



GARDEN DELIGHTS

ISSAQUAH GARDEN CLUB

"We ought to be custodians, not owners; it should be our privilege to help the living things in our garden. A really good man should want to turn a garden, even if it is not his own; this is the decisive test."

Clare Leighton, American writer

November Meeting

November 13, 2019, 10:00 A.M.

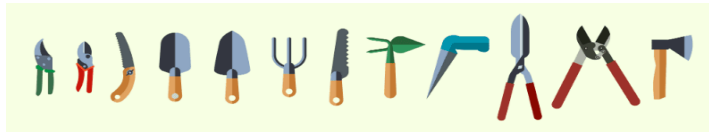
Tibbetts Creek Manor

"Embrace Nature With Sharper Garden Tools"

Rescheduled from February, 2019, this is a program your editor will be sorry to miss!

Our speaker this month, is Dr. Bruce Williams, who is a King County Master Gardener and Master Pruner, and who, with his wife, Cathy, manages the Children's Garden at the Bellevue Demonstration Garden. One of his activities has been to earn money for the Demonstration Garden by sharpening tools.

"Like most farmers, he was a beekeeper, mechanic, electrician and carpenter." Thus, he knows the value of good tools, and can teach us how to care for our tools



Please don't forget your contributions for the Issaquah Food Bank, this month. Help make Thanksgiving a special time for needy families.

Georgann reported this week that the most needed items are soup, the number one request, canned vegetables, especially corn; less need for green beans, though. Fresh produce requests are cabbage and Brussels sprouts.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Embrace Nature Indoors

It's November and time for Issaquah Garden Club members to create Thanksgiving centerpieces for the residents of the Issaquah Care and Rehabilitation Center, November 26. This year we will be without one member who has been a consistent volunteer for the Horticulture Therapy Project, Joann Morgan.

Joann, who passed away on October 28, not only helped create the centerpieces, she also made all the ribbon bows that we added to finish the flower arrangements. Joanne was also an artist and shared her art with us at our October meeting last year. She will be missed.

By creating the centerpieces for the residents and staff of the Care and Rehabilitation Center, the Horticulture Therapy Project brings fall colors, flowers and foliage indoors to be embraced during the Holidays.

Debbie DeFilipps

JOANN MORGAN



Joann discussing her art work at our November, 2018 meeting



Joann and crew at Garden Therapy, November, 2018

OUR OCTOBER MEETING

From your editor:

I'm sure IGC members who attended our October meeting would agree with me that, in the trite phrase, "A good time was had by all." Spending time with members of Pine Lake Garden Club was a delight. I hope other IGC members will want to repeat a joint meeting again, next year.

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the generosity of Pine Lake Garden Club for providing our program, provided by garden expert, Christina Pfeiffer.



OUR OCTOBER PROGRAM

Christina Pfeiffer, who spoke on "Adapting Old Gardens for New Times." Christina, who has been involved in gardening for forty years, has been a consultant, is an arborist, and has lectured and written books. She brought up a number of interesting points:

- * Ask yourself what pleases you - other plants should be either transplanted or mulched.
- * Growing seasons have shifted - gardeners need to plant, water and prune accordingly.
- * Aggressive pruning can be devastating to a tree. Trees have sun and shade leaves - they develop different structures with the pores in the leaves opening and closing in a way that allows the tree to photosynthesize and take in nutrients to survive.
- * When dealing with a large overgrown shrub "look for the smaller shrub inside." To do this, avoid tip pruning. Prune to match the plant's natural structure.
- * Mulch matters: it improves resiliency to drought and builds soil.
- * Aggressive digging or tilling of the soil can destroy the underlying soil structure.

Lois Helbert



HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

A Regal Affair



NOVEMBER 8TH, 2019

4:30-7:30PM

WE DO CHRISTMAS BEST!

Countryside Floral & Garden

1420 NW Gilman Blvd, Issaquah WA

425-392-0999 | www.countrysidefloral.com

GARDENING IN FALL

[Your editor regrets that she failed to record the source of this quote.]

"Fall, rather than spring, can be the busiest and most productive garden time in the maritime Northwest garden. Harvesting crops, keeping up with flower beds, and planning for next year all seem to happen at once. What drives gardeners is not only the pleasant air temperature and warm soil; it's the shrinking of the daily light allotment. We've plenty to do, and fewer daylight hours to do it in. The gradual darkness affects plants, slowing their growth, just as it does

THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH

When you brew your morning coffee, don't forget to save the grounds. They're a good source of nitrogen for the compost pile! Just mix the grounds right into the pile; if you use coffee filters, you can toss them in as well. Coffee grounds can also be scattered beneath azaleas and rhododendrons, to help create the acidic, humus-rich soil conditions these plants prefer.

A thorough garden clean-up is essential, especially if you've had problems with insects and diseases this year. If you leave remnants of diseased or infested plants in the garden, you could be setting the stage for a return of the same problems for the 2020 growing season. Good sanitation is critical.

Peonies can be planted in early November in full sun and fertile, well-drained soil that is rich in organic matter. Dig holes eighteen inches, and fill halfway with a mixture of soil, compost, and a handful of 5-10-10 fertilizer. Add a few more inches of soil, and set the tubers so the buds are no more than two inches below the soil surface. Backfill, firm the soil, and water thoroughly. Peonies do not grow well after being moved and will not bloom for several years.

Now is a great time to wander the garden and neighborhood and harvest remaining dried seed pods and branches for flower arrangements and wreaths.

Mulch used in spring and summer to control weed growth is different from the mulch used in winter. Winter mulch to protect perennial plants should not be dense and heavy. Put down straw, pine boughs, or small leaves when the ground freezes. In spring, rake away the mulch material and add it to the compost pile.

