



GARDEN DELIGHTS

Issaquah Garden Club

"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower."

Albert Camus

OCTOBER MEETING

October 12, 2011

Our speaker this month will be Rita Moore, Native Plant Steward, of the Washington Native Plant Society. She'll be speaking of "Ethnobotany," and particularly, the relationship of native American peoples with the plants they used.

Ethnobotany is the systematic study of the relationships between plants and people. It is not simply the study of the human "use" of plants; rather, ethnobotany locates plants within their cultural context in particular societies, and situates peoples within their ecological contexts. Ethnobotanists examine:

- the culturally specific ways that humans perceive and classify different kinds of plants;
- the things humans do to plant species, such as destroying "weeds" or "domesticating" and planting specific kinds of food and medicinal plants;
- the ways in which various members of the plant world influence human cultures.

Attributes such as creativity, reason, and curiosity, coupled with a desire to benefit others—attributes common in the scientific community—aids those studying ethnobotany to make important contributions. For example, the study of indigenous food production and local medicinal knowledge offers the promise of practical implications for developing sustainable agriculture and discovering new medicines.

The term "ethnobotany" was coined in 1895, by J.M. Harshberger, an American botanist at the University of Pennsylvania. Modern ethnobotany is an interdisciplinary field drawing together scholars from anthropology, botany, archaeology, geography, medicine, linguistics, economics, landscape architecture, and pharmacology.

[excerpted from the New World Encyclopedia, on-line]

Please don't forget to bring your contribution for the Issaquah Food Bank!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We've enjoyed a lovely, warm September—that partially made up for our cool summer. And now Fall really seems to have arrived. Petunias in hanging baskets are looking pretty ragged, but roses, echinacea, asters, and the ubiquitous chrysanthemum are doing famously. The leaves of our Japanese maples and Burning Bushes (*Euonymus alatus*) are just beginning to show fall color, days are shorter, and chickens are roosting earlier.

I loved seeing the flower show entries at the ELWD General Meeting, September 26. I was pleased that so many Issaquah members both attended and submitted horticulture and design entries. As I wrote earlier, Issaquah Garden Club earned the most points of any club for our entries in the show. Our score was due in large part to the design entries of June Ann, Janel, and Rita, who won an award for best novice design, as well as to those of us who entered horticulture specimen.

This month, our business meeting will have an air of "déjà vous all over again." Since there was no quorum at the September meeting, we were unable to act on our proposed budget for 2011-2012. Doing so this month will be the primary focus of our agenda. Those of you not present last month will want to pick up your Yearbooks. We'll consider the possibility of a gift exchange at the December meeting, and we'll discuss the plant sale next May and the garage sale during the summer.

As you prepare for our meeting, please don't forget to bring your place setting—at least your coffee cup or mug and utensils—and your contribution to the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank.

I look forward to seeing you on October 12!

Cate Mueller



Rita Hansen's miniature arrangement on the theme "Spider's Fancies," taken by John Hansen.

LUNCHEON NOTE

The hostess for our luncheon on the 12th will be Dianne Tanner. Those also providing our dishes will be Sally Cadranell, Audrey Ellingsen, Rosemary Fahey, Gail Holmstrom, Marietta Hunziker, Janet Wall, Joanne Westveer, and June Willard.

IGC PLANT SALE

Your officers have planned to continue the tradition of our annual Plant Sale next May, though no date has been set and no one has volunteered to chair this event. Joanne Morgan has again generously donated her yard for the sale.

It you haven't yet thought about the sale or made plans to donate plants, we hope you will do so very soon! Fall is a great time to divide perennials. You might designate a part of your garden to hold your donations. You might then bring them to a potting party, next April.

We'll also need pots! We have plenty of small ones, but will need a goodly number of quart, gallon or larger pots. If you wish, you might bring these to the October meeting to be stored in Cate Mueller's "back forty."

2012 GARAGE SALE

At the last meeting I volunteered to be the Garage Sale Chair on the condition that another member volunteered to provide storage space for contributed items. We have had not one but two members volunteer! Both Audrey Ellingsen and Jessica Liepins have generously offered areas in their homes. That means the Garage Sale Committee is in business.

