



ELWD ECHO

East Lake Washington District of Garden Clubs

"Green Matters"

"A spell lies on the garden. Summer sits.
With finger on her lips as if she heard
The steps of Autumn echo on the hill."
Gertrude Huntington McGiffert, writer

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

September 23, 2019

The East Lake Washington District will hold the first General Membership Meeting of the 2019-2020 year on **September 23, 2019**, at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Eastgate (Bellevue). Members of all ELWD Garden Clubs and design Groups are invited.

To attend this meeting, please sign up. (If you received the recent email directly from Mailout Chairman, Joyce Voldal, as stated, you can reply to that, and she will forward your reservation to Jean Hurt, registrar. The deadline for reservations is **September 20**.)

Registration opens at 9:15, with hot beverages available. The cost for the meeting, including lunch, is \$10; or \$15 for walk-ins. (But please try to make a reservation so we will know how many to expect.) Following a brief welcome by Co-Director Marti Bolcer, the first program will begin shortly after thereafter. A business meeting will be held next, with lunch and raffle sales. The second program will begin at 12:30, followed by raffle drawings and clean up, so we may all leave by 2:00 p.m.

The morning program on horticulture, will be presented by **Scott Pringle**, owner of **Paradise Lake Nursery**, speaking on hydrangeas. He'll tell us about the different varieties of hydrangeas and their needs. He'll also talk about some of the best varieties for our area. Mr. Pringle has agreed to take hydrangea pre-orders on his website: PARADISELAKENURSERY@gmail.com, and he will be selling and giving away hydrangea starts and raffling a hydrangea.

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Garden Club member:

Green Matters: As we begin this term, let us focus on “Green Matters,” enjoying our garden, eating its bounty, and bringing garden beauty indoors. There are many ways to conserve energy and water. Share conservation tips with club members. I cannot remember a year with so many warm nights, and our gardens will definitely react. Notice how plants react. Let's keep those pollinators coming.

Thank you for participating in the ELWD flower show, “VISIONS,” in early August. And special thanks to the people who staged and took down the show, and to our hostesses and exhibitors. Together YOU made “Visions” a reality.

Our ELWD Director team looks forward to serving YOU. **Lana Finegold** will represent ELWD at state events. **Marti Bolcer** will continue leading the GMM (General Membership Meetings) and **Elaine Fowler** will preside at ELWD Executive and Board Meetings. Our Board is made up of District officers, chairmen and Club Presidents. If a Club President cannot attend, she should send a representative.

On behalf of the Director team, we say “Welcome to another stimulating year in Garden Club. Enjoy the journey and remember “**Green Matters.**”

Lana Finegold

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The afternoon design program, “**Creative Crafts, Garden Art, & Containers,**” will be presented by **Bryn Tavasci**, former WSFGC President, who makes incredible things out of recyclables.

Hospitality during registration will be provided by Gale Baullinger. Pine Lake Garden Club will prepare and served the luncheon. Avant, Lana Finegold will make the food table arrangement; Issaquah Garden Club will bring the table decorations. Three raffle items have been donated by Sammamish, Sherwood Forest, and Issaquah Garden Clubs.

NOTE: Those who have ordered “**Vision of Beauty**” calendars must pick them up from Lana Finegold, paying \$5.00, if not beforehand, then at the General Membership Meeting. Checks for \$5.00, made **Lana**, payable to ELWD, may be given to

UPCOMING GARDENING SCHOOL

There will be a **NGC Gardening School**, September 30 through October 1, 2019 at Light of Christ Lutheran Church, 2400 SW 344th St., Federal Way, WA 98023. School brochures will be available at the General Membership Meeting or you may contact the Registrar, rpriebe2@comcast.net.

ELWD FLOWER SHOW



On August 3 and 4, our District sponsored a NGC Standard Flower Show at Bellevue Botanical Garden, in the Aaron Education Center.

The East Lake Washington District Judges Council decided last February to name the show “Visions.” The idea to hold it in a public space came from Show Chairman Elaine Pinkerton. The Aaron Education Center is a large space. Elaine drew up the staging plan. Staging Chairmen Jean Pass and Melissa Firuz transformed the space with exhibits of eyeglasses: large paper and seed spectacles. Thoughtful sayings done in calligraphy on lime paper, pipe cleaner iris, and more. Melissa did the invitational design and made Visions come to life.

There were 143 horticulture entries, 37 designs, 21 photography entries and 3 educational exhibits.

The show took four hours to set up and one hour to dismantle. I always think of flower shows as a little bit of magic. We take months to write the schedule, weeks to focus on entries and an hour

to dismantle....poof and it is all gone. But pictures help us hold on to the memories. Since ELWD holds only one small flower show each term, putting on a full scale show was a remarkable undertaking.

The schedule included a petite design section, a table section and a photography/Botanical Arts section. Among the new designs in the schedule (as per the 2017 Handbook for Flower Shows), were Low Profile and Grouped Mass designs.

Some top winners: Debbie Spiller created the “tall grouped mass” design, which won the Carolyn Erickson “all fresh design award.” The exhibition table created by Debbie DeFilipps, titled “Sunset” won the Table Artistry award, and Mary Deviny won the Petite award. Charlene Trent-Lewis won the Photography award and Melissa Firuz won the Award of Horticultural Excellence.

