



# GARDEN DELIGHTS

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Issaquah Garden Club

*“The word ‘garden’ comes from the Hebrew and means ‘a pleasant place’ and it is to this Eden that each gardener, after his or her fashion, strives to return.”*

*George Ordish, 1908-1991, The Living Garden*

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## *February Meeting*

*Wednesday, February 10, 2010*

After our business meeting, we'll enjoy a program, “Garden Art and Dwarf Conifer,” presented by Leanette Bassetti, owner of Bassetti's Crooked Arbor Gardens.

Bassetti's Crooked Arbor Garden is located on three acres at the south end of Cottage Lake, Woodinville, Washington. The gardens were designed and planted by Leanette and her husband Bill starting in 1982. The display gardens include a perennial border, a 60 foot arbor, a rock garden, shade garden, Italianate garden, a small Japanese garden, and a vegetable garden. Leanette acquired a collection of dwarf conifers in 1983 and opened her alpine plants and dwarf conifer nursery business the same year.

In 1991, Bill and Leanette started collecting sculpture for the gardens and have displayed and sold sculpture ever since then. Each year Bassetti's has their annual Garden Art show and promotes and sells the art of 40 to 50 local artists in the garden and garden galleries. Bassetti's gardens are open to the public from April through September.

Leanette will present for the Issaquah Garden Club a brief history of how Bill and Leanette got into collecting garden art and will give parallel slide show of the Art in Bassetti's Gardens. Leanette will also give a short demonstration on propagating dwarf conifers and other alpine plants. She will have some examples of dwarf conifers.

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Following our program, we'll enjoy luncheon provided by hostess Jessica Liepins and those who have signed up to bring dishes: Barbara Brigham, Janel Garnett, Nam Kim, Deeann Maher, Jeanette Mahoney, Dianne Tanner, and Sherran Whatley. Jessica will be calling these members about their contributions.

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**Please remember to bring donations for the Issaquah Food Bank to our meeting. Your contributions are truly needed and much appreciated.** (Members contributed thirty-two pounds of food last month.)

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear IGC Members,

How time flies! It does not seem possible that we only have three more months left of our garden club year.

Wonderful speakers, events and programs have been the result of many members' dedication and hours of work to make this year meaningful for ALL. It is time to ask willing workers to step up to the plate to insure continued success and a good experience for the future,

**Nominating Committee:** It is time for a committee to form to present a slate of officers in March, vote in April and then installation will take place in May. We will need a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer to serve for the 2010-11 term. Volunteers please!

**May Tea:** We have our May Tea, under the direction of Rita Hansen, to look forward to. Each member who attends will be asked to take part by bringing food, your own tea cup and a great big smile. Rita will have a sign up sheet for help with kitchen, centerpieces or table captains?

**Plant Sale:** This is your club. We do not have a plant chairman. What are our options? We need to share ideas and decide IF this event will take place in May. Small? New location? Who will be able to help? Just a sale of plants between members at our last meeting?

Blessings, **Dianne**

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## GARDEN THERAPY THIS MONTH

This is a reminder that the garden therapy group will meet at the Issaquah Care and Rehabilitation Center to create centerpieces with a Valentine's Day theme on **February 8, at 10 A.M.** Since this is the same day that the Avant Design Group meets, several of our

IGC members who often help with the garden therapy program will not be available. So far, Jeanette, chair of this committee, and three others will be at the Rehab Center.

If you can help that day, it would be appreciated. And if you can provide filler materials for the arrangements--no holly, no berries, please--that would be helpful. You might let Jeanette know in advance if you are coming.

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## ON GARDEN THERAPY

[Since your Editor didn't understand how the club's flower arranging at the Rehab Center could be considered "Garden Therapy," I asked June Willard for an explanation. She graciously explained and loaned me a WSFGC Handbook, containing this information.]

Garden therapy uses garden-related activities as an aid in the recovery and rehabilitation of physically and/or mentally challenged individuals. They may be homebound persons, nursing home residents or students in special schools. Garden Club member can provide such persons the opportunity to participate in programs of horticulture and related activities such as growing plants, the artistic use of plants and other natural materials, the study of bird, nature and conservation. Active participation by these persons promotes the most therapeutic benefit.

[Garden Therapy is classified in two categories] **Active Therapy**, involving physically or mentally challenged persons in garden-related activities such as gardening, field trips or floral design. **Passive (sedentary) Therapy**, presenting flower arrangements, hospital decorations and special holiday treats.

