



GARDEN DELIGHTS

Issaquah Garden Club

*"All through the long winter I dream of my garden.
On the first warm day of spring, I dig my fingers
deep into the soft earth. I can feel its energy, and
my spirits soar."*

Helen Hayes, American Actress

APRIL MEETING **APRIL 13, 2011**



Our speaker this month was to be Sue Olsen, owner of the Bellevue **Foliage Gardens** and author of the **Encyclopedia of Garden Ferns**. This impressive book was the winner of the 2008 Literature Award from the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries.

Ms Olsen called Laura Walker, our Vice-President and Program Chair, on Monday, April 4, to report that she had taken a fall resulting in a compound fracture of her wrist. She faces surgery and will not be able to speak at our meeting.

Laura has arranged an alternate speaker for us, Ann Chandler, rose buyer for Squak Mountain Nursery. Ms. Chandler will talk about new varieties of roses and about the best roses for our area. She'll present a slide show of her recommendations and give us hand-outs, too. She'll also answer our questions about roses and their care.



Please remember to bring donations for the Issaquah Food Bank to our meeting. Your contributions are truly needed and much appreciated.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our program for March, a visit to the Environmental Horticulture program at the Lake Washington Technical College, was a mixed success. The weather was less than desirable, rainy and cold. The eleven of us who ventured to the greenhouse for Prof. Don Marshall's introduction and proceeded to activities in spring plant propagation enjoyed ourselves.

We learned from Prof. Marshall that the entire budget for the program was made in four days, two weekends of sales in the springtime. (See the last sale listed on page five.) The students learn both "hard" skills in horticulture and landscaping, and "soft" skills—professional work habits—and study four days a week, six hours a day.

The other activity in which our members participated during March was the annual Hellebore Tea held to support Lake Wilderness Arboretum. Those attending, including our four guests, had a very pleasant time.

We were thrilled that one of our tables, designed and decorated by Jessica Liepins and Sherran Whatley, won the award for best table setting!



Picture submitted by Sherran Whatley.

Our second table, designed by Sandy Young, was very handsome, as well. (I wish my photo did it justice.)



Joann Morgan and her guest, Margie Alexander, share a pleasant time.



Another handsome table, "Pretty in Pink."

This has been the most disappointing and frustrating Spring since we moved here! I've lost roses, echinacea, and a few primroses, at the very least.

I do appreciate the rain that falls here, but enough is enough. Plants are taking their sweet time to green up. Little-by-little, I see signs of life, leaves starting on shrubs and my little Japanese maples and greenery poking through the soggy soil. Thank goodness for the blooming hellebores, daffodils and primroses!

APRIL LUNCHEON

Our hostess for April, Martha Huey Franklin, reports that we'll have a variety of salads and other items this month, provided by Sally Cadranel, Audrey Ellingsen, Rosemary Fahey, Martha Franklin, Joan Harris, Jackie Maresca, Michele Peltonen, Helen Smart, Lorraine Vomacka, and Sherran Whatley. Joan Harris will provide the centerpiece for the food table.

GARDEN THERAPY FOR EASTER

Members under the direction of June Willard and Karen Bukantz will meet at the Issaquah Nursing and Rehabilitation Center at **9:30 AM on Thursday, April 21**, to create centerpieces for Easter.

IGC OFFICERS FOR 2010-11

The Nominating Committee reports that we have a full slate of candidates for officers for the coming year. Those who have agreed to serve are:

Cate Mueller, President
Sandy Young, Vice-President
Michelle Peltonen, Secretary
Jackie Maresca, Treasurer

Karen Lee, Chair of the Nominating Committee, will present the slate for election at our April meeting. At that time, in accordance with the By-Laws, "Nominations may be made from the floor if the nominee has consented to the nomination in advance."



IGC PLANT SALE

Joann Morgan has again graciously agreed to open her property for our **Plant Sale, May 21**. Our capable Vice-President, Laura Walker, and her Plant Sale Committee will organize aspects of the sale.

Please note the following dates important to prepare for our annual Plant Sale, May 21.

April 15: Potting party at Cate Mueller's home, beginning at 10 AM.

April 20: Potting party at Laura Walker's home, beginning at 10 AM.

May 4: Potting/pricing party at Cate Mueller's home at 10 AM.

May 18: Potting/pricing party at Cate Mueller's home at 10 AM.

May 20: Pick up plants from the plant staging area at Cate Mueller's for delivery at Joann Morgan's home the following morning.

There will be an hand-out at the April meeting which gives full information about the arrangements.

2010-2011 CLUB DUES

Our next Garden Club dues of \$25 cover the fiscal year 7/1/2011 through 6/30/2012. **Please bring your checks, payable to "Issaquah Garden Club" to our April meeting to give to our Treasurer, Jackie Maresca.**

Receipt of these checks in a timely manner will help to facilitate closing the books for this year in preparation for the audit by the Finance Committee.

GARDENING IN APRIL

The first grass clipping of the season are rich in nutrients and contain fewer weed seeds than those collected later. Put them in the compost pile or mow frequently and leave them on the ground.

Many herbs are excellent for natural-appearing rock gardens or formal planting with brick pathways. These herbs do well in sandy soil and are partial to full-sun locations: creeping thyme, sage, santolina and garlic.

Prune spring-blooming shrubs such as forsythia, weigela and early spirea after they have completed flowering.

