



GARDEN DELIGHTS

Issaquah Garden Club

“The hardest thing to raise in my garden is my knees.”

Unknown

February Meeting

February 11, 2015, 10:00 A.M.

“Mood Magic in Landscape Design”

Our member, Janel Garnett, plants woman and garden designer extraordinaire will show us how to magically transform our gardens to reflect any mood we want to create. If you have enjoyed her past programs, or if you’ve ever visited her gardens, you know how insightful she is and how informative and pleasant this program will be.



A view of Janel’s garden

Don’t forget your cup, plate and utensils!

And don’t forget to bring your donation for the Issaquah Food Bank!

At the January meeting, members donated forty-two pounds of food and a box of 126 diapers.. Our thanks to Wendy Lukas and June Willard for delivering our donations in December and January.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February is upon us!!! Where did January go? Oh, right--I went up to Canada for two weeks. Boy, did I miss all you ladies at the Garden Club. I'm looking forward to seeing the Flower and Garden show this year (Feb. 11-15)--last year it fell on a week that I was recording episode 4 of Zorro, and had 3 out of town guests involved in that.

Weren't those nice weather days wonderful? I followed the sirens' call to the garden--I tidied up my small plot and then, on another day, I cleaned up my friend's garden. Getting rid of the fallen leaves and twigs, sweeping the patio and walkways clear, and just enjoying the warm-for-January days. I discovered that some of my plants managed to show some color--I'm always surprised they managed to survive the winter and my weeding.

I'm also looking forward to hearing Janel talk about mood magic in the garden at the next meeting.

Are you compiling your wish list for the flower sale? My list this year includes the Hinoki cypress--my small garden seems to collect Asian plants, or at least plants whose name ends in "japonica". But of course, I'm not disciplined enough to maintain such a garden.

I took the recipes with me to Canada, but failed to do anything with them on the trip. Real soon now!

See you soon!



Joy

FEBRUARY'S LUNCHEON

Our hostess for the February meeting will be Karen Bukantz. Those who have volunteered to bring dishes are Peggy Abernathy, Carol Eldridge, Janel Garnett, Rita Hansen, Joan Harris, Wendy Lukas, Jean Pass, and June Willard.

PLANT THERAPY AT ISSAQUAH NURSING AND REHABILITATION

Members will meet at 9:00 AM on Thursday, February 12, 2015, to complete Valentine's Day arrangements. Please bring your clippers, scissors and a few greens—no berries or thorns, please.

Good Gardening and Good Grub: 85 years with the Issaquah Garden Club

If you haven't yet submitted your recipes or garden tips to Joy, please do so as soon as possible. The goal is to have our book ready for sale at the Plant and Bake Sale on May 9. The easiest way to submit entries would be to email them to Joy at

jackley602@aol.com

Please refer to Joy's article in the January issue of our newsletter for more information.



ELWD GENERAL MEETING

This is a reminder that on February 23, our East Lake Washington District will hold the second General Meeting of the 2013-2014 year. This meeting will begin with registration at 9 A.M. at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Eastgate.

The price for the meeting and luncheon is \$10, payable at the door. We'll take reservations at our February Issaquah Garden Club meeting. Should you wish to send yours separately, email Joyce Voldal at javoldal@hotmail.com The registration deadline is Thursday, February 19. Should you register but not attend, you will be billed the \$10. Should you come to the meeting without registering, you will be charged \$15 at the door.

Our current state President, Brynn Tavasci will visit the district meeting and will present a program with Mary Lou Wait on size and texture in design. There will also be a horticultural program, a Power Point presentation on Rhododendrons.

Instead of a flower show at this meeting, there will be a display of arts and crafts, "Pleasant Pastimes." This will include textile and fiber art, photography, paper and painting, sculpture and pottery, and any other craft you might wish to exhibit. To register please call Gale Baullinger, 425 643-2722 by February 19. (A flyer will be available at our meeting next week.)



GARDENING FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA

The Washington State Federation of Garden Club will hold its 82nd Annual Convention on June 2-5, 2015 at the Red Lion Hotel in Port Angeles.

Tours held during the convention include a trip to Hurricane Ridge, a tour of downtown Port Angeles, including the Underground, and self-guided tours of the Feiro Marine Science Center, and the Fine Arts Center and Webster's Woods Art Park.

For more information, please see the WSFGC website:

www.wagardenclub.com

2016 STATE CONVENTION

The East Lake Washington District will sponsor the 2016 convention that will be held at the Embassy Suites at Eastgate. This site has been chosen by the ELWD Convention Committee that has been meeting to plan the convention. If you are interested in helping, the next meeting will be held **February 10, from 10 to 12**, in the conference room at Bellevue Botanical Garden. The theme for the convention will be "Imagine That." The committee is working on chairmen for a variety of jobs, such as centerpieces for the banquets, dinners and lunches. The programs proposed include various subjects of interest to designers, gardeners and landscapers.

HELLEBORE TEA 2015

Those who have signed up to attend the Hellebore Tea on March 8 are asked to come to a planning meeting on **February 16, at 2 PM at Panera**. We will need to decide on place setting, centerpiece and the refreshments we'll be providing.. We can also arrange the car pools for those interested.

Please see the article in last month's newsletter for more information.