THE GARDENERS' YEAR

"We say that spring is the time for germination; really the time for germination is autumn. While we only look at Nature, it is fairly true to say that autumn is the end of the year; but still more true it is that autumn is the beginning of the year. It is a popular opinion that in autumn leaves fall, and I really cannot deny it; I assert only that in a certain deeper sense autumn is the time when in fact the leaves bud. Leaves wither because winter begins; but they also wither because spring is already beginning, because new buds are being made, as tiny as percussion caps out of which the spring will crack. It is an optical illusion that trees and bushes are naked in autumn; they are, in fact, sprinkled over with everything that will unpack and unroll in spring. It is only an optical illusion that my flowers die in autumn; for in reality they are born. We say that Nature rests, yet she is working like mad. She has only shut up shop and pulled the shutters down; but behind them she is unpacking new goods, and the shelves are becoming so full that they bend under the load. This is the real spring; what is not done now will not be done in April. The future is not in front of us, for it is here already in the shape of a germ; already it is with us; and what is not with us will not be even in the future. We don't see germs because they are under the earth; we don't know the future because it is within us..." **Karel Capek, 1929.**

"one of the most influential Czech writers of the 20th century. He wrote with intelligence and humour on a wide variety of subjects. His works are known for their interesting and precise descriptions of reality... Čapek is renowned for his excellent work with the Czech language."



Growing Good Kids Awards

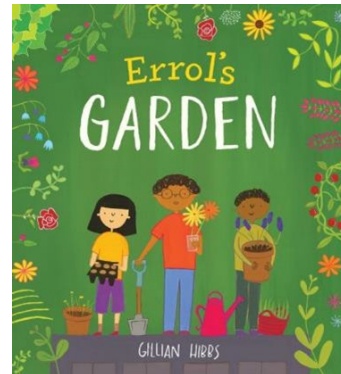
Created by the American Horticultural Society and the Junior Master Gardener program, the “Growing Good Kids – Excellence in Children’s Literature” awards honor the best new children’s books about gardening and nature. Each year, these awards recognize children’s books that are especially effective at promoting an understanding of, and appreciation for, gardening, nature, and the environment. Here are the 2019 winners.



Up in the Leaves, by Shira Boss; Illustrated by Jamey Christoph; (Sterling Children’s Books)

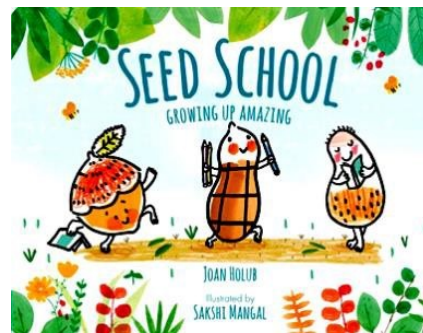
This charming picture book tells the true story of Bob Redman, a child growing up in New York City. Tired of the noise, the people, and the rushing around, Bob took shelter in the natural beauty of Central Park – where he covertly built a series of amazing tree-houses, starting with a simple platform and growing more and more elaborate over time. He played cat-and-mouse with the park workers, who kept tearing down his houses, until he was finally caught. But his story ends with a happy

surprise.



Errol's Garden, by Gillian Hibbs; Illustrated by Gillian Hibbs; (Childs Play)

Errol lives gardening, but he doesn’t have a proper garden. Although his home is full of beautiful plants, he longs for an outdoor space where he can grow things. A chance discovery leads to a solution, but Errol can’t do everything on his own. Luckily help is near at hand. A heart-warming and inclusive tale about how one small boy’s dream of a garden unites a diverse community in a positive and enriching experience for everyone.



Seed School, by Joan Holub; illustrated by Sakshi Mangal; (Seagrass Press)

Welcome to the wondrous world of
(continued on page 6)

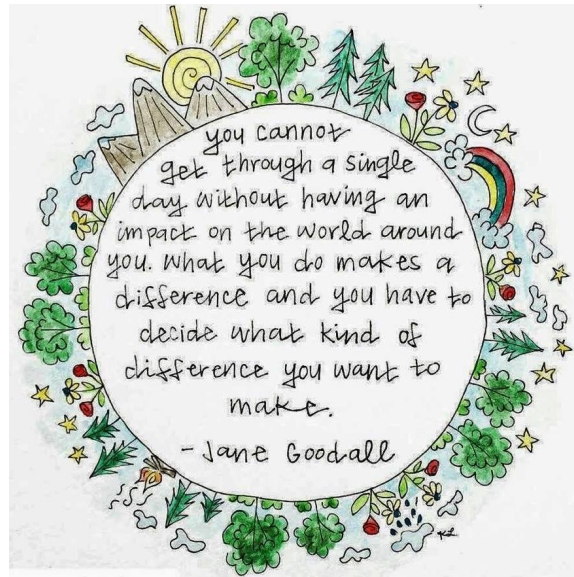
Growing Good Kids Awards

Continued

seeds! Just like people, seeds come in all shapes and sizes. In Seed School, you'll meet the charming cast of characters, who—with the help of soil, water and sunshine—grow into vibrant fruits, vegetables, and flowers.

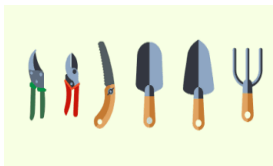
While some of the seeds friends seem to sprout and grow up in just one season, one odd-looking seed with a cap takes many years to become the strong oak he was destined to be. Sakshi Mangal's delightful illustration bring this whimsical story about friendship, diversity, and the natural world that surrounds us to life. Grow on!

[From the November, 2019 issue of the Gardeners' Club newsletter, Into the Garden, Santa Cruz County, CA]



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November Program:
"Sharper Garden Tools"