

THE ECHO

Hill and Dale District

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

#201 Sept 2021



Hello everyone!

It has been a long year with lots of uncertainty and plans cancelled. Here's to a new year and hopefully good health and being with the people we care about.

As a District we have come up with a lot of different ways to keep in touch and move forward from our zoom meetings *so nice to be able to see one another) to finding new and larger places to have club meeting.

Let's not forget our "Together Again" in July put together by Linda Maida and friends. And our members who were cleaning, decorating, kids planting and hostesses along with others taking on important jobs to put together the Pierce County Fair.

A big thanks to Kathy Johnson for working like crazy to help make it happen. I saw new members there helping wherever they were needed. That may have been the very best part of the fair - seeing those new faces there.

Here's to hoping that this year is a year we can return to having meetings, Club and District. I've missed seeing everyone as I'm sure you all have, too.

Enjoy this cooler weather and I'll see you on Sept 28th for our first district get together

Rachel Jennings
Hill and Dale District Director



District Meeting

Sept 28, 2021

Dryer Masonic Center
306 134th St S, Tacoma
10 a.m. To 2 p.m.

Julia Graham, a member of the Northwest Perennial Alliance and Cleo Raulerson of the King County Master Gardeners will be presenting an exciting and informative morning program for our District Meeting on September 28, 2021.

They will be speaking on putting our gardens to bed for the winter. The focus will be on how to care for our flowering shrubs and perennial plants.

The afternoon speaker will be Debbie Spiller a member of Country Gardeners and also the President of the Black Hill Designer's. She will present a design program "Color Me Fall".

What a great way to start our year!

Dates to Remember

District meetings

Sept 28, 2021

Nov 30, 2021

Dryer Masonic Center
306 134th St S, Tacoma
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

District Board Meetings

Oct 26th, 2021

SE Tacoma Community Center
1614 99th St E
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Echo Deadline

Oct 25th, 2021

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

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.



GLOVE AND TROWEL

Sunshine, sunshine, sunshine! Have you ever seen a brighter summer? And, oh, hasn't it made everything bloom! Some of my roses have been loaded with 100 beautiful blossoms. Of course rain every Wednesday night from 2:00 to 4:00 a.m. would be very nice.



The rock painting party in preparation for the Pierce County Fair kids' scavenger hunt was great. We chose to decorate the rocks with dogwood blossoms. They turned out so well it was hard to give them up.

Speaking of the Fair, several members from Glove and Trowel helped out in various areas: clerking, hosting, and helping kids with the popular sedum shoe planting. It takes many hands to keep the Floral Building tip-top.

Who is tip top? Kathy Johnson, who did such a spectacular job heading up the Floral Building project. Applause to Kathy.

Glove and Trowel Garden Club was organized in 1940. Something almost earth shaking is going to happen this year. Our meeting date is changing! The first Tuesday of the month will be our get-together time. Of course, as mandated, we will be masked up while inside. Our new officers have a great year planned, beginning with a tour of the Old Goat Farm in September.

Best wishes to all Hill and Dale clubs for a wonderful year.

Jan Morgan



DOGWOOD

Greetings Gardeners! Here's the news from Dogwood since April!

In May we gathered at The Old Goat Farm and had a lovely tour of the gardens there. Greg Graves gave us a fantastic lesson on several different methods of propagating plants. I want my place to look JUST like that! Someday....



Our May plant sale fundraiser earnings were over \$1700! Our best year yet.



Usually in May we make small bouquets that are placed at gravesites by the Jr Gardeners. Due to Covid, we couldn't do that this year so several members placed small bouquets at the Blue Star Marker.

Our June meeting was hosted by Melody Stalk, with Kathy Carver and Rosemary Nordstrom co-hosting. We also elected a new slate of officers. President,

Kathy Mettler, Vice–President, Katy Hoffman; Ginny Phillips and Lisa Libby will continue as Secretary and Treasurer. Thank you, Diane Mettler for all you have done as President for the past 9 years. Diane also did a presentation on tips for harvesting flowers.

In July we met at Crystal Dorsey’s house and sat out on the deck painting rocks with a poppy design for an activity at the Pierce County Fair. We all gave updates on our container gardening projects.



