



GARDEN DELIGHTS

Issaquah Garden Club

“Gardening is the best therapy in the world. You can put so much into it and get so much back. Love is everything...How lucky we are to live on this beautiful earth—you can bring the beauty to yourselves through gardening.”

C. Z. Guest, First Garden

March Meeting

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

After our business meeting, we'll enjoy an informative program and slide show, "Butterflies in Your Garden," presented by Idie Ulsh. Idie will include a little butterfly natural history; discuss butterfly garden designs and what and where plants are most attractive to butterflies. She will also show photos of the butterflies you will most likely attract in the Issaquah area and identify them for you. This will be a digital keynote presentation with superb photos illustrating all aspects of the talk.

Idie is founder of the Washington Butterfly Association, Past-president of the Seattle Audubon Society, Naturalist, former docent for the Washington Park Arboretum and an independent College Counselor from Seattle.

Following our program, we'll enjoy luncheon provided by hostesses Karen Lee and Jeanette Mahoney, and those who have signed up to bring dishes: Joanne Dinken, Martha Huey Franklin, Joan Harris, Gail Holmstrom, Jackie Maresca, Dianne Tanner, Janet Wall, Sherran Whatley, and Sandy Young, . These ladies will be contacted about their contributions.

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



March 14 — *Daylight Savings Time* — Set your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on the 13th.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear IGC Members,

This year is flying fast. How fortunate we are to have experienced some wonderful speakers and programs.

Native Plants with Ed LaCross started our year, in September. Fantasia Gardens-- learning about unusual plants that grow well in our area, with an opportunity to purchase plants and herbs, in October. The container gardening presentation, too was an extra, that month. In November, our auction was a great success allowing us to continue service projects at local, district and state levels. Let's keep planting those trees in Issaquah and Bellevue!

Let's also keep supporting our local care center with garden therapy, so loved and appreciated by the patients as they watch our members create arrangements for their dining tables. What a great outreach to our community. I believe IGC has been doing this for over twelve years.

The December craft day was fun for those who attended. We carried on even though our leader of the day was ill. Even I made a small wreath! January with Jon from Countryside Floral was entertaining. He was right on about the colors and design for 2010. Our members kept him overtime with their questions. And he was very generous with his door prizes. I was absent in February, but I heard that the Crooked Arbor presentation by Leanette Bassetti from Woodinville was good.

This month we can look forward to Idie Ulsh and her informative slide show, "Butterflies in Your Garden." April brings a program by master gardener Lou Spader, on vegetable gardening. In May we will hold our tea and enjoy a presentation by member June Ann Hassebroek. Upkeep of our Historical Gardens, and support of BBG and Arbor Day with tree plantings, are in our near future, as are the ongoing food bank donations. A big thank you goes to all those who participate.

Your officers have worked hard to give you the speakers and events that members suggested. The garden club also brings many other opportunities in to our lives. As individuals you can choose to support other clubs' functions, or attend district and state meetings. Many have done this. The Hellebore Tea, to support Lake Wilderness Arboretum, and Gala, at the district level, to support the Historical House owned by WSFGC, both coming up in March. Let us make the rest of this year one of fellowship and joy.

Thank you to those who have called, visited and carted me around this past month. I plan on rolling in to the March meeting to greet you all. My ankle is healing!

Blessings, Dianne

IGC SERVICE PROJECTS

On February 8, Jeanette Mahoney and her team, June Willard, Sherran Whatley, and Karen Bukantz, met at the Issaquah Care and Rehabilitation Center to create centerpieces with a Valentine's Day theme. Thank you, ladies! The next Garden Therapy at Issaquah Therapy & Rehabilitation Center will be on Wed., Mar. 31 at 10 am.

Gail Holmstrom reports that she and her team were unable to work at the Issaquah Historical Museum in February, due to inclement weather. This project will be rescheduled. If you are able to help Gail maintain this native plant garden, please contact her, early this month..

IGC OFFICERS FOR 2010-11

The Nominating Committee has met with several prospective candidates and has contacted many other members. Jeanette Mahoney and Gail Holmstrom will present their report at the March 10 meeting.

