

Issaquah Garden Club September 2022 Newsletter

This newsletter will be sent monthly approximately a week before the meeting.

It's our attempt to keep communication open and all of us on the same page.

You will find that this newsletter is not a literary work nor will it make you appreciably smarter or wiser but it will hopefully help keep you in sync with what's going on in the garden club. If you don't find it interesting or useful please feel free to just hit your "delete" key ...

Leadership for this yer will be provided by a team as follows:

Co-President: Georgann, Sandra and Lois

Vice President: Georgann

Secretary: Joan H.

Treasurer: Sandra

We owe Georgann a BIG THANK YOU for all the hard work she has done arranging speakers for the entire next year! Over the years this has become a more daunting challenge due to speaker availability as well as ever increasing fees. Thank you Georgann for your creativity and persistence!

It's hard to believe that it's September. Where has the year gone?!?! It's a time of year when the air gets a little cooler at night and mornings bring a bit of a chill, we as well as the natural world around us start thinking about nestling into our warm homes. Animals do it by building cozy dens or hiding their food cache in preparation for winter. Trees and plants do it by dropping their leaves to create snug blankets around their bases - the perfect protection for their roots and the tiny seedlings that will emerge in spring. Humans, too, begin bundling up when autumn's cool temp start becoming and everyday occurrence. The time is coming ...

MONTHLY MEETING:

Meeting Day: Second Wednesday of the month - September through May

Time: 2:00PM - set-up for those that need time

2:15PM - members arrive

2:30PM - speaker starts

Location: Our Savior Lutheran Church

745 Front Street South

Issaquah

SEPTEMBER 14 MEETING:

Speaker will be Susan Cook from Kubota Gardens to talk about Japanese Maples. If any of you have heard Susan before you will remember that she is extremely knowledgeable and an excellent speaker. Try and attend ...

REPORT ON SUMMER OUTINGS:

There have been a couple of outings this summer. Two trips were made to the Shadow Lake area in Renton. The first trip was a tour of the "bog" with the coordinator acting as our guide. Both tours included an explanation of how the preserve came about. A couple bought the initial plot of land and had to remove dump truck loads of trash off of the site. There were old cars, mattresses etc. Aside from tours, the preserve provides educational opportunities for kids ie. an evening bat identification camp which was co-sponsored by the Woodland Park Zoo. We walked along an elevated boardwalk (installed with the help of local Eagle Scouts) while our docent shared many interesting facts about the vegetation and the reason for the variety of plants in different areas. As part of the tour there are hands-on opportunities such as stepping on some peat moss to feel how spongy it is. The talk was educational and included a discussion of the difference between a bog, swamp and a wetland.

DATES FOR THE CALENDAR:

September 23 - Dunn Gardens Tour

Time: 1:00PM

Cost: \$10.00

RSVP to Georgann if you want to attend

September 26 - General Membership Meeting (GMM)

Location: St. Andrews Lutheran Church, Bellevue, WA

Time: Registration 9:30AM with meeting starting at 10:00AM

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

Cost: \$10.00 (payable at the door)

Speakers:

#1 - A representative from one of the local Waste Management Services

#2 - Brynn Tavasci to talk about designs made with recycled items

Lunch will be provided by Terra Tillers

Awards: Club Awards will be presented at this GMM. Our club will be acknowledged for several awards including Diane Tanner's Growing Great Gardeners Program that will receive \$500 from Give Kids a Hand Fund in order to replace some raised beds etc. at Issaquah Elementary.

October 4 - 6 - Flower Show School #1 - Wilsonville, OR

October 18 - Greater Seattle District Lunch and Design Program

Time: 11:00AM doors open

Lunch: 12:00 noon

Program: Ten NGC Designers will be presented with a collection of sculptures and design materials that do not belong to them. They will then compete for the honor of being "Designer of the Day"

Cost: Donation of \$25.00 - to purchase a ticket see one of the presidents for instruction. Location: The Cove, 1500 SW Shorebrook Drive, Normandy Park, WA

February 15 - 19, 2023 - Northwest Flower and Garden Show, Seattle Convention Center

February 27, 2023 - Next GMM which will be a presentation of attendees crafts (details to come)

