



GARDEN DELIGHTS

Issaquah Garden Club
May, 2009

Meeting, May 13, 2009

On May 13, we will meet at the Bellevue Botanical Garden, at 12001 Main Street, Bellevue. Following our business meeting in the Visitors' Center, which includes the installation of our new officers, we'll tour the BBG. If you've never been there—which seems unlikely—BBG is comprised of fifty-three acres of display gardens, woodlands, meadows, and wetlands. Highlights include the Northwest Perennial Alliance Border, the Yao Garden, the rock garden, and seasonal displays of dahlias and fuchsias.

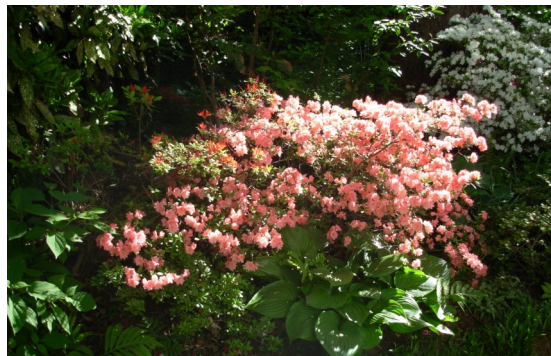
The tour will be guided by BBG Manager Nancy Kartes. Ms. Kartes served as first BBG Curator, 1992-1994. She was a member of the BBG Society Board for five years; and recently returned as BBG Manager.

It will be especially fun seeing and hearing about the recent major transformation of the Northwest Perennial Alliance Border, and it will be exciting to hear about new plans within the garden.

Be sure to wear your walking shoes!

Following our tour, we'll enjoy the sack lunches we've brought with us.

After this, we've been invited to tour the Willard garden at 18153 SE 41st Lane.



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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My fervent prayer for this coming year is that the membership will embrace and support the new board.

Keith and I bid you farewell as we move to follow endeavors that make our hearts sing.

Geneme' Keyser

WE PARTICIPATE IN EARTH DAY, April 18, 2009

From all accounts, our events at Pickering Barn on Earth Day were a tremendous success. The **Victory Garden Exhibit** conducted by Geneme' and Keith Keyser was well received. Keith and Geneme' report that they gave out starter gardens to a wide array of folks, from first time gardeners to a retired couple who had just downsized. The Keyzers distributed thirty types of seeds, small herb starts of six kinds, tomato starts, strawberry plants and seven types of seed potatoes.



The standard petite flower show, "**Dynamic Dainty Dimensions**," gave our club a chance to share members' talents. There were 56 extremely high quality fresh dwarf/small horticulture exhibits (cut and potted) in the Horticulture **Dwarf Drama** Division. Janel Garnet's **Chamacyparis 'lawsonii'** received the top Petite Horticulture Excellence Award. In the **Dynamic Dainty Dimensions** Design Division, June Ann Hassebroek's charming **Dynamic Duo** design won the Petite Design Excellence Award. The twelve designs included four small designs under 8" and eight miniature designs under 5". These were made by nine IGC members (one did two designs) plus two members from other East Lake Washington District clubs.



The third exhibit was a display of Issaquah Garden Club Activities. This was an excellent opportunity for residents to learn about our club and our community projects.

Thanks to all the exhibitors and volunteers for making this show a success, especially Flower Show Co-Chairmen June Ann Hassebroek and Karen Lee!

IGC PLANT SALE

If you have not yet done so, please pot up any plants you wish to donate to our sale, which will be held **Saturday, May 16**. You may either take these to Michele Peltonen's home, Cate Mueller's home, or bring them very early the morning of the sixteenth.

Our first Potting/Pricing Party was held at June Ann Hassebroek's home on Friday, April 10. Our second, on Saturday, May 2nd, and we had a good turnout. Many thanks to all those who have helped in getting plants ready for Sale Day, Saturday, May 16. We have a good selection and good quantity. And this doesn't even include the plants already at Michele Peltonen's home!

