

# THE ECHO

## Hill and Dale District

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

#200 May 2021



### *Save the Dates!*

June 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

WSFGC Annual

Meeting/Convention

*Via Zoom*

Join us on Monday & Tuesday for the State Annual Meetings.

On Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup> we will have a meeting in the morning, award presentations during lunch and an afternoon speaker.

On Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> we will have a meeting in the morning, more award presentations during lunch and the installation of officers in the afternoon.

*More details & times to follow*



### TOGETHER AGAIN

July 7, 2021

Elks Club 314 27<sup>th</sup> St NE, Puyallup  
WA

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Hill & Dale District invites you to an afternoon of design, horticulture, lunch and the opportunity to get reacquainted.

The price of admission is a wonderful piece of horticulture from your garden in a clear bottle, make sure the tag includes the name of the species and your name, that is the only cost to you.

Oh, I almost forgot! There will be a mini sales room with lots of design components and a assortment of other goodies.

Below is the schedule for the day:

11 A.M - 12 noon Enjoy visiting each other and checking out the horticulture.

Noon - 1 p.m. Lunch will be served by Hill & Dale members; we will have 2 entrees, salad, bread and dessert.

1 - 2 p.m. Jon Thorne will entertain us with an outstanding design program.

2 - 3 p.m. more time to visit and check out the vendors area.

To reserve your space contact Sherry Matthews at [sherrytom41@comcast.net](mailto:sherrytom41@comcast.net).

# District Meeting May 25, 2021

Via Zoom

Log in #ID 622 744 7615

Please join us on Tuesday, May 25th at 10am until about 12-12:30pm.

Learn how to embellish your garden with the remarkable beauty and diversity of vines. See the amazing variety in color, shape, bloom time and growth habit of vines that do well in the Pacific Northwest—wisteria, clematis, passionflower and more. Get details about their care, information about pruning, and recommendations for easy vines to try.

Laura Watson will be our speaker. She is a member of several Clematis Societies and is on the Governing Council of the International Clematis Society. Laura is also a garden writer and is proud to be a King County Master Gardener and a Plant Amnesty Master Pruner.



## August 12-15, Save the Dates

- We are still planning for an in person fair.
- The Fair Board will make its final decision for an in person fair or virtual fair on June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The Flower Show Schedule, sign ups for host-essing and sign ups for the kids planting activities will be emailed to you.

## “Join the Flower Fun in 21!”

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## ***A Little Bit of History Courtesy of Linda Maida***

1975 Hill and Dale became a District  
1977 to 1979 first mailing permit obtained and a typewriter and filing cabinet purchased  
1981 to 1983 purchased a mimeograph machine  
1985 to 1987 purchased a copy machine for \$750

## INTERLAAKEN

Interlaaken Garden CLUB had their second meeting of year 2021 outside on the patio at the home of president Judy Swortz. Ten people were in attendance. We are lucky enough to have three new members join us. They will officially pay dues after attending the meeting/trip next month!

Sadly our treasurer and great member / designer, Cynthia Olson, is moving to south Whidbey Island . Whidbey Island will gain a fabulous gardener/garden club member.

After a business meeting there was a review of activities for the following months. One highlight is that we are renting a 15 passenger van from Enterprise to go to Flower World USA in Maltby next month. Other local tours and activities will be done throughout the summer to make up for our lack of meetings last year.

To start the springtime right, after a Potluck, each member made a "ghost flower" to take home to put in a flower pot. Those unable to be at the meeting will also receive a *ghost flower* as well.



Ghost flower color samples.

## GLOVE AND TROWEL

Spring is here and Summer close behind. Our group was given a presentation by Jan Morgan (our President!). She showed us a box, 9 3/4 x 9 3/4 inches square, that her husband built for her. The box is lined with landscape filter fabric.

Fill the container with potting soil. Staple a precut small size wire mesh to the outer edges of the box. Use wire cutters to cut openings in parts of the wire to plant different combinations of succulents.

Jan's husband offered to make the boxes for those of us who want to do this project. Five or our members took him up on his offer!

Glove and Trowel appreciated Kathy Johnson coming to our meeting in March and giving us very clear and helpful instructions on effective photography tips for entering horticulture pictures for the District Flower Shows.



Submitted by Linda Bond





## ROOT & BLOOM

The Bloomers are extremely lucky to be able to meet at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club as we did in March and April, lucky, too, to have such good speakers.



In March, Andy the Honey Man, came and taught us how to graft apple trees. He brought everything we needed:

root stalk, various cuttings called scions, and knives. Here is what we did: those who wanted to learn each chose a root stalk and scion close in size. We then split the root stalk down the middle about 1 ½ inches. We made a wedge on the scion to fit in the root stalk's split. Each piece of wood has a section inside called a cambium and they had to be joined. We then wrapped the area where the graft took place. It was fun and not too hard. And Andy only charged us \$5 a tree. Long after I'm dead, the owners of our house will have eating apples and pie apples. [Mossyoak.com](http://Mossyoak.com) has a good tutorial. Andy also brought some of his amazing honey to sell so, all-in-all, we were happy campers.