IGC AT THE NWFGS

Several Issaquah Garden Club members helped at the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs booth, February 3 through 7, at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show. These included Dianne Tanner, Gail Holmstrom, Karen Lee, and Cate Mueller. Our members served two hours, talking to prospective garden club members, explaining Garden Club programs, and giving general gardening advice. Those who participated found this a rewarding experience and recommend it to other members for future shows.

JON TAKES A PRIZE!

Several Issaquah Garden Club members were delighted to find at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show that Jon Robert Throne, who presented our program in January, had won Third Place in the competition for Professional Firms invited to stage floral designs at the Show. His design, **“Leafless in Seattle,”** represented his firm, Countryside Floral and Garden. The design was handsome and imaginative, using garden tools and rain gutters in an unexpected and creative manner. It also displayed a talent for the meticulous. Note all those chrysanthemum blossoms tucked into the rain gutters!



A picture of “Leafless in Seattle,” taken by Rosemary Fahey.

GARDEN NOTES FOR MARCH

With Spring knocking at our doors, this is an ideal time to take a walk through the garden with a notebook in hand. Early spring is the time you will want to divide many of the perennials that have been in the garden four or five years—even some there a shorter time, I’ve found. Make notes as to what plants you will want to divide. This is a great tool for estimating the amount of time you will need to accomplish this task before the plants begin to actively grow. [And keep in mind those you will want to share with other members, later this spring!]

Place bird houses outdoors early this month. Birds will begin looking for nesting sites soon, and the houses should attract several mating pairs. Ideally, houses erected on smooth metal poles where predators cannot climb are most often selected, but placement on top of fence posts or in trees will usually suffice.

House plants will react to longer days and brighter light at this time by putting out new growth. The end of this month is a good time to pinch them back to generate new growth and to thicken them. You can then begin fertilizing again with a dilute solution of soluble house plant food.

Turn your houseplants a quarter turn each week to make sure all sides of the plant receive adequate light, and to keep the shape of the plant balanced.

Containers from the kitchen can be recycled for starting seeds. Aluminum trays from frozen food just need few holes poked to provide drainage. Other possibilities are cottage cheese containers milk or ice cream cartons, Styrofoam egg cartons or paper cups. All should have drainage holes.

ELWD General Meeting

Several Issaquah Garden Club members attended the ELWD General Meeting, February 22. We enjoyed the brunch, prepared by Gail Holmstrom, with help from Dianne Tanner. Following the business meeting, we enjoyed both a horticulture program and a floral design program presented by the State President and other officers. We encourage other members to take part in this pleasant experience.



WSFGC DATES TO REMEMBER

March 15: GALA XXXII, "Mary in March," with Boston Designer Mary Huntoon, Seattle Airport Marriott. Tickets \$35 Contact chairman Ginger Knutsen, 206-362-2525 or gingerknutsen@msn.com, or Stella Land, 253-852-7253.

March 31, Hill and Dale District Workshop, 8:30 AM to 2 PM..\$10 Lunch and programs: Delphiniums, trees and shrubs, A-HA Designs—at Waller Road Grange, 2708 64th St E, Tacoma. Contact Marianne Larson, 253-845-5573, or ericnlarson@hughes.net

April 13, WSFGC Washington Consultants Council Tour of Pacific Science Center, Seattle, 10 AM. Senior admission \$9. Environmental, Gardening, and Landscape Consultants. Contact Lana Finegold, 425-74705743 or lanafinegold@msn.com

April 22-24; 2010 Pacific Region Convention, "Near Nature, Near Water." Spokane. Red Lion Hotel, Inn at the Park, Spokane. Convention package price—meals & programs) \$199. Contact Marva Lee Peterschick, 509-523-4063 or davidpeterschick@hotmail.com

April 27-29 Gardening Study School Series

April 29, Capitol District Flower Show

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

JUNE 10-13 WSFGC 77th CONVENTION, Marriott Hotel, Tacoma.

See www.wagardenclubs.org for club plant sales and more events.