If you signed up to help on Plant Sale Day to come early, especially those who will be helping in the set-up between 7:00 am - 9:00 am. If you have any questions about the time you've signed up to work that day, please contact Cate Mueller.

If you have picked up plant sale flyers, make sure you distribute them and/or post one in your car door window. We need as much publicity as possible to bring in customers. Thank you!

THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLANT SALE

Plant sales are a way to raise funds for our worthy club projects. However, the uplifting purpose is to reach out to help our community. New people moving here, those with their first homes or different homes all need to learn what to plant and how to plant it. We offer tried and true plants so that any beginning gardener is pretty well assured of success with them. Having a plant sale and help-

ing people is a great gift from our members to our neighbors.

Learning, caring and sharing are constant themes for our garden club. By being one of those teaching, you will learn even more yourself. By making conversation with visitors, you will be a good ambassador for our organization. Learning about plants, their needs and where they will grow best is very beneficial. Learning how to use plants that grow in our area as landscape or patio decorations and for use in floral designs is beneficial to the individual and our world.

Support the plant sale.....support beautification of our world.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

If you haven't yet done so, please bring your \$25.00 membership dues for the 2009-2010 year to our May meeting or mail them to June Willard, 18153 SE 41st Lane, Issaquah, WA 98027-9756. Make checks payable to Issaquah Garden Club. Doing so will assist our new board and make the 2009-2010 IGC yearbook preparation much easier.

Issaquah Garden Club dues include dues for Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs and for East Lake Washington District for the period July 1 through June 30. It also includes your subscription to both WSFGC's *Smoke Signals* and and ELWD's *Elawadi Echo*.

CONTAINER GARDENING

Container gardening is easy to do and there are lots of reasons why it's also a sensible gardening option. Here are the top seven reasons to grow plants in pots.

1. Mobility. What gardener hasn't wished that a plant grew somewhere else? Plants in pots are easy to move around. Light up a dark corner with pots of white, pink, or yellow flowering shade lovers such as impatiens and Helichrysum. Some plants with a short blooming period, such as lilies or foxglove, look magnificent in containers and grow well in those temporary quarters. Transplant them to the garden when they're finished blooming. Of course, if you are about to move your household, containers allow you to take the garden with you.

2. Focus. Potted plants--and pots--create interest. Grouped in strategic places, they break the monotony of a terrace or a patio and create an ambient scene. Build a simple theme garden around a color or an idea. A collection of yellow and blue bloomers, such as pansies, Calendula, and heliotrope, makes a cheerful display. Pots of sedum and Sempervivum look simple but elegant.

3. Pizzazz. Nestle containers of bright annuals among duller plants in the garden for added color. To keep plants looking good: Water when soil dries; pinch off spent blooms, and fertilize weekly.

4. Flexibility. Rearrange plantings to suit the season or your mood. Enjoy pots of violets and narcissus in spring; petunias and dusty-miller in summer; and Coleus in fall.

5. Limitation. Contain thugs that are too invasive to let loose in the garden, such as ribbon grass (*Phalaris*), blue lyme grass (*Elymus glaucus*), and mints of all kinds (*Mentha* sp.). Plant these or other gregarious growers in

terra-cotta pots, and then plant the pot in the ground, with the lip of the pot even with the soil surface.

6. Ambience. Pots set the stage in outdoor rooms or even steal the show. Group sun-loving plants around a large houseplant that's summering outdoors. A jumble of various pots stacked on stands and clustered loosely lends a pleasantly casual look. Containers aligned with precision and planted with trim specimens, such as rosemary standards or ivy topiaries, create instant formality. A trio of large pots makes a garden appear more settled; they suggest the accumulation of years' growth.