[The arrangements our club makes must be therapeutic—they bring joy to the clients by adding color and interest to their surroundings, especially for a special day.]

## **JANUARY PROGRAM**

“What’s New in 2010: Floral, Design, Color,” presented by Jon Robert Throne, Design Manager, Buyer and Wedding and Event Specialist for Countryside Floral and Garden.

Most people are interested in color but Jon is interested in textures. Ligularias (elephant ears) are his current favorite garden plants and orchids are his favorite indoor plants. He brought in some designs that he had made for the National Association of Catering Executives meeting. One avant garde design used a spiral armature (sculptural form) design from Belgium, made of wired red twig dogwood, with flowers in a large container. Nests, birds, seashells, a natural, organic, feel is the current trend. He took a dark feathered wreath and laid it on top of a bowl and put flowers in the middle which gave it a nest feel.

For 2011 the new color trends in fashion will be deep dark warm tones such as plum, burgundy, dark gray and chocolate. We’re moving in that direction now. Jon told us that plum is the hot color. Plum with green or blue with plum-- add magenta and maybe a little gray with it. Plum and green is the most popular color combination for summer weddings this year.

Yellow is the hardest color to sell. Fresh daffodils sell well but silk daffodils don't. Neither do yellow vases. But there is more yellow coming into interior design and fashion. Yellow with black looks great. Neutral colors with a splash of bright color is great, too, such as a beige or chocolate outfit with a yellow purse and yellow shoes. Bling and lights look cool with the dark colors, especial in the evening.

Aspidistra (cast iron plant) foliage and monstera (window-leaf plant) leaves will last for six weeks in a vase. James Story yellow orchids are new and last for two weeks. One stem costs \$10. Force daffodils or just pull them out of your yard, rinse well and place in a large, clear container with beach glass for a casual design. Tulips and Bells of Ireland can be laid on the counter for a couple of hours until they get dehydrated. You can then re-cut them, put them in water and the stems become really flexible so that you can curl them horizontally (sideways) in a low bowl. Hedge or sheath design is horizontal layers in a design. Please do not use baskets as they are out of fashion; instead use ceramic containers.

Countryside Floral and Garden will have a design in the hallway at the NWFGS. You can find Jon on Facebook and Countryside Floral has a fan page on Facebook as well. Countryside Floral and Garden’s website: [www.countrysidefloral.com](http://www.countrysidefloral.com)

**Karen Lee**



## HELLEBORE TEA LAKE WILDERNESS LODGE

An E-mail was sent out, January 29, regarding tickets for the Hellebore Tea, scheduled for **Sunday, March 14, 2010**. As of then, three places were open at the second table, being organized by Laura Walker. She'll have tickets at our February 10 meeting, for those already registered and those who wish to join the table.

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## DISTRICT INFORMATION

**February 3 -7 Northwest Flower & Garden Show** - Plan to attend the Northwest Flower & Garden Show, February 3 - 7, 2010 at the Washington State Convention Center at 7th and Pike in Seattle. Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. WSFGC will again sponsor an educational booth. The tentative booth location is in the North Hall #2474. Our past District Director and former State President, Lana Finegold, will teach "Frugal Floral Designs" on the DIY stage, Sunday, February 7, at 9:30 am.

**February 22: ELWD General Membership Meeting - Brunch & Programs**  
Join us for our first program of the New Year on Monday, Feb. 22nd at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 2650 148th Ave SE in Bellevue. Sign-in starts at 9:15 AM, with brunch at 9:30 followed by brief business meeting and programs and should end by 1:15 PM. State President, Carolyn Erickson will do a Design Program titled "Winter or Spring, What Will It Be?" The Horticulture Program will be put on by the talented members of the State Visitation team - count on something interesting. You are welcome to bring guests. Cost is \$10. **Reservation Deadline is February**

**17th**; contact Linda Patricelli at (425) 898-7412 or [lindapatricelli@hotmail.com](mailto:lindapatricelli@hotmail.com) (e-mail reservations will be confirmed so you know it was received).

**Iris Society Flower Show May 22** - we will again partner with them on this show; more details later.

**Native Plant Grants - applications due March 1, 2010** — The District is again offering grants of up to \$100 to clubs for a native plant project to benefit their community; projects to be completed by the end of 2010. Application is available on our website.



