



GARDEN DELIGHTS

Issaquah Garden Club
January, 2010

*“The only hunger of our soils is for dreams and flowers.”
Paul-Jean Toulet, French poet and novelist*

January Meeting

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

After our business meeting, we'll enjoy a 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.

Many of the Garden Club members will already be familiar with Jon, whom one member described as a "breath of fresh air." Those of us who attended the fall general meeting of ELWD were given a special treat in watching Jon's design program. He created several floral arrangements, talking while making each one, telling us how "easy" each was to do, and giving us design hints.

If you've never attended one of Jon's demonstrations, you'll be delighted. If you have seen his work already, you'll be sure to learn new tips as well as the latest ideas for floral design. Even those of us who are dismal floral arrangers will come away with a new viewpoint!

Following our program, we'll enjoy luncheon provided by hostess Sherran Whatley and those who have signed up to bring dishes: Joanne Dinken, Janel Garnett, Jessica Liepins, Jackie Maresca, Joann Morgan, Frankie Mowers, Dianne Tanner, Jane Tierney, Leslie Waltzer, and June Willard. Sherran will be calling these members on the preceding Monday.



Countryside Floral and Garden design

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear IGC Members,

As we leave 2009 behind and go forward to 2010, I am hoping that the majority of you are pleased with garden club this year. The present officers and committee members strive to make our meetings, events and programs of interest and fun. The objective was to present a variety of subjects to please ALL members. My philosophy is that one can always learn something from all subjects. We had suggestions from members and I think you will find that we offer something for everyone.

Not everyone will be interested in everything. For instance, we had a program once on composting. Will I ever compost? NO. Did I learn something? YES. Did I enjoy being at the meeting to connect with fellow members? YES. If you have subjects, contacts and interests for programs, PLEASE let any of the officers know. These can be added to a list for whoever takes over next year. Also, it takes MONEY for rent, speakers and to support our local, district and BBG. Membership fees go to district and to pay for mailings and programs that come directly to you. Therefore, it is important for EACH of you to support fund raising efforts.

We started off the year with a great presentation on native plants, then one on containers and winter gardens, then onto our auction and a FUN time in December. (There were only 18 in attendance, but we had a very relaxed, creative time of crafts and learning to make bows. I, the most uncrafty person, managed to make a wreath!) Good food and hopefully uplifting conversation is shared after each meeting and program.

January we will start off with the most entertaining Jon from Countryside Floral. Even if you do not design or arrange flowers, he has much information to share. Come and learn about colors for 2010, what the hot new flower is and just enjoy our club and the beautiful place we meet.

A huge thank you to Sherran Whatley for her leadership and making our auction a success. To Michele Peltonen for a wonderful job as our auctioneer, and to all who attended.

Looking forward to 2010 in Issaquah Garden Club.

Blessings, Dianne

OUR DECEMBER MEETING

Joann Morgan teaches us to make bows. (She demonstrated several different kinds of bows, including those made from wrapping paper.)



Here are two examples of the holiday crafts we made...



DECEMBER WORK PARTY

On Friday, December 18, Jeanette Mahoney and her assistants, Joann Morgan, Donna Pope, June Ann Hassebroek and Dianne Tanner met at the Issaquah Care Center to design twelve centerpieces and a large entry arrangement as residents looked on.



HELLEBORE TEA LAKE WILDERNESS LODGE

Tickets for the Hellebore Tea, scheduled for **Sunday, March 14, 2010**, will be available at our January meeting. We'll have one table with ten places. A second table might be possible, if there is enough interest.

This annual event is co-sponsored by the Late Bloomers Garden Club and the Lake Wilderness Arboretum Foundation. Proceeds from this event are used by the Arboretum Foundation to maintain and improve Lake Wilderness Arboretum.

Tables at the tea are sponsored by individuals who, in turn, invite guests to join them at their table. Entrance tickets purchased by sponsors and guests are part of the fund raising for this event. Sponsors provide the tableware and table decorations for each table. Awards are given for outstanding table decorations, so many eye-catching displays can be found.

The tea features a "Garden Hat" contest, a silent auction, and complimentary hellebores for attendees. Food is provided by table sponsors and tea is provided by the Late Bloomers Garden Club. [In the last two years of IGC participation, members attending have shared in the donation of food items., so no one has been overburdened.]

Co-sponsors for the Tea have reminded us that they are soliciting items for the auction and raffle and looking for businesses who would like to advertise by sponsoring a table at the tea (\$100). They will list sponsors in the program and the local newspaper article after the tea.

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 3-7: Northwest Flower and Garden Show, "Make Life Beautiful." Washington State Convention Center, Seattle. See the website: <http://www.gardenshow.com/seattle/index/>

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.

