



# GARDEN DELIGHTS

**ISSAQUAH GARDEN CLUB**

*"I'm tired of hearing so much about maintenance free gardens. If you aren't going to get out there and live with—including taking care of it—then what's the point of gardening, anyway?"*

*Pamela Lord*

## **February Meeting**

**February 12, 2020 10:00 A.M.**

**Tibbetts Creek Manor**

**Contorted Flower Workshop**

**"Making a flower from dried plant material"**

Linda Maida, our speaker, says of herself: "I grew up vegetable growing with my mom and flower gardening with my dad. I live on five acres, and many years ago my husband fenced in one acre and said, "O K, here is your gardening area." Oh, how wrong he was!

"Maple trees, hydrangeas, and peonies are some of my favorites. I live close to Bob Fincham who is "the ultimate guru" on dwarf conifers, so I have a nice collection of them and have moved on to maple trees for containers."

Ms. Maida has been a very active garden club member for many years. She loves garden club and the wonderful friends she has made the last fifteen years. She has been Hill and Dale District Director, twice, and club president more often than she can count. Her passion is for design; coloring outside the lines and pushing the limits are her happy place. "Sharing that passion is something I love to do, and my goal to encourage everyone to try something new. We never know where it will take us."

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Please don't forget your contributions for the Issaquah Food Bank, this month.

And don't forget, too, your plate, cup and utensils!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Embrace Nature Inside and Outside

Winter is here and there are many things to see **outside** in the garden. Red twig dogwood stands out in contrast to the evergreens. Heather is blooming and bulbs are starting to pop up out of the ground. Hellebores are also blooming. It's a nice time of year to wander the garden between rain showers.

The month of February is another chance to arrange flowers **inside** with 'Valentines Day' Garden Therapy. This month we will go to the Issaquah Care Center directly after our Garden Club meeting. If you haven't been able to join the group at Garden Therapy, this is a great opportunity to come. Bring your clippers and greens from your yard. We will be taking pictures for a project grant that Joan Harris is applying for so we hope we will have a good turnout. It only takes about one hour and is a lot of fun.

Happy Winter,

**Debbie DeFilipps**



## SHOW AND TELL

This month, **Debbie Lehrberger** will tell us about "Goats to Gardens."

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## OUR LUNCHEON CREW

Our Hostess for February is Jean Pass; her crew includes Peggy Abernathy, Karen Bukantz Debbie DeFilipps, Lois Helberts, Sharon Roberts, and Dianne Tanner.

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## NW FLOWER AND GARDEN FESTIVAL

**February 26-March 1, 2020**

Your editor thinks of what has been called "the **Northwest Flower and Garden Show**," as something of a pilgrimage to gardening. Before we can do much in our gardens, we can partake of a full acre of fabulous model gardens, of vendors selling bulbs, plants and seeds, garden tools and all sorts of outbuildings. We can also sit in on lectures on a variety of subjects, given by experts, some we know. There are also booths of various garden-related associations, offering good information and sometimes samples of their publications, and sellers of timeless garden art, and interesting items.

If you wish to go, you'll want to purchase tickets at local outlets, as soon as possible.

I find that taking the Express **554** bus and walking up the hill to the Convention Center is the easiest way to attend.

## ELWD GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This newsletter follows on the heels of the ELWD ECHO, recently sent to all garden club members. That newsletter contained extensive information about the GMM on February 24. What follows is a recap:

**Where:** St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 2650 148<sup>th</sup> Ave SE Bellevue (Eastgate).

**Cost:** \$10 if preregistered (pay at the door); \$15 walk-ins (making a reservation is best so food and set up are prepared for you)

**Programs:** Horticulture, Virginia Ferguson, "**Fuchsias in the Garden**"; Design, Jon Throne, "**Trends in Design**"

**Schedule:** Set Up – 8:30-9:30 Registration Table Open 9:00 – 9:45 Welcome and Program: 10:00 Business: 11:00 Lunch 11:30- 12:30 Program 12:30 Clean Up 1:30

Please be sure to sign up for the ELWD meeting at our meeting, next Wednesday—or email the **Registrar, Jean Hurt**, at [bajhjean@comcast.net](mailto:bajhjean@comcast.net) by **Thursday, February 20**.

Our club is responsible for a raffle item and the dining table decorations.



## THE BELLEVUE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

The King County Master Gardeners in cooperation with Bellevue Parks & Community Services manage the Lake Hills Greenbelt Urban Demonstration Garden also known as Bellevue Demonstration Garden. Each year, the garden offers free workshops on Saturday, at 10:30 A.M. The next few workshops include:

### [Embrace Vertical Gardening - Embellish Your Garden with Vines](#)

**Sat, Feb 8** Join Master Gardener and Plant Amnesty Master Pruner Laura Watson

### [Safe and Healthy Edible Gardening](#)

**Sat, Feb 22** Join Laura Matter, Project Manager for Tilth Alliance,

### [Natural Yard Care](#)

**Sat, Mar 14** Join Ladd Smith from Cascade Water Alliance

### [Growing Tomatoes in the PNW](#)

**Sat, Mar 21** - Marcia Dillon, Master Gardener

### [Building Healthy Soil and Composting](#)

**Sat, Mar 28** - Lisa Taylor, Cascade Water Alliance

### [Favorite Northwest Native Plants](#)

**Sat, Apr 4** - Greg Rouborn, Cascade Water Alliance

Address: 15500 SE 16th Street, Bellevue

## **CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE CLASSES**

Cascade Water Alliance is a municipal corporation comprised of seven municipalities (five cities and two water and sewer districts) in the Puget Sound region that joined together to provide safe, clean, reliable water supply to its 380,000 residences and more than 20,000 businesses. Cascade Water Alliance offers an annual series of free gardening classes to help you have beautiful, healthy landscapes while using water efficiently. The Cascade Gardener classes will be taught by our team of expert gardening professionals.

