd. Nine of our members went to teach some activities on leaves, trees, evergreens, and plant propagation for 4H. The students and our members were enthusiastic about the presentation and the make and take projects! Here is Kim Munson showing how to pot a plant in a different container.



Unleash the Wild Project -Largo Wales has been leading the effort for our club members to track home yard environments and what we do to encourage more wild and natural habitats for living bugs, plants, birds, bats, and other forms of life for more vibrant and healthier environments. She makes it fun and easy!

At District meeting in March, lots of good visiting, interesting speakers and a plant and flower show with Jeanine Faulkner winning lots of kudos!



## Root and Bloom *Cont...*



For Arbor day, Sue Thompson and Tamara Larson took a Felix Magnolia to Pt Defiance to be planted in a special location in the park. The tree is in good care of the park arborist while they update the sprinkler system before planting our tree.



### Update on our Growing Project:

White Beauty and Pigoda bulbs were planted in the winter and we are starting to see them pop out of the ground and bloom. Mary McBride is collecting data and we have members reporting some positive findings.



In April, we had Happy Thymes Garden Club come join us for a meeting and lunch and listen to a great talk about how to identify “good” and “bad” garden bugs and what to do while minimizing harm to our water shed. It was great to host visitors and share food and meeting activities.

Lastly, at the Seattle District Designer Lunch and Auction on April 18th, Jeanine Faulkner had a 3<sup>rd</sup> place showing in a spontaneous design competition.

Until next time, from our club to yours, happy gardening! Trisha Tibbitts



## Gardening Tips

- **Fertilize** your rhododendrons and azaleas with an acid-based fertilizer if needed.
- **Planting** - If soil temperature is above 70 degrees, you can now plant eggplants, melons, tomatoes, squash, and peppers.
- **Manage weeds** while they are small and still growing.
- **Watch out for pests in the garden.** Trap moles and gophers as new mounds appear.
- **Check your plants** for any insects, such as aphids, cabbageworms, black beetles, and root maggots and control as needed.
- **Mulching** - When the soil is warm, apply a layer of mulch around your plants as long as there are no weeds. Mulch discourages weeds and helps to conserve moisture.
- **Mowing** - Continue to mow your lawn regularly. If you use any lawn food, be sure to keep it away from your plants.
- **Lay soaker hoses or drip lines** on garden beds to conserve water.
- **Plant bedding flowers** in moist soil and remember to keep them well watered.
- **Prune your flower shrubs** after they have finished blooming—azaleas, forsythia, lilacs, and rhododendrons. You can also prune evergreens once new growth appears.
- **Fertilize your roses** and check for diseases; treat if needed.
- **Cut back spring-blooming perennials** to about 3 inches in height after they finish blooming. Sow more perennial seeds and set out new perennial plants.
- **Plant** dahlias, gladioli, and tuberous begonias.
- **You can sow hardy annual seeds now**, such as calendula, cosmos, and sweet peas.

May Flower  
by Emily Dickinson

Pink, small, and punctual,  
Aromatic, low,  
Covert in April,  
Candid in May,

Dear to the moss,  
Known by the knoll,  
Next to the robin  
In every human soul.

Bold little beauty,  
Bedecked with thee,  
Nature forswears  
Antiquity.





## March 26, 2024 FLOWER SHOW RESULTS

	HORTICULTURE	DESIGN	BOT ARTS	TOTAL
ASTER NOTS	<u>.33</u>	<u>.16</u>	<u>.66</u>	<u>1.16</u>
COUNTRY GARDENERS	<u>3.13</u>	<u>.54</u>	<u>.79</u>	<u>4.46</u>
DOGWOOD	<u>.24</u>	<u>.12</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>.36</u>
GARDEN HOUR	<u>1.61</u>	<u>.14</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>1.75</u>
GLOVE & TROWEL	<u>3.33</u>	<u>.16</u>	<u>1.11</u>	<u>4.60</u>
HAPPY THYMES	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>
INTERLAAKEN	<u>_____</u>	<u>.68</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>.68</u>
ROOT & BLOOM	<u>7.41</u>	<u>1.28</u>	<u>.87</u>	<u>9.56</u>



## March 26, 2024

# DISTRICT FLOWER SHOW RESULTS

### Horticulture Awards

**NGC Arboreal Award** Sherry Granger Root & Bloom

**NGC Award of Merit Sec. A** Julie Wells Garden Hour

**NGC Award of Merit Sec. B** Cindy Swanberg Root & Bloom

**NGC Grower's Choice Award** Tamara Larson Root & Bloom

Betty Belcher Horticulture Award Dorothy Bean Garden Hour

Marva Lee Peterschick Dorothy Bean Garden Hour

### DESIGN

**NGC Award of Design Excellence** Jeanine Faulkner Root & Bloom

Ellen Swenson Jeanine Faulkner

Carolyn Erickson Jeanine Faulkner

Phyllis Danielson Table setting Jeanine Faulkner

Sherry Matthews Donna Haley Root & Bloom

### Botanical Arts Photographs

Terry Critchlow Linda Maida Country Gardeners

JoAnn Goldman Craft Chris Sherrill Country Gardeners

### Educational

Carol Klingberg Cindy Swanberg Root & Bloom

Horticulture 148    Designs 24    Photos 16    Crafts 12

## Hill and Dale PLANT SALE

Our first, in a very long while, district wide plant sale was held on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at the United Methodist Church on Pioneer in Puyallup from 8am to 2pm. Many of our members have planned, coordinated, created signage, passed out fliers, grew plants, gathered supplies, appreciated and accepted donations and just plain worked hard in hopes of making this a success and to set a precedent for future sales.

