



GARDEN DELIGHTS

Issaquah Garden Club Newsletter—May 2008
Michele Peltonen, Editor

Can you believe May is already here and this is the last newsletter of the 2008/2009 year. As many of you know, I will be on vacation this month and will miss the May meeting. So I will look forward to seeing you at one of the garden tours planned for this summer. - Michele

PS. I hope someone will take good notes for me during the dahlia presentation!

FIELD TRIPS

Eight club members took part in the April 16th field trip to the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden and Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection on the Weyerhaeuser Corporate Campus. The weather was a little cool, but we enjoyed the floral displays immensely. Many of the rhododendrons were in their glory; as were the woodland plantings that have been added to complement the rhododendron collection. And the bonsai collection was truly remarkable.



IGC members Rosmarie Ruf, Michele Peltonen, Barbara Brigham and Jackie Maresca enjoying themselves at the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden and Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection
Photo by Rosemary Fahey

Another field trip is planned for May 19th. This time we will travel to Lakewold Gardens in Lakewood, WA. Admission is \$5 or \$3 for Seniors. We will meet at 10 am in the parking lot of the QFC on Gilman Blvd to carpool.

Lakewold Gardens is sited on 10 acres south of Tacoma near McChord Airforce Base. In addition to an assortment of rare and native plants, the gardens offer historical features, statuary, landscape architecture designed by the famed Thomas Church and a stunning Georgian-style mansion. The plantings were created by Eulalie Wagner, the last owner of the home. She donated the entire estate to a non-profit organization in 1987. Learn more about Lakewold Gardens at the website: www.lakewoldgardens.org

Directions: South on I-5 to exit 124; West on Gravelly Lake Dr. SW and turn right just past light at Veterans Dr. through the iron gates.

PLANT SALE

Despite the periodic drizzle and a sun that refused to show its face, the plant sale was a success. Receipts for the day were over \$1500. With minimal expenses and over \$300 in pre-sale receipts, the net revenue will be over \$1700. More detailed results will be provided at the May 14th meeting.

A structured sales force seemed to make a difference this year. Even though we had fewer customers than last year, the customers we did have bought more plants. Well done!

It was a long chilly day, but cakes and cookies kept our bodies fueled and spirits high. 😊 Heartfelt thanks to all those contributed and volunteered—including several non-members!



IGC members Kathleen Bohlken and Lorraine Smith try their hand at floral design during the centerpiece workshop portion of the April meeting program. Photo by Karen Lee

ISSAQUAH GARDEN CLUB EVENTS

May 14 - Meeting - Dahlia Program

The program for our May 14th meeting will feature dahlias as the topic. John Wilson of Swede Hill Dahlia Sunflower Farm on Whidbey Island will get us revved up for summer with a presentation on the “queen of cut flowers”.

May 14 - Meeting - Flower Show

Don't forget we will also be holding a Small Standard Flower Show - “Spring into Summer”. Everything is set to go and all design categories are full. But we encourage everyone to bring at least one (or more!) horticultural entry.

All flower show helpers should arrive by 9:15 am for set-up. Design and horticultural entries will be accepted between 9:30 and 10 am. But

LAST WORD

It has been a pleasure serving as the club's president for the last year. My fellow Board members have been stalwart helpers and have become great friends. I am very grateful to them. And I thank the many of you who have offered me such kind and supportive words. Sincerely, Michele

closer to 9:30 is better so that the meeting can get started on time. It will be a full morning.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 19 - ELWD General Membership Meeting, 9 am at St. Andrews Lutheran Church, Bellevue; \$10; RSVP by May 14 to Patti McDougall: elwdres@hotmail.com or 425-881-8128 (include name and club). See your ECHO for more details. (PS. Cass Turnbull is great!)

May 20 - Free organic vegetable gardening class offered by the Issaquah Resource Conservation Office and Seattle Tilth at the Pickering Garden from 7 to 8:30 pm. Pre-register : 425-837-3428

May 31 - Organic edible plant sale at the Issaquah Farmers Market. 9 am to 2 pm

Alice Wilson of Avant Design Guild works at one of several designs presented during the April program. Photo by Rosemary Fahey