When tiny seedlings are transplanted into individual containers, water by placing pots in a shallow pan of water. Do not pour water into pots as this disturbs the roots. When the media is moist, remove the pots from the water and place them in a shady spot for a day or two before returning plants to a sunny place.

When purchasing bedding annuals this spring, choose properly grown plants with good color. Buy plants with well-developed root systems that are vigorous, but not too large for their pots.



WORKING AT IHM

Our Chair, Gale Holmstrom, has been to the Issaquah History Museum to rake. She reports that, just as in our gardens, there are some weeds.

We have decided, however, in view of the unsettled and wet weather, that work parties will begin in May.

City of Bellevue's Annual Arbor Day-Earth Day Event comes to the Bellevue Botanical Garden

**Saturday April 16, 2011
Family Festival
10 am - 2 pm**



City of Issaquah Celebration: Ruth Kees Grove Dedication



The event, which is open to the public, starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 16. Attendees can park at Squak Valley Park South, 10319 Issaquah-Hobart Road, and follow the markers to the event site.

Issaquah will be planting 10 native conifer trees to honor the first 10 recipients of the Ruth Kees Environmental Award for a Sustainable Community. Past award recipients – and their families – are all invited to celebrate and honor the winners.

For those who would like to help with the plantings, the City will provide appropriate tools, but participants should bring gloves and be prepared for the weather.

The City's award is named after Kees, who was a teacher, mentor and role model for those committed to pursuing the vision of a sustainable Issaquah.

For more information, please call 425-837-3322.

PLANT SALES

For a complete list of EVERY plant sale held in April, May and thereafter, in Washington state and even a few in Oregon and British Columbia, go to the website of the Elisabeth C. Miller Library: <http://depts.washington.edu/hortlib/calendar/sales.php> And, yes, Virginia, our plant sale is listed, too!

Puget Sound Dahlia Association Tuber Sale: Friday, 1 April, 2011 from 11:00am to 7:00pm, Saturday, 2 April, 2011 from 9:00am to 5:00pm. Saturday, 9 April, 2011 from 9:00am to 5:00pm. More information: www.pugetsounddahlias.org , or 425-836-4487.

Northwest Fuchsia Society Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, 2 April, 2011 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. More information: www.nwfuchsiasociety.com, 206-387-0225 or joanfuchsia@comcast.net. More information: www.pugetsounddahlias.org or 425-836-4487.

Seattle Audubon Annual Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, 2 April, 2011 from 10:00am to 4:00pm. More information: www.seattleaudubon.org, info@seattleaudubon.org or 206-523-4483.

Native Plant Sale

Saturday, 2 April, 2011 from 11:00am to 3:00pm
More Information: 206-499-3394 or www.interfaithwa.org.

Northwest Orchid Society Spring Show & Plant Sale

Saturday, 9 April, 2011 from 9:00am to 6:00pm. More information: www.nwos.org, kandmmurray@verizon.net or 206-781-5805.

Arboretum Foundation Early Bloomers Plant Sale

Saturday, 9 April, 2011 from 10:00am to 2:00pm
More information: www.arboretumfoundation.org or 206-325-4510.

The Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden Spring Plant Sale

Friday, 15 April, 2011 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm and Saturday, 16 April, 2011 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. More information: www.rhodygarden.org, 253-661-9377 or 253-838-4646.

Hardy Plant Society of Washington Spring Plant Sale

Sunday, 17 April, 2011 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. More information: www.hardyplantsocietywa.org or info@hardyplantsocietywa.org.

Northwest Perennial Alliance Spring Plant Sale

Sunday, 17 April, 2011 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. More information: www.northwestperennialalliance.org, 425-647-6004 or info@northwestperennialalliance.org.

Lake Washington Technical College Spring Plant Sale

Friday, 22 April, 2011 from 9:00am to 3:00pm; Saturday, 23 April, 2011 from 9:00am to 3:00pm; Friday, 29 April, 2011 from 9:00am to 3:00pm; Saturday, 30 April, 2011 from 9:00am to 2:00pm. More information: 425-739-8279, horticulture@lwtc.edu or www.lwtchort.com.



WSFGC EVENTS

Gardener of the Year, April 11, noon –2 PM. \$10 . Sponsored by Seattle Civic Garden Center. The Garden House, 2336 15th Ave South, Seattle. Contact Ginger Knutsen, 206-362-2525 or gingerknutsen@msn.com.

Auburn Garden Club Flower Show, *Step into Spring*, April 18, 4—8 PM; April 19, 10 AM—4 PM, Auburn Senior Center, 808 Ninth Street SE, Auburn. Contact Dianne Bnerger, 253-839-6023 or dyberger@gmail.com.

Landscape Design Study Course 1, April 27—29, South Seattle Community Collkege, 6000 16th Ave SW, Seattle. Registrar: Sue Williams, 206-988-5158. Chairman: Debbie Skow, 206-248-4313.

Capitol District Flower Show, April 28, 10 AM—2 PM, Clover Park Technicasl College, Rainier Room, Building #31, 4500 Steilacoom Blvd, Lakewood, WA. Contact Melinda Fahy at 253-265-8861.

Central Valley Garden Club Plant Sale, Friday, April 29, 9 AM—4 PM; Saturday, April 30, 9 AM—2 PM, Community Hall, 10009 Central Valley Rd, Bremerton, WA. One block north of Waaga Way



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