September 22 - 24, 2023 - District Flower Show, Bellevue Botanical Garden

April 24, 2023 - Arbor Day Celebration at Bellevue Botanical Garden

ELWD BOARD MEETING REPORT:

The ELWD Board met on Monday, August 22. For our club the following were in attendance:

Joy (ELWD Recording Secretary)

Jean (ELWD First Assistant)

Gale (ELWD Treasurer)

June Ann (Arbor Day and Bellevue Botanical Garden Coordinator)

Sandra, Saudi and Lois

The new Bellevue Botanical Garden Director was introduced and spoke about his amazing background. He studied horticulture at the University of Connecticut and went on to earn a Master's Degree and Certificate in Museum Studies as a fellow in the Longwood Graduate Program in Public Horticulture at the University of Delaware. He also has a long list of very prestigious places where he has worked including the Smithsonian Castle and several other National Museums.

Of note there are 245 members in our district and ELWD has 10 clubs which is the most of any in the state.

Committee Chair Reports:

** Bellevue Botanical Garden 30th Anniversary on June 25 was well attended and a big success.

** Arbor Day needs club participation with donations (we have budgeted \$75.00) towards the purchase of the tree that will be planted at BBG. BBG with garden club input select the tree, plants it and cares for it. Historically it has been a very successful program that we want to encourage!

** Anyone with grandchildren that would like to participate in the Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl poster contest should contact Lana Finegold.

** On the national level there were 30 scholarships granted (7 within Washington state) and due to the endowment from the sale of the house in Seattle the amount this year was doubled to \$2000. As a club we donate \$100 towards the state scholarships.

EDUCATIONAL CORNER:

One last gardening strategy before we put our yards to sleep for the winter ...

8 STRATEGIES FOR SMALL-SPACE GARDENING

Even large yards are nothing but a collection of small-space gardens!

1. GO VERTICAL - Use elements to draw the eye upward rather than outward, creating the illusion of more space. Trees, a trellis, arbor, or tall planter will all bring up the gaze. When you accentuate the height of an outdoor room, the sky is the limit!

2. **RELY ON CONTAINERS** - Potted plants bring the garden to a patio or deck, but don't go overboard. Avoid crowding your location with too many tiny pots that get in your way. In a small area set clusters of pots where people won't trip over them. Use tall planters to ease transitions between a wall and the ground and keep the design dynamic.

3. **SCALE MATTERS** - When selecting trees and shrubs for a petite landscape, look for compact varieties that will be in scale with their surroundings. The same rule applies to outdoor furniture. Skip oversize chairs and tables that you have to wedge into position or that make an area feel cramped and congested. Stick to narrow profiles and you'll open up more living - and planting space.

4. **LIVEN UP SIDE YARDS** - Often overlooked, side yards offer tons of potential. Add a path lined with interesting foliage, perhaps an intriguing sculpture or a functional element like a rain barrel or compost bin. Consider how will the area look from inside the house or from the front or backyards. Put those slivers of soil along the house to good use.

5. **DRAMATIC PLANTS** - A few large-leaf jungle natives can make a big impact. It only takes one or two to act as a natural privacy screen and create a getaway spot for relaxing amid the rustling from the oversized foliage.

6. **VISUAL EXPANSION** - Monochromatic color palettes, strong design lines, and repeated shapes can help boost a sense of spaciousness. Another trick: blur garden boundaries with multilevel plantings and structures. For immediate gratification, place a large mirror where it will reflect the garden and give the feeling of more space.

7. **CREATE PRIVACY** - Foster a sense of seclusion outdoors with a fence or screen to shield a view - make it more attractive and sound absorbing by adding a fast-growing vine with flowers or interesting leaves. A softly gurgling fountain will help mask the rumble of traffic.

8. **ENTICING DESTINATIONS** - When you plan your garden, be sure to add a focal point that distracts from size issues and lures you forward. It can be as simple as a path leading to a bench or as elaborate as a grand arbor heralding your front door. To make the destination even more compelling surround it with fragrant plants or ones that dance lightly in the breeze.

Hope to see you at the meeting on September 14 ...