7. Scope. Plants that require a longer growing season than you have to offer can be started indoors to bloom outside in summer and fall. Frost-sensitive plants such as bay laurel and lemon verbena make wonderful houseplants in winter and spend the summer in the garden. Just make sure that in spring they are allowed a transition period from limited sunlight indoors to brighter light outdoors. This technique is the basis of the orangery concept, which includes growing citrus fruits in pots so they can move indoors in fall.

June Ann Hassebroek



Flower Show School III: Karen Lee's Design, "Flying High"

ISSAQUAH GARDEN CLUB

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting, April 8, 2009, Tibbett's Creek Manor

Call to Order and Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 10:10 A.M. by President Geneme' Keyser who welcomed everyone.

Approval of Prior Minutes: The Minutes for the February 11, 2009, meeting of the Issaquah Garden Club were approved. The March 10, 2009, meeting of Issaquah Garden Club was cancelled due to the water being shut off at Tibbett's Creek Manor.

Treasurer's Report: None given but a report will be given at the May 13, 2009 business meeting.

Nominating Committee: Michele Peltonen announced the new slate of officers for 2009/2010. There being no nominations from the floor, the new slate was approved.

President - Dianne Tanner

Vice President - Rita Hansen

Secretary - Cate Mueller

Treasurer - June Willard

Installation of the new Issaquah Garden Club officers will take place May 13, 2009, after the business meeting. Issaquah Garden Club will be meeting at the Bellevue Botanical Garden, Sharp's Cabin. Afterwards, there is an optional tour of June Willard's garden of Rhododendrons. Bring a sack lunch.

Membership: Dues for the 2009/2010 years are \$25.00 and payable now.

Arbor Day in the City of Issaquah being celebrated April 8, 2009. Karen Lee invited members to go with her for the planting of a tree at Gibson Hall.

Arbor Day in Bellevue: Karen Lee announced that a tree will be planted at the Bellevue Botanical Garden after the ELWD Board Meeting, April 20, 2009.

Native Plant Grant was approved for Audrey Ellingsen.

Garden Therapy: Karen Bukantz requested members to sign up for Thursday, April 9, 2009, at 10:00 A.M. to create Easter centerpieces for the Issaquah Care and Rehabilitation Center. Containers and oasis will be provided but bring clippers and fillers.

Earth Day, Saturday, April 18: Issaquah Garden Club will participate in Earth Day 2009 at Pickering Barn at the Issaquah Farmers Market with three exhibits: a Petite Standard Flower Show, "Dynamic Dainty Dimensions; a Victory Garden Exhibit; and an exhibit of the activities of our Garden Club. A schedule was passed out for advanced entries for design and some horticulture at the Standard Judged Flower Show. Keith and Geneme' Keyser will chair the Victory Garden Exhibit, showing how to grow a small vegetable or herb garden in limited space. They will be giving out seed packets, potato and tomato starts, and strawberry plants.

Minutes of the April 8 Meeting, continued

Issaquah Garden Club Plant Sale, May 16, 2009 at Pickering Barn. A clipboard was passed around to sign up to help, and posters were distributed to be displayed at various locations. Potting-up work parties will be held at June Ann Hassebroek's and Cate Mueller's homes, times to be announced.

The business meeting adjourned 10:40 A.M.

Program: Geneme' Keyser gave a comprehensive explanation on growing heirloom plants. She showed the seed flats she buys, gave seed sources, and starts of vegetables.

Announcements:

Lilium 'Stargazer' bulbs are available for sale, 10 for \$15.00

Summer Garden Tours have been scheduled, at Janel Garnett's, and at the Issaquah Historical Society, the dates to be announced.

Plant Amnesty's Festival of Trees, May 10, 2009, 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Check with them for place.

Washington Native Plant Society will hold a Native Plant Sale at Bellevue Botanical Garden May 9, 2009 , 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Sally Cadranell, Secretary

GARDEN DELIGHTS

c/o Cate Mueller, Editor
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www.IssaquahGardenClub.org