We do not yet have a date for the garage sale, but it will be sometime next summer. Even though that seems a long way off, I would like to start collecting items sooner rather than later. That way we will not be rushed at the eleventh hour.

What I would like to propose is that you start a contribution box and add to it while you do your normal decluttering as you get ready for the holidays or do your spring cleaning, etc. When the box is full or if you have largish item you would like to contribute (and get out of your hair) let me know. We will arrange for you to bring the box or item to the next club meeting or, if it is too heavy or large for you to manage on your own, for me to come pick it up for you. Then you can start a new box.

With this system, I will be able to collect items through the year leading up to the sale in the summer. And I will, hopefully, have an opportunity to do some sorting before the sale. All of which should mean smoother sailing for the sale itself.

As for what to contribute, just about anything goes. Obviously if something is badly stained or damaged, then it is probably best for the garbage. But if in doubt, please ask. Types of items you might contribute include, but are not limited to:

Toys	Tools
House wares	Kitchen gadgets
Books	Shoes

Garden stuff	Small furniture
Linens	Clothes
Knick knacks	Sports equipment

Cheers and happy decluttering!

Michele Peltonen

ISSAQUAH FOOD BANK

Sylvia Watson has reported that, at our September meeting, we contributed 41 pounds of food to the Issaquah Food Bank.

According to information received elsewhere, the **items most needed** by the Food Bank are:

- Dry pasta
- Peanut butter
- Canned fruit
- 100% fruit juice
- Cereal/Oatmeal
- Canned stew
- Canned vegetables
- Canned spaghetti sauce
- Canned chili
- Canned soup
- Canned meat & tuna
- Macaroni & cheese
- Toiletries (shampoo, soap, cleaning products, toilet paper)
- Nutrition shakes (Ensure, Boost, etc)
- 1 qt envelopes of powdered milk
- Flour / sugar / vegetable oil
- Rice / dried beans

Thanks in advance for remembering to bring your contribution at our October meeting.

THANK YOU

Gail Holmstrom thanks those who helped in working on the front gardens at the Issaquah History Museum, Thursday, September 29.

WSFGC HOLIDAY SHOW

The theme for the 65th Annual State Holiday Flower Show is “**Tis the Season.**” The show will be held November 2, 6:00 to 9:00 PM and November 3, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, at the Holiday Inn, 3105 Pine Street, Everett WA (exit 193 off I-5).

This flower show celebrates the magic of winter. You are asked to imagine clear moonlit nights, sparkling silver stars, and a blanket of diamonds covering the landscape. There will be amazing horticulture specimen and designs and artistic crafts created for the occasion. There will also be educational exhibits to learn from.

There will be a sales room, dubbed, “The Merry Merchants,” with many vendors presenting gift ideas for the holidays. Raffles, silent auctions, and unique items from various groups within WSFGC are also part of the fun.

Advanced donations is \$8.00; at the door, \$10.00 For tickets or information, contact Linda Maida at linda.maida@yahoo.com or at 253 843-1567 or Terry Critchlow at te-critchlow@aol.com or at 509 945-5465.



[June Willard reports that there are 21 design classes (84 entries) and 4 artistic crafts (16 entries) in the show. Still needed are 56 designs and 12 artistic crafts. The deadline for registration is **Oct. 16**. For more information go to the WSFGC website, <http://wagardenclubs.com/home> and click on “upcoming events.”]

AWARD TO LOUISE LUCE

At the September meeting, Louise Luce was presented with a certificate for her twenty-five year membership in Issaquah Garden Club. Along with the certificate, Louise received a floral arrangement created by Dianne Tanner. Our congratulations go to Louise.



Dianne Tanner presenting award to Louise Luce, taken by Rosemary Fahey.