In April, club member, Cindy Swanberg, put on a program on pollinators and pollinator gardens. Cindy does an amazing job. In Oct, when she spoke about gardening for wildlife, she brought a bat house and mason bee houses, among other things.

For this program she had detailed handouts on which bee, (who knew there were so many kinds) moth, fly etc. likes which plant, what colors they prefer and the types of blossoms they're most comfortable in, and she gave us each what we need to make seed bombs, i.e. a plastic bag of natural clay and top soil, and in a separate container, seeds.

The idea is to add just enough water to the soil mix so it will hold a shape and make a ball about the size of a quarter. Then add some of the seeds to the ball, keeping small seeds close to the surface and larger one deeper inside, and, finally, roll the ball until it's nice and smooth. Then



“throw them on the ground and wait for the rain, sun, and soil to do their work.” See <https://www.thesca.org/seedballs>.

We really do have some amazing club members! Rosie Trujillo has made 75 packets of marigold seeds to hand out in conjunction with a community garden project we're waiting to start. Judy Strickland and Norma Humphreys both donated plants to the Dogwood Plant sale. Karla Stover gave them small buckets to put bulbs, seeds, plants, etc in. To thank the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club for allowing us to meet in their clubhouse, Lisa Libby suggested we buy the club a gift and Rachel Jennings suggested we purchase a plant.

As a result of their ideas, we are going to weed and plant the gardens leading into the office area. Kim Munson demonstrates interesting ways to plant sedums on Youtube, and the list goes on.

We do have to wait before helping to plant fruit trees at the Orting Tiny Homes for Vets, but all systems are go for a garage sale in Sept. We weren't able to have all the programs we planned on this past year but maybe next year. At the May meeting we will be brainstorming for ideas.

Karla Stover, Secretary pro-tem

## DOGWOOD

Salutations Nature Lovers! Well, this month we had our first in-person meeting in what seems like forever on April 8<sup>th</sup> at Mineral Lodge. I unfortunately had to miss it due to work, but I hear it was just lovely getting the band back together again. Below are a couple of pics commemorating the occasion:



At our March zoom meeting, Diane Mettler and Chris Bivins demonstrated how to make a whimsically attractive hanging bird feeder out of a tea cup, saucer, and spoon. Very fun and creative!



As I mentioned last newsletter, several garden clubs including Dogwood and the district, donated to the Orting Old Soldiers Home. The organizers were amazed and so appreciative of the volume of items donated. The project may be in need of garden tools in the future; they will keep us posted.

Dogwood Club is having a plant sale on Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Eatonville Visitor Center from 9 am – 3 pm. Members are busily potting up plants for this annual fundraiser. Plants will be sold by donation only. This year, we will also have Kelli Mettler Bacher selling garden art at the event!

Dogwood's group project this year is container gardening – any size, big or small. All who are participating will be taking before, during, and after photos to share as we go along, and we have a prize for the winner – a signed gardening book by Sue Goetz! I personally am going all out on this one. I have many containers planned! Maybe it will be like buying raffle tickets, the more you do, the higher your chance of winning. Ha ha!

Diane Mettler, fearless leader of the Dogwood Garden Club, is starting a charming local organic seasonal bouquet subscription service and will deliver to the Eatonville and Graham area. Check out her website at [www.ohoporiginals.com](http://www.ohoporiginals.com). We wish her every success in her new endeavor!

As for me I'm loving all the birds in my garden greedily eating up as much seed as I can put out for them. I'm just so glad we got the netting up in the eaves just in the nick of time to avoid another swarm of mud swallows on our back deck! Literally the day we put it up, they were flying around the eaves by the dozen. Last year we had nothing but mud and bird droppings *all over* the back deck and windows all season from April to September due to 2-3 dozen mud swallows nesting in the eaves of the house. This year it looks like they will nest elsewhere (probably the barn, LOL), and we'll get to enjoy sitting out on the deck again! Thank goodness!

Bright hopeful spring wishes to all! Until next time!



## COUNTRY GARDENERS

Spring has arrived in the beautiful North West bringing with it many blooming flowers, trees and shrubbery. We have enjoyed a week of some gorgeous weather, with some record breaking temperatures it is making us giddy with anticipation of getting out into our gardens. But WAIT! Has it stopped freezing yet? Looking into the next week it appears we are through but again, I remind every one that this is the beautiful North West.... Weather changes in an instant. Be patient!

