



GARDEN DELIGHTS

Issaquah Garden Club
November, 2008

NOVEMBER PROGRAM: IGC AUCTION

We will hold our annual fundraising auction at the November 12 meeting. Come one, come all—and bring a guest—to make this event a success. Dianne Tanner and her committee will accept items as they come through the door. Karen Bukanz will act as auctioneer. We'll begin the auction at 11:00 A.M., after a brief business meeting and a short recess so members and guest might walk around to view items.

Come ready to pick up that special holiday gift. We have art from Jeanette Mahoney (see picture below), gourmet dinner and overnight at the Keysers', High Tea at Rita Hansen's, necklaces, bracelets, tickets for Village Theatre, toys, pillows, garden ornaments, and many small items for stocking stuffers. We will have a vocal and silent auction with an instant buy option. Help make this a fun and exciting event for all who attend.

Email or phone Dianne Tanner about items you will be donating or to tell her if items need to be picked up: butterdmt@comcast.net, 425 392 7430. Before November first, call June Willard or Sherran Whatley.

Please note, a light lunch consisting of sandwiches, fruit and veggie platters provided by the Auction Committee and other members will be served at this meeting. Sherran Whatley will receive the food and supervise the kitchen.



IGC BOARD NOTES

At the Board meeting, Tuesday, October 28, your Board acted on a few items:

In response to the favorable trip earlier this month to Don Carlin's garden, more trips were discussed. It was decided that club members might enjoy a trip to one of the nurseries Mr. Carlin suggested, the Portland Avenue Nursery in Tacoma. November 19 would be a good date for the trip—not too close to Thanksgiving, and still with the possibility of good weather. The particulars for the trip will be arranged at our November 12 meeting.

It was decided that the Board need not meet every month, instead quarterly meetings would suffice (unless arrangements need to be made for major events). Accordingly, the next IGC Board meeting will take place Wednesday, **February 25**, 10:00 A.M. at the home of our President, Geneme' Keyser.

Members are reminded of the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest. Entries must be submitted no later than January 7, 2009. Please contact Dianne Tanner for poster information and rules.

Plans are in progress for our "Victory Garden" project. Keith Keyser is requesting a donation from Seed Savers' Exchange. The seeds will be repackaged for individual gardens for a 4 ft by 8 ft space. We will have a display with a portable 4 ft by 6 ft. greenhouse for Arbor Day in April.

Arrangements are in progress for our May meeting and rhododendron tour at Bellevue Botanical Garden. We will meet in the garden May 13 at 11 A.M. for a guided tour with Nancy Kartes. This will be followed by a BYOB lunch and business meeting in the Visitors' Center.

Our Annual Plant Sale will be held on May 16. Your Plant Sale Chairman hopes you are currently potting up perennial plants to donate for the sale. In addition to our special plants, we will have seeds for sale, that day.

NOVEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS WSFGC

Nov. 6 - WSFGC Board Meeting Holiday Inn, Renton

Nov. 7-8 - WSFGC "Holiday Memories," a Specialized Advanced-Standard Flower Show, held at the Holiday Inn, One Grady Way Renton, WA 98055 Telephone 425-226-7700

Friday, November 7, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Saturday, November 8, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Admission: Advance purchase \$7, (Geneme' Keyser has tickets available.) Tickets at the door \$8, Children under 12 Free

If you would like to enter the flower show, the schedule for **Holiday Memories** and entry forms are on the state website,

www.wagardenclubs.org and go to the flower show link. If you wish to know which classes are filled, you can go to <http://ww2.whidbey.com/top/gardenclub>

Nov. 15 WSFGC Workshop: Wreaths & Swags at Garden House (Headquarters House) 2336 15th Avenue South, Seattle WA 98144. Hill 'n Dale District member Linda Maida will lead the workshop. Beverages and dessert will be provided. Bring a sandwich. Tickets are \$20. Pre-register by calling Sandi Isenburg at 206-300-5662 or Lona Carter at 206-878-4537 or email roger-lona@comcast.net

CITY OF ISSAQUAH NEWSLETTER

The City of Issaquah Resource Conservation Office offers a monthly E-newsletter to get the latest information on Issaquah events, classes and news, including gardening and landscaping information. Go to their website: <http://www.ci.issaquah.wa.us/SectionIndex.asp?SectionID=17> Then follow the directions to subscribe.

President's Message

Change is so very difficult. It matters not in which form or what part of our lives it affects. Change is also a growth medium, an invitation to stretch and expand.

We changed the way we did things at Issaquah Garden Club and our program format by visiting Don Carlin's Garden on October eighth. I would say, based on the comments I heard, that change is also a very good thing. I believe it is fair to say that everyone that visited his garden came away with something good and a new vision.

Geneme' Keyser

GARDEN CLUB PROJECTS

October 22, was a "two-fer" day for Issaquah Garden Club members. At 10:30 A.M., members delivered 643 pounds of food, infant formula and disposable diapers to the Issaquah Food Bank. Later that day, members participated in a native plant project at the Blue Star Memorial By-way Marker, an ongoing project since 2007.

Dianne Tanner, Gail Homlstrom, Karen Lee and Joan Fields had purchased nearly \$1000-worth of food and diapers with funds from the Issaquah Garden Club. They were joined by June Willard and Cate Mueller in making the presentation to the Executive Director of the Food Bank, Cherie Meier.



The event was covered and photographed by the Issaquah Press. Afterwards, members toured the facility, and learned of volunteer opportunities. It was a heart-warming experience, and made all of us proud that the members of IGC had agreed to this donation as a budget item.