I’m scrambling to keep up with the harvesting of all the bounty our generous Mother Earth has provided and I’m sure many of you are doing the same. Happy Harvest Seasons to all and we are looking forward to another year of gardening activities!

ROOT & BLOOM



Summer time, and the living’ is easy . . .

Well, if you’re a gardener, not exactly ‘easy.’ And this year, just keeping plants hydrated has been a chore.

Root & Bloom ended the year with a great project—cleaning and planting the garden leading to the Tacoma Sportsmen’s Club’s office. It was a ‘thank you’ to the club for letting us meet there. Root & Bloom and the Sportmen’s Club went together to buy plants and beauty bark. Then, in spite of the blistering hot weather, the ladies spent two days creating

a really welcoming entry garden into the administrative center.



In June we visited Randi Welcher’s garden. Randi has created a wonderful oasis that felt cool, comfortable and something she and her family really enjoy. As one Bloomer later said, “It made me feel relaxed that I saw an occasional weed.” Randi is so clever and her yard art really enhances her various gardens.

This year we elected new officers for the 2021 / 2023 years and president Lisa Libby had the new officers out to her home in Mineral for a “brain-storming” session. We were lucky to be able to meet there because the Libby’s came close to having to evacuate due to a nearby forest fire.

Harriet Miller, who keeps in touch with Doris Yuckert, let us know. Doris has moved into an adult home and welcomes phone calls. If interested, contact Harriet for the phone number.

About half of the Bloomers were able to attend the lunch and program at the Puyallup Elks. Linda Maida had an awesome idea for a great summer party and to have gardener / designer Jon Thorne put on a performance / presentation. Since we don’t meet in the summer, it was an opportunity to catch up.

For all of us, here’s another song:

I’ll see you in September....



District Awards 2020



The following awards were
presented at our
May Zoom Meeting and June
Zoom State Annual Meeting

National Awards Received

Community Beautification Certificate
Community Service, Virtual Pierce County Fair
Publication, Newsletter Echo Certificate of Appreciation
Publications, Membership handbook
Youth Event, youth education Pierce County Fair
Web site Certificate of Appreciation
Web site Certificate of Appreciation

Garden Hour
1st Place, District
District
1st place, Root & Bloom
1st place, District
Root & Bloom
District

Regional Awards Received

Community Service, Virtual Pierce County Fair
Horticulture Essay
Publication, Newsletter Echo
Youth, 4-H Super Saturday
Youth Event, youth education Pierce County Fair

1st place, District
1st place, Cindy Swanberg, Root & Bloom
1st place, District
2nd place, Root & Bloom
1st place, District

State Awards Received by District

Community Beautification, youth education Pierce Cty Fair
Community Service, Virtual Pierce County Fair
Publication, Newsletter Echo
Website

1st place
1st place
1st place
1st place

State Awards Received by Clubs

Arbor Day
Birds
Birds
Community Beautification
Conservation / Environmental
Growing Project
Growing Project
Horticulture Essay
Honor Clubs
Honor Clubs
Yearbook - clubs under 20 members
Yearbook - clubs under 29 members
Yearbook - clubs under 44 members

2nd place, Dogwood
1st place, Root & Bloom
1st place, Garden Hour
1st place, Root & Bloom
1st place, Root & Bloom
1st place, Dogwood
3rd place, Garden Hour
1st place, Cindy Swanberg, Root & Bloom
3rd place, Root & Bloom
6th place, Glove & Trowel
2nd place, Aster Not
2nd place, Root & Bloom
2nd place, Dogwood

Publications, Membership handbook	1st place, Root & Bloom
Web site	1st place, Root & Bloom
Youth, Sponsoring a club	1st place, Dogwood
Youth, one time event	1st place, Root & Bloom
Youth, year program	1st place, Dogwood
Youth conservation	1st place, Dogwood
Smokey Bear / Woodsy Owl	1st & Honorable Mention by grades, Dogwood

State Awards Received by Individuals

Birds	1st place, Kathy Johnson, Root & Bloom
Brynn Tavasci	1st place, Kim Munson, Root & Bloom
Horticulture Essay	1st place, Cindy Swanberg, Root & Bloom
Landscape Design	1st place, April Devereaux, Root & Bloom
Landscape Design	1st place, 2019, Donna Haley, Root & Bloom