For details about the classes offered, go to:

<https://cascadewater.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2020-Cascade-Gardener-Class-Catalog.pdf>

To see the classes in chronological order and to register for classes, go to:

<https://cascadewater.org/water-efficiency/cascade-gardener/>

The classes offered in February include:

2/20/20 – Everlasting Harvest: Growing a Year-round Edible Garden, Issaquah

2/20/20 – Sustainable Veggie Gardening, Tukwila

2/22/20 – Designing the Northwest Garden, Bellevue

2/22/20 – Natural Yard and Lawn Care, Redmond

2/22/20 – Sustainable Gardening, a Better Way to Beautiful, Issaquah

2/27/20 – Don't Squish that Bug! Organic Pest Management for the Home Gardener, Bellevue

2/27/20 – Proper Watering Techniques and Stormwater Management for the Homeowner, Redmond

2/29/20 – Designing the Wildlife Garden, Kirkland

2/29/20 – Sustainable Veggie Gardening, Issaquah

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## **THINGS TO DO IN FEBRUARY**

If the soil dries out against the house under the eaves where rain rarely reaches, water well during a winter thaw to prevent loss of plants. Remember that plants require water during the winter to replace water lost due to wind desiccation and lack of rain or snow.

Watch for signs of growth in early spring bulbs. When foliage is one inch high, gradually start removing mulch. Cloudy days are best for the initial exposure of the leave to strong sunlight which can burn tender foliage.

When placing houseplants around the home, remember as a general rule, plants with thick leaves can take lower light levels than those with thin leaves.

If you have time this winter, paint the handles of garden tools red or orange. This will preserve the wood and make the tools easier to locate next summer when you lay them down outside.

## **RESOLUTIONS TO HELP YOU REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE MORE IN 2020**

Washington's waste generation has been steadily increasing since 2011. According to the Department of Ecology, Washingtonians generated 12.4 pounds of waste per person, per day in 2017!

As we reflect on the past year and year ahead, let's resolve to make 2020 a year of less - less waste, less plastic, and less environmental impact.

### **Resolutions to Reduce**

**Buy Less** - One of the most impactful methods of waste reduction is simply to consume less. Americans spend \$1.2 Million annually on nonessentials. Thankfully, resources abound to help you stop buying stuff you don't need.

**Buy Secondhand or Share** - If you do find that you have a real need to acquire something, buy it secondhand. Amazing finds are ready to be discovered at your local thrift store, yard sales, or online on sites like Craigslist, Ebay, and even Facebook Marketplace. Many communities around the Puget Sound region have robust "Buy Nothing" groups where you can score items for free.

**Repair** – Don't replace it if you can fix it. And if you can't, there's a good chance you can find someone who can at one of King County's free repair events. Skilled repair people or "fixers" will work on lamps, vacuums, fans,

chairs, tables, tools, computers, music players, TVs, blenders, toasters, toys, pants, dresses, bags, and much more!

### **Resolutions to Reuse**

**B.Y.O...Everything** – We are producing 300 million tons of plastic every year and 50% of that is for single use purposes. Set yourself up with a few essentials – shopping and produce bags, a water/coffee cup, and a few containers to transport leftovers – and you'll be well on your way to making a dent in your contribution to that sobering statistic. The "Recology" store carries numerous products designed to replace disposable or single-use items.

**Buy in Bulk** – Take those reusable containers to your grocery store and make a beeline to the bulk section where you'll find pasta, grains, beans, dried fruits, nuts, nut butters and more all without plastic packaging. The EPA estimates that containers and packaging make up 30% of our total waste generation.

**Repurpose** – You would be amazed how far a little creativity can go to help you reuse items you once thought were disposable. From cereal bag liners to toilet paper tubes, learn how you can re-imagine common household items into amazing little helpers.

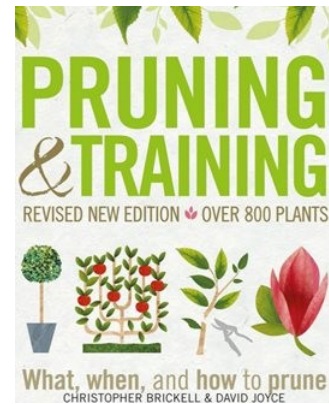
**Taken from Recology King County.**



## PRUNE TREES AND SHRUBS

Pruning deciduous trees and shrubs in late winter or early spring while they are still dormant is a good way to promote lush spring growth. Pruning should be done to promote plant health, maintain size and shape, and to allow sunlight to reach plant foliage. To begin pruning, remove dead, broken, or diseased branches. Trim the outer canopy for shape. Then open up the structure by removing any crossing branches. It's a good idea to take a class on pruning at your local botanic garden or read up on pruning before starting. *Pruning & Training* provides a good introduction. [This book was also suggested by Michele Pfeiffer at the lecture at Bellevue Demonstration Garden, Saturday, January 25.]

Taken from the Garden Design E-newsletter, January 30 , 2020.



### GARDEN DELIGHTS

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February Program: “Contorted Flower Workshop”—Making a flower from dried plant material