Special Note: Right now if anyone has warm coats, boots, hats, gloves, mittens or sweaters for children, men and women, these would be greatly appreciated. If you cannot drop them off at the Issaquah Food Bank yourself, please bring them to the November or December meetings and Dianne Tanner will take them in.



At 2 PM, that same afternoon, a group of members, Rita Hansen, Joan Fields, Jeannette Hunsberger, and Cate Mueller, met with Karen Lee and Alan Haywood, of the Issaquah Parks Department to install additional native plants at the BSM at the Issaquah Senior Center. Members had a pleasant time, especially since the weather was so pleasant. Since there were several members there to help, the planting went fairly quickly.



REMINISCING WITH RUTH MORGAN

On Monday, October 20, your editor and Geneme' and Keith Keyser met at the Keyser home with Ruth Morgan and her daughter, Janet Wall, to hear of Mrs. Morgan's experiences early in her sixty-nine years of garden club membership.

Ruth and her daughter talked about how Mrs. Morgan met her husband who was quite a bit older than she. There were tennis courts on his family property in Lakewood, Ohio, on the edge of Lake Erie, but he needed to find partners for tennis. He went to a local court to meet people who might play with him. He recruited Ruth and her brother to play on his court. After playing tennis for a while, she realized their relationship was becoming serious, especially when he gave her a silver bracelet—which she still has--for Christmas.

Ruth and Janet told how she first joined the Lakewood Garden Club. She and her husband moved in with his elderly parents so they might stay in their large home on three acres. This property included four formal rose gardens, each with 25 rose bushes, surrounding a large fish pond and fountain. (Janet remembered collecting fish in buckets to place inside in the conservatory pool, during cold, winter months.) Surrounding the rose gardens were beds of peonies, lilies, and many other perennials. During boom times, there had been a full-time gardener, living in a cottage on the property. During the Great Depression, this became impossible. For many years, Ruth kept busy, caring for her three children, serving as chauffeur for her in-laws, and working in the extensive rose and perennial gardens as the only gardener.

Ruth's mother-in-law, who had been a long-time member of the Lakewood Garden Club, introduced Ruth as a new member. Ruth found that members seemed to concentrate on flower arranging, especially Ikebana. Ruth, enjoyed this, but was also interested in growing things. She learned vegetable gardening from a lady who rented the cottage on the family property, and grew a sizable vegetable garden. From Mrs. Murphy, she also learned to make items of dried pressed flowers, pussy willows and pine cones. Soon began making items to sell at the church bazaar and garden club events. Later, she served on the board of the Leukemia Society, and was expected to help raise funds for patient aid. Her method was to make and sell craft items of dried flowers, for which she became well-known.



Issaquah Garden Club Garden Tour
of
Don Carlin's Dwarf Conifer Garden
by Janel Garnett

WOW! What a magnificent and inspiring garden! Don Carlin's garden in Sammamish is filled with literally hundreds of rare cultivars of dwarf conifers and maples and is nestled beneath the glorious backdrop of the surrounding Cascade foothills. This garden is a year-round destination for plantaholics, garden tour enthusiasts, as well as those who simply appreciate the beauty of nature.



Don has put together the most amazingly beautiful collector's garden I have ever seen. Being both a garden designer and an incurable plant collector, I am well aware of just how hard this is. His garden beautifully showcases the remarkable variety of forms, colors and textures available in these needled and scaled marvels. The observer is able to enjoy each individual plant as well as the synergy created by the design as a whole. The mostly bold and sometimes quirky character of the cone-bearers contrasts nicely with the more airy and graceful maples. The qualities of the individual plants play off of each other, making each one seem special while still creating a cohesive whole. The most marvelous thing is that the whole garden is extremely low-maintenance and looks fantastic in any season.



Don, an accountant by training, apparently also has an innate talent for design. His graciousness and willingness to share his passion was delightful. His entire garden is stuffed full of one magnificent well-labeled bed after another. You can easily identify your favorites by perusing his informative handout. It is filled with the names of his entire collection, lists of nurseries, helpful growing and purchasing information, as well as an invitation to call him with further questions.

What a treat this was! Thank you, Genemé, for organizing this wonderful outing!

FREE Naturescaping Workshop and Native Plant Salvage

If you have been procrastinating on attending one of these workshops, wait no longer. The King County Naturescaping Program is proposed to be cut in the 2009 Executive Proposed Budget. Don't put it off any longer. Why wait when you can start shrinking that lawn and improving your part of the planet this year?

The event flyer is available at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/stewardship/volunteer/plant-salvage-program.aspx>

Learn how to create a wildlife friendly landscape using native plants in your own backyard. Native plants require less maintenance and water than non-native ornamentals and local wildlife love a native landscape. You will also learn many helpful tips on controlling the weeds that may threaten your project.

Participants at the workshop are welcome to travel to a site scheduled for development to dig up native plants for their personal habitat and landscaping projects. The salvage site is generously provided by Brandt Properties LLC.

[Janet Wall, Ruth Morgan's daughter, reports that she has attended this Naturescaping Workshop in the past and that it is excellent. She highly recommends it for anyone who is interested in native plants. She plans to go to the plant salvage on November 15th. Unfortunately, this will probably be the last one due to the King County budget cuts. (Representatives from the Wash. Native Plant Society will be protesting these cuts to the salvage program as it is a program that more than pays for itself.)]

GARDEN DELIGHTS

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