Covid 19 still remains a grave concern, but vaccines are here and many of us are choosing that option. Country Gardeners are putting winter behind and are looking forward to meeting again in person, with safety precautions in mind. We have had two in-person club meetings, March and April which were held at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club. They have been very accommodating hosts, going so far as to have the coffee on for us! We are VERY grateful for their hospitality. Our normal meeting place, Midland Community Center, still remains closed because of the pandemic.



We have been discussing plans for spring and summer. Our Christmas tray favors were well received at Heartwood Care Center so we made and delivered between 80-90 Easter tray favors. We participated in the ZOOM Flower show; we are making plans on how our club will participate at the PC Fair this year; our president, Chris Sherrill, has plans for field trips and outings this year, the first will be to Flower World in Maltby, where we will hold our May meeting.

We also enjoyed our first class in a year...Linda Maida shared with us a demonstration and tips on how to create a succulent wreath. Perhaps we will have pictures to share at the next newsletter printing.

We are NOT an all play club! We have work parties coming up as well. Even though we cannot meet at the community center, the gardens still need tending, so Gail Harte will put together a couple of crews to make that happen. And Gail H is also collecting shoes for the "kids crafting event" at the PC Fair, we will need to set-up a work party to get the shoes ready for planting. LOTS OF SHOES STILL NEEDED. It is spring and we are just getting started.

**Now in honor of the 200<sup>th</sup> printing of the ECHO newsletter, I would like to share a few of the memories that some of our members have of days past:**

*Country Gardeners was organized & federated January 28, 1974 and became a part of the newly formed Hill and Dale District in 1975. We had 15 members at that time. From the start Country Gardeners has given back to the committee, from a rose garden at the Spanaway historic society grounds, blueberries at a nursing home to now working to keep the grounds at the South Sound Community Center looking good. Ruby Glasser a founding member was the gardener of the year in 2004 Marianne Larson another founding member was state president.*

*A big undertaking with 13 members was in 2014 when we presented a NGC small standard flower show "Cinco De Flora".*

*21 out of 29 years Country Gardeners has had the best attendance at district meeting, just one way we show our commitment to garden club.....Linda Maida*

*I joined the Hope Garden club in 2008 when I retired with my mother in law, Connie Barger, who was a Hope member. My favorite memory is each summer in August while we were on our summer break, we would have a brunch at our most senior members house, Irene Docken. She was a member until the age of 99. We enjoyed good treats, plant exchanges and a walk around Irene's beautiful yard and garden. Irene still maintained her yard and was a*



*fantastic plant enthusiast. I personally passed Irene's house every day for 35 years on my commute to work and always admired her flowers and yard. I finally got to meet her when I joined the garden club and was so excited....*

**Jean Lester**

*Five members of Hope Garden Club joined Country Gardeners after the Tahoma District folded. Hope Garden Club had been in existence since the 1940's. So, we were unhappy that it had to close. Many of the members of this club were elderly when I joined in 2006 so they had a wealth of gardening experience. I formed many friendships during my time with Hope Garden Club as you share a common interest in gardening. One of the ladies I became friends with was Irene Docken. She belonged to Hope for almost 30 years and shared her knowledge and love of gardening freely. She lived to be 100 years old and continued to work in her yard until she was 99 years old. Her longevity might have been due to her staying physically active every day. I have many flowers and shrubs in my yard that she shared with me, and I think of her often. She was an amazing person.....***Karen Silveus**

*I have been a member of Country Gardeners Garden Club for approximately 20 years. I signed up to be a member at the Pierce County Fair. Meetings used to be held at the Fire Station on 176th and 22nd Ave. Well we were asked by our president Lady Jo Petersen to all name our favorite rose at my first meeting... not knowledgeable of roses all I could think of was the "Yellow Rose of Texas". I panicked... then I was asked why I liked the rose ...all I could think of was...Well ..I like the fragrance! ...to this day I really don't know if there is a yellow rose of Texas and if it even has a scent..?I was so glad the "interrogation was over and I was welcomed into the club...!..."***Sandy Walker**



*My love for flowers and garden clubs began with my mother, a charter member in Capitol Dist. She would take me as a young child to flower shows which made my love of flowers grow.*

*When I retired in 2003, I joined Hope Garden Club. We met in the basement of the Presidents home with a wood stove heating it for us. Everyone was so great and friendly and I learned so much. Two members hosted every meeting. One brought dessert and one made a small table centerpiece. These were then critiqued as to how they were made and the concept used. We also had a professional decorator come and teach us how to make and take home wreaths. We paid for the materials. They turned out beautiful.*



*One year we met at Mama Stortini's and there we saw the idea for decorated pumpkins. We then did them for our homes. By then our meeting place changed to People's Assisted Living since our president had relocated there, and we were given a room to have our meet-*

*ings. Later we relocated again to South Lakeshore Christian church multipurpose room. That was the last place we met.*