SAVING TENDER PLANTS

Bring in these plants at 45 degrees F: Banana, Begonia, Boston fern (*Nephrolepis exaltata*), Coleus, Cordyline hybrids

Bring in these plants at 35 degrees F: Calibrachoa hybrids, Flowering maple (*Abutilon* hybrids), Geranium (*Pelargonium* hybrids), Lantana, Oxalis

Bring in these plants at 25 degrees F: Fig: *Ficus carica*, *Nemisia* hybrids, *Osteospermum* hybrids, Snapdragon (*Antirrhinum majus*), Twinspur (*Diascia integerrima*)



INVASIVE VINES

According to Sasha Shaw, writing in KC Weed News for October 2011: **Control invasive vines now to reduce weight on trees over the windy, rainy winter.** Our wet, windy winters are a big challenge for trees, especially when they are weighted down by mountains of English ivy or Old Man's Beard (*Clematis vitalba*) vines. These vines can create a sail effect, catching the wind and creating more stress on the trees in strong winds. Also, both ivy and clematis vitalba can develop into thick, heavy stems – it's like having lots of small trees growing all over your tree. English ivy vines can add over 2000 pounds to a large tree, making it hard for even the sturdiest Douglas fir to stay up in a windstorm. Also, vines can make it tough to know how healthy a tree is and can mask problems with rot and dead limbs. It's best to clear the trunks now of all ivy and clematis vitalba vines, allowing the upper vines time to die back and dry up before the winter storms begin. If you are unsure how healthy the tree is under all those vines and it is anywhere near buildings or trails, make sure to get an arborist or forester to check for you before it becomes a safety hazard.



A WORD TO THE WISE...

Save the earth:
it's the only planet with chocolate!

BUTTERFLY BUSH

Butterfly bush (*Buddleia davidii*) seeds are just getting started, so now is the time to cut off faded blooms and prune back overgrown stems (or just remove the whole plant and replace it with a better behaved shrub).

Butterfly bush is a Class B noxious weed in Washington State and it is on the Non-Regulated Noxious Weed List for King County, Washington. Control of butterfly bush in King County is recommended but not required. Butterfly bush is not on the prohibited plants list administered by the Washington State Department of Agriculture, but some nurseries have volunteered to stop selling it due to its danger to natural resources.

Butterfly bush colonizes disturbed areas such as riversides, roadsides, railroads, pastures, and recently logged or burned forests. Invasion of butterfly bush along riversides is especially problematic, because it forms dense thickets, crowds out native vegetation, and disrupts natural succession patterns. Initial densities of seedlings along open areas of riverbanks and sandbars can be very high and mature butterfly bush stands keep out native willows and other woody vegetation that would normally re-vegetate riverbanks after floods.

Once established, butterfly bush is tough to eliminate. Seeds remain viable in the soil for 3 to 5 years. Butterfly bush can re-sprout from the rootstock after it has been damaged or cut down to its base, and the cut stems can grow into new plants if not disposed of properly.

For more information, see <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds/weed-identification/butterfly-bush.aspx>

"Share the Joy" – a special book about Eulalie Wagner's shared pleasures of Lakewold

This summer, I read an interesting review in the Seattle Times of a recently released book about one of my most favored gardens in all of the Evergreen State, **Lakewold: A Magnificent Northwest Garden**, and immediately reserved the book here at our local KCLS branch. I'd like to share my delight, a brief comment and a recommendation for this beautiful book that offers these special interests:

- 1) Photography with lovely two-page spreads of the estate gardens in all seasons as well as incredibly beautiful close-ups of the Himalayan blue poppy (*Meconopsis grandis*), wisteria, and many other plants.
- 2) Written selections by eight outstanding experts here in Washington including naturalists, an architectural designer, staff and docents at Lakewold.
- 3) Information about garden specimens at Lakewold with 'Legacy Plants', significant specimen trees, and signature perennials, bulbs, and ephemerals.

This book is much more than what might be inadequately described as 'a coffee table' book because Editor Ronald Fields has artfully brought together elements of the beauty, design, history and the Wagner family heritage of Lakewold in a concise compilation (113 pages) that captures the historical scope but still offers the reader a sense of intimacy with Lakewold. The book nicely reflects the design principles of Thomas Church, eminent landscape architect with whom Mrs. Wagner consulted about the Lakewold estate. The book is published by the University of Washington Press, 2011. Chapter contributors include Dan Hinkley, Valerie Easton, Steve Lorton, Marc Treib, Katie Birki, Vickie Haushild, Bill Noble and Ronald Fields.

I hope you'll consider checking this out at the library! You won't be disappointed!

Rosemary Fahey

GARDEN DELIGHTS

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

www.IssaquahGardenClub.org

This month: Ethnobotany