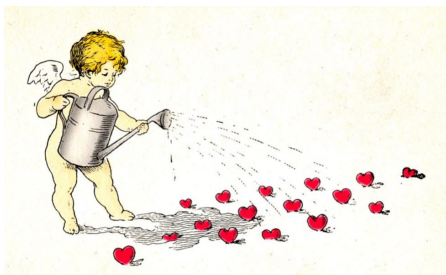
RAFFLE AND AUCTION IN JANUARY

.At our meeting, January 14, we had only 23 members in attendance, but a whopping \$148 was raised through various venues.

We held a raffle of 20 primroses (one given for each name called), one clear infusion teapot, a bread maker and a unique onion basket, which brought us \$83.00. A wall hanging, donated by June Willard, brought in another \$10.

Auction of centerpiece by Jon Throne, donated by Gail Holmstrom, brought in \$55.00, giving us a total \$148.00.

Dianne Tanner



GROWING GREAT GARDENERS

On Friday the 6th of February YOUR help is needed in the gardens. At Issaquah Valley Elementary School. On that day, from **1:30 to 2:30**, we will turn the cover crop planted in six beds last October. These will then be covered with plastic.

Soil will need to be place in one bed replaced last year. This should all take no more then an hour with many helping hands. PTA volunteers have been asked to come also. **Please bring shovels.** Husbands are welcome and needed, also.

Please let Dianne Tanner know if you can come at butterdmt@comcast.net or leaving a message at her home phone, 425 392- 7430.

MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

Monarch update: When planting milkweed, be sure to plant native species, such as *Asclepias incarnata*. **Do not plant** tropical milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica*), which has been shown to increase the odds that monarchs will be infected with a crippling parasite, according to sciencemag.org.
<http://bit.ly/1woIimz>

You can get seeds from Save Our Monarchs <http://bit.ly/1yKBTJI> Check out their site, where you can find more information about the species that are native to your area. It's likely that you can also buy plants (instead of seeds) from a local garden center or by mail from sites like prairienursery.com.
-David Grist, **Gardener's Supply**

[This information may be reprinted, according to information your editor received.]

STARTING SEEDS INDOORS

[Information excerpted from that posted on-line by [Organic Gardening](#)]

Starting seeds indoors will give you earlier vegetables and flowers, and your cultivar choices will be endless. The process of germination may seem complex, but the act of seed planting is reassuringly simple. Just take it step-by-step, and you'll soon be presiding over a healthy crop of seedlings.

Sowing Timetable

To plan the best time to start seedlings indoors in spring, you need to know the approximate date of the average last spring frost in your area. Count back from that date the number of weeks indicated below to determine the appropriate starting date for various crops. An asterisk (*) indicates a cold-hardy plant that can be set out 4 to 6 weeks before the last frost.

- 12 to 14 weeks: onions, leeks, chives, pansies, impatiens, and coleus
- 8 to 12 weeks: peppers, lettuce, cabbage-family crops, petunias, snapdragons, alyssum, and other hardy annual flowers
- 6 to 8 weeks: eggplants, tomatoes
- 5 to 6 weeks: zinnias, cockscombs (*Celosia* spp.), marigolds, other tender annuals
- 2 to 4 weeks: cucumbers, melons, okra, pumpkins, squash

[Please search the internet for information about seed sowing..]



[Your editor saw this on Facebook and wrote to the company displaying this, "Down to Earth Home Garden and Gifts," in Eugene, OR. They very kindly gave me permission to print this in our newsletter.]

Class offered by Bellevue Botanical Garden Society

Saturday, February 28, 2015, 10:00am - Noon: *"Bringing the Living Space into the Garden"*

Karen Stefonick, award winning landscape designer, designs functional, quality landscapes as small as a town house garden to 5 acre country estates. Learn how to enhance your indoor living space by bringing the inside out and the outside in.

Note: Space is limited. Sign up soon at <http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/prodinfo.asp?pid+169&cid=3>

MAD ABOUT HELLEBORES

It is easy to see why some gardeners are passionate about hellebores: they are gorgeous, they flower in the drear of winter, and they require little attention the rest of the year.

To bring them indoors, the simplest way to arrange them is to float them in a bowl of water. Individual blossoms look nice in glasses, but longer stems also look beautiful in vases. Some people make them last by conditioning them before they put them in an arrangement. After you bring them indoors, cut the bottom of the stem one more time, and strip the leaves from below the likely water line. Sear the hellebores as soon as you can by lowering the stem ends into boiling water for 30 seconds.

Using a preservative in the vase with your cut hellebores will make them last longer. Commercial preservatives use carbohydrates, such as sugar, for cell metabolism; a biocide, such as bleach, to combat bacteria; and an acidifier to adjust the pH of water to facilitate and increase water uptake. You can make your own; here's a recipe for a homemade preservative to increase the longevity of cut flowers.

Homemade Flower Preservative

Home mixes can be as effective as commercial preservatives. This one is easy-to-make; it will become your favorite.

1 teaspoon sugar

2 teaspoons lemon or lime juice

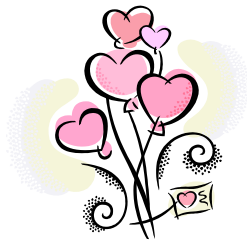
1 teaspoon household bleach

1 quart lukewarm water



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