*We were in charge of one of the garden beds at the South Tacoma Community Center. We went twice a year and then across the street to the Eagles for lunch. We planted and exchanged many plants.*

*Other activities included teas at the Old Goat Farm, touring Marianne Binetti's home garden and having her guide us to a sculpture garden and quarry garden. We also toured each other's gardens at some of the summer meetings and lunch in the yards. We also had many speakers and demonstrations.*

*Five of us have now joined Country Gardeners and are really enjoying every minute of it..."***Lorene Jones**

*I joined Country Gardeners in March of 2019 sponsored by Chris Sherrill. Chris and I met while working for the same company in 1997. We became fast friends because we shared a mutual interest in many things... including gardening. My memories too begin with my mom, Candy Strickland. She was an avid gardener. She did not have the most pristine or spectacular gardens, but she did have the LOVE of gardening, I have to say that most of what she planted grew including the weeds which she always felt helped her to relieve any tensions she might have, "digging in the dirt was a cathartic release".*

*She belonged to MANY clubs, SunBonnet Sue, Primrose Society, Rhododendron Society, Fuchsia, Chrysanthemum and Rock Garden. I remember many names she would speak fondly of over the years...Lady Jo Peterson, Doris Yuckert, Roxy Daniels, Ruby Glasser, Louise Merriman, Judy Strickland (shared her name but not relation) Cy/Rita Happy, Fred Whitney and Herb Dickson and many more. I remember going with her to Flower Shows held in a variety of places, Puget Sound National Bank, a restaurant? Puyallup library and at the Puyallup Fair grounds. She always wanted to get me involved but I was busy with work and raising family.*

*So this is where I got my start and what I wouldn't give to sit with her at the fair booth, hear her complain about hearing Cisco's OO LA LA one too many times, just once more...*

**Kathleen Muckian.**

Here's to another 200 printings and many, many more memories! Thank you Anne!

Kathleen Muckian  
Secretary, Country Gardeners

## 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

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](mailto: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.





# Echo History

1975 - Issue #1 of the Echo was written in August. In each issue are dates, coming events of National, State, and District. Each club makes a report and horticulture and design are included. At times, we have a craft, recipes, and conservation articles. Our District Flower Show Schedule is printed and results from the last show for club points is listed

1975 - Echo copies go to Club Presidents, and each District Chairman and Officers. Club Members may subscribe for their own copy for 75 cents a year.

1977 - Echo won second place in WSFGC for Margary V Bardon District Publications Award. Each President and Secretary of our 21 clubs receives a free copy. Free Echo's are sent to the 42 Hill & Dale Officers and Chairmen. A copy is sent to the Director of each of the 14 State Districts, and to 10 State Officers and Chairmen. Also sent to the donor, Mrs. Phillip Bardon. There are 154 paid subscriptions at 75 cents each.

1976 - Five issues of the Echo were published yearly.

1982 - At the August Board Meeting, it was voted that all subscriptions for district members be paid subscriptions. This helps defray some of the rising costs for the Echo supplies. The annual rate continues at 1.00 for five issues.

1983 - October issue of Echo newsletter design for the cover changed.

1986 - Echo subscription rate increased to 1.50.

1987 - Echo addition for Mar-April issues announced that Hill & Dale now owns a copy machine, and the Echo was printed on white paper instead of mimeographed on cream paper. It was purchased for 750.00. Most of the funds for this came from the selling of Hill & Dales Cookbook, "Dining with Hill and Dale".

1987- Oct - Dec issue of the Echo was the 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter to have drawings /clipart included in it.

1988 - Jan – Feb issue of the Echo, design for cover was changed slightly.

1991 – In the winter issue # 82, we are now dating the issues by season, using some graphics and adding more materials are the other differences. We discontinued using the colored cover due to cost. Other cost reductions are being explored without reducing the contents of the newsletter. The 1991-1992 issues of the Echo have been experimented with in various ways in order to publish an informative and interesting newsletter.

1994 - At the September Board Meeting, the Echo subscriptions were raised to 3.00 per member.

1996 - Four Echo Newsletters were published on the first of these months, May, August, November, and February. A new cover page was used and the lay out changed to columns.

1996 - 100<sup>th</sup> Issue, was changed back to the month dating system instead of by seasons.

1999 - Effective July 1, 1999 Echo subscriptions will be increased to 4.00 a year. Because of higher printing costs a motion was passed at the April Board Meeting

2007- Echo subscription rate increased to 5.00 per year.

2012- Feb, Mar, Apr issue of Echo will be emailed for a trial run, as an Adobe PDF file to all that have an email. This will save the district dollars each year. Don't fret, it will still be mailed to those who do not have computers.

2017- The District Flower Show Schedules were mass emailed out to all members instead of being included in the Echo.

2019- The Echo won 1st Place in WSFGC Publications of District Newsletters.

2021 - 200th issue of the Echo



### **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

### **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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