Members began setting up early Saturday morning. The Pierce County fair was gracious enough to loan us all the tables and pop-ups we needed. Kathy Johnson and Jeannie Dougherty (with the help of her son) made arrangements for pickup on Friday afternoon. We also made good use of the “sandwich” boards we were able to borrow from the floral building, to use for our signage. We had signs everywhere. Julie Wells even created signs we used for the “color-dot” pricing system to help customers. Sherry Matthews, Kathy Mettler and Linda Pempeck were in charge of pricing, to eliminate any confusions. Plants were placed according to category.... Annuals, Perennials, etc. An area was also set-up for “garden-related crafts”, donated to us for the sale. It was 8 o'clock, customers began to arrive; now came the test.....WERE WE READY....

In years past, Hill and Dale put on a Plant Sale, but for various reasons, it became a “thing of the past”. We are an awesome district and we had a great committee that came together, working so hard planning, arranging advertising and donations, planting, dividing their plants, starting seeds, volunteering in so many ways and simply donating their time and energies to be able to make this an annual event again. **Thank you** Kathy and Diane Mettler, Kathy Johnson, Jeannie Dougherty, Rosie Trujillo, Julie Wells, Randie Welcher, Linda Pempeck Sherry Matthews and Kathleen Muckian for all your guidance and dedication. We also had family/friends that donated their creative skills; we would like to **Thank Fred Welcher** (husband to Randie Welcher, Country Gardeners) for donating hand-crafted planter boxes to the sale, **Isaac Muckian** (grandson to Kathleen Muckian Country Gardeners) who created a unique propagation station/planter and plants for the sale, we would also like to thank Dogwood member, **Creig Kuwitzky** for his wonderfully crafted Birdhouses and the **United Methodist Church** for allowing us to use their parking lot for our sale.

If you visited the Plant Sale or supported us in other ways, many, many **THANKS** go to **YOU** as well; for if not for that, none of this would have been possible. Please stay tuned for updates on the sale outcome, from your local clubs.

The Plant Sale Committee





**August 8-11  
Pierce County Fair**

**Please join us this year  
for Stars, Stripes and  
Summer Nights**

**Thurs., Aug. 1st, 9a.m.**

Clean the building and enjoy a  
potluck lunch together

**Mon., Aug. 5th, 9a.m.**

Start decorating the building

**Tues., Aug. 6th, 9a.m.**

Finish up

**Wed., Aug. 7th, 11a.m. - 6p.m.**

Entries accepted

At the May District Meeting,  
please be prepared to sign-up  
for a hostess shift and a kids  
planting shift

B J T E T Y A N F E M J D Q V T L X  
 U I A O S H T T F I R H T A E S H V  
 K N L V N O E K X P S A E W N Z K C  
 G F K C T E R L U T S V M A X R A O  
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- |                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| BleedingHeart   | PigSqueak   |
| BlueBells       | Primrose    |
| CandyTuft       | Ranunculus  |
| CreepingPhlox   | RockCress   |
| FloweringQuince | SeaThrift   |
| ForgetMeKnot    | WallFlower  |
| HardyCyclamen   | WinterHeath |
| Hellebore       |             |



# HILL & DALE DISTRICT MEETING

**MAY 28, 2024 - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

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

Dryer Masonic Center  
306 134th St. S., Tacoma, WA 98444



## Programs/Speakers

Hill and Dale District welcomes Dr. Jeff Foster as the morning speaker for our May 28 meeting. He will talk about the threatened prairie ecosystem and the successful prairie restorations occurring in Pierce and Thurston counties, especially on US Army Base Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM). Dr. Foster received his BA from The Evergreen State College and his PhD in Biology from Dartmouth College, specializing in plant ecology. He spent 23 years as an ecologist at JBLM where he started a program to reduce the effects of military training on several prairie species, restored degraded prairie habitat and reintroduced listed species onto these lands.

Our Design Speaker, LeAnna McMahon, comes to us with ways to tell our garden story with design. Join us as she takes us through the garden club memories. It is sure to be a treat.



### 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.

### 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](mailto:smittywalt@centurylink.net) or 253.820.5907

ECHO Editor: Sherry Meyer, Garden Hour

ECHO Co-Editor: Karla Hiers, Garden Hour