SPEAKING OF SMOKE SIGNALS...

If you haven't yet done so, please have a look at the stunning pictures of award-winning entries in the Holiday Show, held last November. They include those of members Karen Lee and June Willard, and our friend, Gale Baullinger. Pretty nifty!

ADDING VARIETY TO THE WINTER GARDEN

Here are some shrubs you might consider adding to enhance your winter garden. Check out various species of some:

Corkscrew Hazel (*Corylus*): twisted and contorted branches

Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster*): persistent red berries

Dogwoods (*Cornus*): red, purple or yellow stems

Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*): bright red berries

Kerria (*Kerria*): bright green stems

Maples (*Acer ginnala*, *Acer griseum*, *Acer palmatum*): attractive bark and branching patterns

Shrub Roses (*Rosa*): brightly colored hips

Winged Euonymus (*Euonymus alatus*) corky ridges on the branches

Autumn Flowering Cherry (*Prunus subhirtella autumnalis*): very early flowering

19th Annual Native Bareroot Plant Sale

The King Conservation District offers a variety of native trees and shrubs for conservation purposes such as wildlife habitat, windbreaks, hedgerows, reforestation, and stream enhancement. The plants are bareroot stock which means they do not come in pots or burlap bags, but are harvested from the field in winter when the plants are dormant and ready to be replanted. Bareroot plants are hardy, have well-developed roots, are easy to handle, transport, and plant. Orders will be taken until January 31, 2010. See the website for more information: http://www.kingcd.org/pro_native.htm

RAINY SIDE GARDENERS

I've just discovered an interesting, helpful website, chock full of information I've been searching for: <http://rainyside.com/index.html>. These Pacific Northwest garden writers offer information on container gardens, plant lists with extensive information; a Book Shelf offering books by categories; discussion forums and links to all sorts of resources.

Your Editor

Issaquah Garden Club
General Meeting
December 9, 2009

The monthly general meeting of the Issaquah Garden Club for December was called to order by President Dianne Tanner at 10:21 A.M. at Tibbett's Creek Manor. Dianne began by thanking members present, noting that many members are travelling or were ill. She stated that our Vice-President, Rita Hansen, is recovering from surgery.

Since there was no quorum present, the minutes of the November meeting were not approved.

There was rousing applause for Sherran Whatley and her Auction Committee. There will be a wrap-up meeting about the auction, held in January. Sherran asked that members send Emails with suggestions for the auction to be held in next November.

Dianne announced that the centerpiece work party at the Issaquah Care and Rehabilitation Center would be held on Friday, December 18, at 10 A.M. under the leadership of Jeanette Mahoney. She stated that the centerpieces created for Thanksgiving had been received in time for a big event at the Center and had held up very well.

Our President advised us that the Northwest Flower and Garden Show had been purchased, and that the 2010 show would be held February 3-7, at the Washington Convention Center. If members volunteer for a two-hour stint at the ELWD booth, they will attend the Flower Show at no fee.

Karen Lee showed and discussed her necklace, made of hydrangea blossoms which received a First Prize award in the Artistic Crafts Division of the Annual WSFGC Holiday Show, held November 5 and 6.

Diane spoke of the article that appeared in the December 9 issue of the Issaquah Press. She hopes to have an article in the January issue, a week before our meeting.

Michele Peltonen mentioned the set of books left from the auction last month, which had been overlooked, and which might be raffled. The general consensus was to defer the raffle usually held until next month.

Joann Morgan spoke of the turkey dinner to be held the Elks Club the following Sunday, which would be free to Seniors. This is in addition to the usual meal with music offered on Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:00 P.M, for \$10. The proceeds help provide therapy for children who cannot afford it.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Cate Mueller

TO DO IN JANUARY: GARDEN PLANNING

January is the perfect time to rethink your garden design. The “bones” of the garden are easy to see. You can imagine the garden as you’d like it to be in spring and summer and you can think of improvements you’d like to make. Catalogues from nurseries are beginning to arrive—you can review these for plants to enhance you garden.

Take a walk around the garden, observing the architecture of the garden, the vertical and horizontal structure of the plants and hardscape elements without the distraction of foliage and flowers.

Take a few photos of your garden from different angles, from both inside the house and outside. (Looking through a camera lens offers an entirely different perspective.)

Make a plant “wish list.” Review your plant catalogues, noting any plants you're interested in. Write the list down on a piece of paper or in your garden organizer or journal for future reference.

Paste the photos you took onto large sheets of paper, or download to your computer and print these. Leave room to add notes and ideas around the pictures.. You might lay a piece of tracing paper over the photographs and sketch out some ideas.



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