District Awards Received

Honor Club	1st place, Root & Bloom 2nd place, Glove & Trowel
Most Design Entries	No flower shows because of Covid
Most Horticulture Entries	1st place, Country Gardeners, Zoom entries 2nd place, Root & Bloom, Zoom entries
Most Design Points	no flower shows because of Covid
Most Horticulture Points	no flower shows because of Covid
Applies Most Awards	1st place, Root & Bloom
Most Helpful Husband	1st place, Dan Riddle, Root & Bloom
Best Attendance	1st place, Root & Bloom, Zoom meetings 2nd place, Country Gardeners, Zoom meetings
Best Design	no flower shows because of Covid
Civic Development	no applications received
Most Photograph Entries	no flower shows because of Covid

Garden Inspirations

Gardening simply does not allow one to
be mentally old, because too many hopes and dreams are yet to be realized.

Allen Armitage

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow

Audrey Hepburn

Gardening is the art that uses flowers
and plants as paint and
the soil and sky as canvas.

Elizabeth Murray



COUNTRY GARDENERS

Since our last issue Country Gardeners have kept busy! Our end of the year meeting, June 7, 2021, was held at the Old Goat Farm; a place worthy of a visit and always interesting no matter what time of year. This was Chris Sherrill's final meeting as President, stepping aside for the election of new officers. She presented "her" officers with handmade gifts of appreciation for the support she received during the last two years.

The new officers for the 2021-2023 term are: President-Patti Isom, Vice President-Randie Welcher, Treasurer-Linda Maida and Secretary-Kathleen Muckian. As incoming President Patti presented to Chris a gift and flowers from all the members in appreciation of all that she had done as President. It was a rough year but Chris did well to keep us all together and "in-touch" the best way possible. Thank You Chris!

During that meeting, we gained two new members, Carleen McWilliams and Lydia Munay. In addition because New Century Design was unable to continue as a club, two of their members also joined Country Gardeners; Jo Martin and Keith Ripley. We are extremely happy to have them all in our club, bringing our membership to 25.

We had a short break and a heat wave and then went right to work, first with a work party to help cleanup the gardens at the Midland Senior Center then on to preparations for the *Together Again* event and our contributions to the Pierce County Fair, painting 300 rocks, painting shoes for the Kid's project and creating a poster.

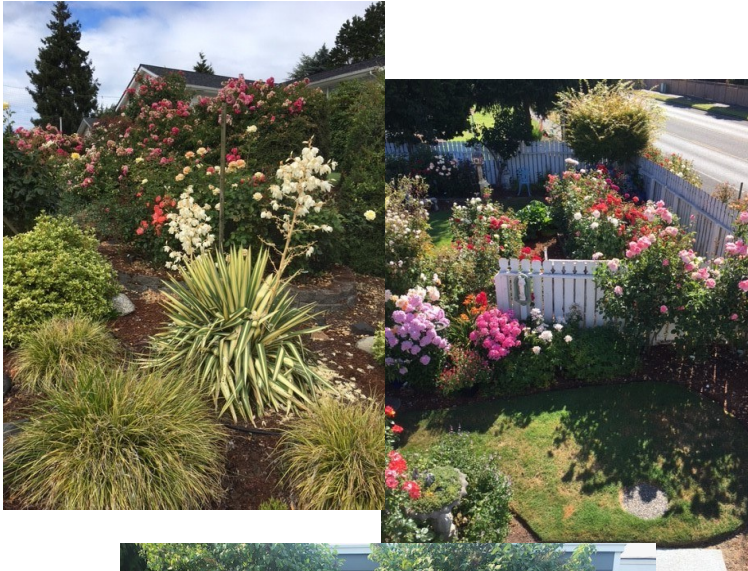
June went into July and we finally had our "Together Again" event!! There were times during this past year that I am sure Linda M and others thought it would never happen, but we could NOT have been more wrong! We were TOGETHER AGAIN and it was a GREAT SUCCESS!! I believe we had approximately 200 members from around the state attend.

The program was well received and the food awesome. We had many selections of horticulture that the members brought as "admission" and there were even sale tables set up for the crafty designers among us. All those that worked so hard have every reason to be proud; no one more so than Linda Maida, whose vision it was in the beginning.