ACTIVE SENIOR FAIR

Overlake Hospital Medical Center will sponsor a free Active Senior Fair on Saturday, March 13, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the Westminster Chapel of Bellevue, 1035 116th Ave NE. Free, convenient Parking is available. There is a \$5.00 suggested donation, to support Senior Care's Community Education programs.

The programs include a fashion show by Coldwater Creek of Bellevue Square, a lecture by Marianne Binetti, on "Top Ten Tips for Saving Time, Money, and Water." and a musical review performed by Wrinkles of Washington.

There are five health lectures throughout the day, displays by over 55 vendors, free health screenings, and a soup and sandwich buffet luncheon, with prices ranging from \$4.50 to \$7.50. For more information, call 425-688-5800 or visit the Overlake Hospital website.

Issaquah Garden Club
General Meeting
February 10, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 AM by Vice President, Rita Hansen. Two guests, Sylvia Watson and Janet Camarata, were introduced. There were 26 members in attendance.

It was moved that the Minutes of the January 13 meeting be approved. This was seconded and approved by vote.

Jeanette Mahoney, Chair, Garden Therapy, spoke of the workshop to be held on February 8. She stated that four members would take part. She announced that the date for the next workshop has not yet been determined.

A discussion of a possible Plant Sale took place. Joann Morgan offered her yard for a sale. It was also proposed that IGC hold a sale for members at the May meeting. Motions were made supporting each proposal. A vote was taken on each, resulting in eleven votes in favor of each. No member volunteered to chair the sale; no members volunteered to serve on a Plant Sale committee. The matter was tabled until an Executive Board Meeting. Rita Hansen invited members interested in helping to attend this meeting.

Jeanette Mahoney and Gail Holmstrom volunteered for the Nominating Committee to find a slate of officers for 2010-2011. Cate Mueller agreed to serve as Secretary; this was approved by members present.

Michele Peltonen announced that she would chair the raffle at the February meeting, at which the first name pulled would receive her choice of raffle items.

Rita Hansen announced the ELWD General Meeting, to be Held February 22, and the WSFGC Gala, March 15.

Laura Walker announced that there were two remaining spots at the second table at the Hellebore Tea, March 14, Lake Wilderness Arboretum.

Gail Holmstrom announced that there would be a work party at the Historical Museum Garden on February 25.

Members were asked to sign up for the Tea to be held at the monthly meeting, May 12.

Joann Harris will send a "Get Well" card from IGC to our President, Dianne Tanner.

Karen Lee discussed the Northwest Flower and Garden Show, at which she had learned that spring would be two weeks early, this year. She announced that Jon Throne had won third place for his design, "Leafless in Seattle."

The Treasurer reported that expenses had been \$679.32, including a charge of \$31.30 for bank deposit slips. The current balance is \$8560.37.

Members discussed horticulture: what was blooming in their gardens. June Willard spoke of the ornamental apricot trees and red witch hazel blooming or having bloomed. Several members have hellebores in bloom. Michele noted that Corsican Hellebore will grow in poor places, along with oregano. Janel spoke of the Coral Berry, covered in pink berries all winter.

There was a question as to whether IGC would have a tour this summer.

June Willard stated that WSFGC is selling scarves with rosettes of the same fabric attached. Usually \$17-\$24, June offered these for \$5, the proceeds to go to Headquarters House.

It was noted that Idie Ulsh will speak on "Butterflies in Your Garden," at the March meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM

Submitted by Cate Mueller, Secretary.

NPA Sale at Bellevue Botanical Garden

March Mania is one of the first big plant sales of the year in the Seattle area. It's held in early March (**Sunday, March 7th this year**), from **11 am - 3pm**, at the Bellevue Botanical Garden Visitor Center. Formerly called the Hellebore Open House, the March Mania sale is known for its unique specialties, spring ephemerals and treasures not readily found elsewhere. Of course this is also the place to find a wide range of hellebores.

Learn from the experts and let them help you choose some of the earliest bloomers of the season to brighten up a drab space in your garden.

http://www.northwestperennialalliance.org/member_plant_hellebore.php



Shots of NWFGS exhibits by IGC member, Rosemary Fahey.

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

www.IssaquahGardenClub.org