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## WSFGC DATES TO REMEMBER

**March 15:** GALA XXXII with Boston Designer Mary Huntoon, Seattle Airport Marriott. Tickets \$35 See the January issue of Smoke Signals, for more information.

**April 22-24;** 2010 Pacific Region Convention, Spokane. See the January issue of Smoke Signals, for more information.

**April 27-29 Gardening Study School Series**

**May 10th Seattle Civic's Gardener of the Year Garden House Tea \$15. Reservations taken after APRIL 1ST**

**JUNE 10-13 WSFGC CONVENTION, Marriott Hotel, Tacoma.**

*Issaquah Garden Club*  
*General Meeting*  
*January 13, 2010*

The monthly general meeting of the Issaquah Garden Club for December was called to order by President Dianne Tanner at 10:10 A.M. at Tibbett's Creek Manor. Dianne began by welcoming members present. She noted guests, Gale Baullinger, Ann Whitmore, and Georganne Park.. It was noted that former member, Janet Figgins, was attending the meeting.

Dianne reminded members of the location in the vestibule to place Food Bank donations, and eclectic items for sharing. She thanked Joann Dinken for staffing the Welcome Desk, Sherran Whatley, for acting as hostess, and Jessica Liepins, for providing the handsome centerpiece for our luncheon table.

The President inquired if members had received Smoke Signals, and referred members to happenings listed therein.

The minutes of the November meeting, as corrected, and the minutes of the December meeting were approved.

The Treasurer reported a balance , of \$9111.64, [corrected January 25]. She noted Louise Luce had donated \$50 in memory of Maxine Schmeltzer, which would be forwarded to the WSFSC Scholarship fund. Additionally, IGC had sent a check for \$25 to ELWD in memory of Maxine Schmeltzer.

Sign-up sheets for the remaining luncheon were distributed.

Michele Peltonen announced the raffle at the January meeting, consisting of a tole-painted kettle by a local artist, a framed print, and six wreath forms.

Sherran Whatley thanked those who had brought food for the January luncheon. Then she discussed the auction report, and the meeting held on January 6. The recommendation was to have only an oral auction, the work to be completed on the day of the auction. She noted that the increased effort made this year did not yield an increase of money made for the silent auction. She thanked her Auction committee.

Dianne Tanner complimented the Auction committee, stating that the biggest thanks went to Sherran, to the cashiers, Joan and Jackie, to Michele, our auctioneer, and to all who brought food. She noted that the success of the auction was due to a team effort.

Jeanette Mahoney talked about Garden Therapy, noting that eight people had helped in December, and that that there were two therapy meetings left, for Valentine's Day and Easter. Jeanette noted that she will need a replacement for Garden Therapy and her role in bringing supplies for the luncheon next year, since she is moving.

It was announced that we need a Plant Sale Chair. Consideration of this matter was tabled.

Dianne Tanner announced various happenings, including the Northwest Flower and Garden Show, the ELWD General Meeting, and the WSFGC convention in June. Gale Baullinger spoke about the ELWD meeting, , at which the State President, Carolyn Erickson, will present a design program. IGC, under the leadership of Gail Holmstrom, will set up the brunch for the meeting.

## January Meeting Minutes, continued

It was announced that the King County Master Gardeners Workshop and special event schedule was available. The emphasis this year is on vegetables. The programs are held every Saturday, 10:30 to 12 PM at the Ranger Station, 156th Avenue and 16th Street, Bellevue.

June Willard will speak on "Trees and Shrubs for the Season," on March 31 at Hill and Dale District's 26th Workshop.

Additional information was made available about the Hellebore Tea at Lake Wilderness Center, March 14. Members have formed one table of ten, and another might be formed.

Janet Wall announced the Native Plant Stewardship class, beginning in April. There will be ten all day sessions with speakers, at Lewis Creek Visitors' Center. Laura Walker noted the work done at Berntsen Park, using salvaged and purchased plants. Stewardship efforts are concentrated on plant restoration.

Gale Baullinger mentioned the native plant grant of \$100 available.

Gail Holmstrom stated that IGC would have a work party at the Historical Society, probably next month..

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 A.M.

Cate Mueller, Secretary



**GARDEN DELIGHTS**  
c/o Cate Mueller, Editor  
24205 SE Tiger Mtn Rd  
Issaquah, WA 98027-7336

[www.IssaquahGardenClub.org](http://www.IssaquahGardenClub.org)