Another short break, and here we are in August. This time we toured our members gardens. On August 3, 2021, Karen Silveus and Jo Martin offered their gardens for touring. Two strikingly different gardens. Karen's, I would say, a "natural" garden filled with plants that have special meaning to her or perhaps a plant that just happened to strike her fancy, all set to provide a relaxing walk through the many different varieties of horticulture, something for the sun and shade. I particularly liked the Canna, the hydrangeas and the fragrant phlox was wonderful, but the plant that drew the most attention were the Tiger Flowers in an assortment of vivid colors. They are much like the daylily with blooms only lasting a day but because they have many blooming stems the flowering period lasts much longer.

She had treats for us but I think the hit was her Chocolate Rhubarb cake (which I think was her husband's creation?), After relaxing a bit it was on to Jo's Rose Garden, which as it happened was only blocks away. There we were treated to a HUGE variety of roses (and the colors..OMG!!) and if you asked Jo she could name them all!! There were climbers, floribunda, miniature roses, tea roses, old garden roses and oh so many more. We had planned for this tour back in June, but because of the heat wave we had it was postponed. Now as we learned roses, although they love the sun they do NOT like the heat. This day was perfect for our tour. As with Karen's garden, Jo's garden also provided us with a very tranquil stroll. Once our stroll was complete, she shared her design room with us which is complete with several special pieces she uses to create her beautiful designs.

She and her husband served up lemonade and cookies for us as well. She had many roses that I remember my mother having as a child growing up...the rose lasts forever.



Thank you ladies for sharing your special gardens and hospitality.

AND then it was fair time!! Country Gardeners worked hard to prepare and contribute to the fair this year. It has been two years since the fair has been able to open "in-person", so this year was special. Country Gardeners is proud to have donated 89 hours of help to the fair committee by painting rocks, collecting and painting shoes, cleaning and setting up floral space. Then came opening day and shifts of ladies and gentlemen worked tirelessly to provide an informative and most of all "FUN in 2021" experience for all who entered our building and surrounding area. THANKS AGAIN to Kathy Johnson for all her unrelenting guidance, without which, I am sure we would falter aimlessly.



Back in July, Patti Isom hosted a board meeting for our upcoming year. She has many fun and exciting things planned for us.

Beginning in September, we will again be able to meet at the Midland Community Center.

During our first meeting we will have a horticulture swap meet and a lunch provided by the board. We are excited to be able to meet in person (still with precautions) and at the old meeting place. It's beginning to feel more normal...baby steps.

Well, spring has gone and summer is waning and for those who love the heat I would say "it has been glorious". For those of us who do not....NOT so much. Either way, I think we can all agree that we are in much need of rain which will come soon enough. In the meantime we can enjoy our cooler temps as we prepare our gardens for winter.

Kathleen Muckian
Secretary Country Gardeners

A GARDEN SNAPSHOT



This photo of The Butchart Gardens in Brentwood Bay, British Columbia, is one of the most recognized garden photographs in the world. The Garden is a National Historic Site of Canada.

It all started in 1904 when Robert and Jennie Butchart moved to Vancouver Island from Ontario to build a cement plant on a rich limestone deposit at Tod Inlet. As the cement production exhausted the limestone deposits, Jennie envisioned a garden in its place and began moving in topsoil by horse and cart. Slowly the quarry was transformed into today's Sunken Garden seen in the photo above. In the following years they expanded The Gardens, adding a Japanese Garden, Italian Garden and Rose Garden.

In 1977, great grandson Christopher began producing a choreographed firework show every year. In 2009, his sister and current owner of The Gardens, Robin added the Children's Pavilion and Menagerie Carousel.

In 2004 to commemorate the 100th Anniversary, two totem poles were carved in classic Coast Salish style and stand today in the garden. They recognize the cultural heritage of the Indigenous Peoples of British Columbia.

Some interesting facts about this garden: it covers 55 acres and features 900 bedding plant varieties. 55 FULL time gardeners and 26 greenhouses keep it looking spectacular!

If you visit Victoria, British Columbia, be sure and plan a visit to The Gardens. And plan to have tea in the main house dining room while you are there!

*Is there a garden you have visited that should be showcased? Anywhere on the planet.
Send your suggestions to: gardengirl8717@gmail.com*

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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.