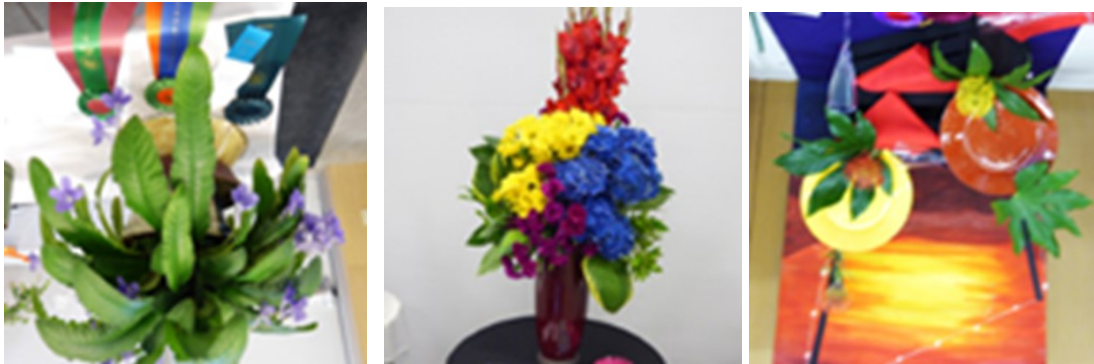
Charlene took pictures of the show for the Book of Evidence.

I just want to see the show again. Fortunately we have the memories. And hopefully pictures to refresh said memories.

Cheers to the many participants and to all who viewed the show. Over one hundred people came on Sunday alone, and they came from U.K., New Jersey, Michigan, Wisconsin, and various locations within Washington state.

Lana Finegold

EAST LAKE WASHINGTON DISTRICT FLOWER SHOW



PAST DIRECTORS REUNION AT “VISIONS” FLOWER SHOW

The Past Director Reunion was held to honor the 60th birthday of ELWD. The group picture captures the past directors that were present.

Back Row: Back row: June Ann Hassebroek, Elaine Pinkerton, Wallene Delery, Pat Kaald, Jan Volk, Mary Deviny
Front row: Marti Bolcer, Lana Finegold, Elaine Fowler



Photo Phundraiser Contest

“April is soon approaching and with it the great opportunity to display your favorite fun photographs at the Pacific Region Photo Phundraiser Contest on April 27-30, 2020 at the Pacific Region Convention being held at The Oregon Garden in Silverton, Oregon. At the same time you are helping support Pacific Region Garden Clubs, your entries could win some prize money. Just a reminder that the **deadline for entries is March 31, 2020.**

There have been inquiries regarding bringing the entries to the convention. Entries will be accepted (**along with signed entry form, applicable entry fee and a signed release and contact information**). If your photo is a winner, the signed release is necessary for your entry to be published by Pacific Region.

The forms, [which can be found on the ELWD website, www.elwd.org, under “news,”] should be mailed to the address below along with a postage paid envelope for return at the end of convention. You will need to mail them via USPS or UPS; packaged to avoid damage along with the return envelope. All checks are to be made payable to PRGC (NO CASH).

The entries must be received before the March 31 deadline. Upon receipt, an e-mail confirmation will be sent to you.

No matter the season, opportunities for fun photos are all around you. You don't need any special equipment, just your point and shoot camera or even smart phone will do the job. Keep an eye out for possibilities and enjoy.

Paul and Karen Ramsey, Contest Chairmen

(541)479-5513

sierrakr@aol.com

P. O. Box 159, Merlin, OR 97532

ELWD PARTNERS WITH BBG

Our District is proud to have been considered a partner with Bellevue Botanical Garden since the garden first opened. Our members volunteer to help protect and enhance the native plants. This ongoing project is our District's main Civic Beautification effort. It is a way to further the public's knowledge and enjoyment as well as encourage preservation of natives and use them in our own landscapes.

Partners are allowed to have a limited number of meetings or events, such as flower shows, at BBG Education Center without being charged rent. If your club would like to hold such an event, contact June Ann Hassebroek juneannhas@aol.com

Partners volunteer by helping at work parties. Meet at the “Gathering Place,” to the left of the main entrance, to sign in. (We often join the Native Plant Society and we work along with BBG Staff.) It is fun and you learn as you go. Please **sign up** or contact **June Ann** (juneannhas@aol.com) or **Janet Wall**, at 425-392 5506, janet227wall@gmail.com

We will work on upcoming third Fridays, October and April, from 10 AM to noon. **OCTOBER 18, 2019 AND APRIL 17, 2020.** Volunteer details will be sent out to you as the date approaches. Bring a friend. The new Native Discovery Garden is looking great so hope you all have a chance to visit and also participate in this project at BBG.

GARDEN CLUB WEBSITE REFERENCE LIST

NGC: www.gardenclub.org (to access member-only section, use name "member" and Password "nature"; for Board members, the password is "conserve.")

Pacific Region: www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org

WSFGC: www.wagardenclubs.com

ELWD: www.elwd.org

Bellevue Botanical Garden: www.bellevuebotanical.org

DAHLIA FALL/WINTER CARE

Those of us new to dahlia care, or in need of a refresher, will appreciate this information provided by the Puget Sound Dahlia Association.

After the first frost (around November 1) cut dahlias down, leaving only a short stalk. Carefully lift the tuber clump by digging as least a foot from the stalk, then slowly pull on this "handle" while using the spade as a lever. Take care to shake or sweep away any loose soil to prevent broke necks; such tubers are not viable. Wash the dirt off the clump. Trim off thread-like root hairs and any damaged tubers. Don't forget to mark or label the tubers for easy identification.

It is best to divide tuber clump in fall, Use a sharp, sturdy knife or pruners. Each tuber must have a "growth eye" (found where tubers attach to the main stalk.) You may soak the divided tubers in 5% bleach for 15 minutes, allow them to dry and then dust the tubers with sulphur or Captan to prevent fungal disease.

The roots will keep best if the storage area is cool, but always kept rom freezing. An attached garage or a crawl space works well. Check that the temperatures remain below 45 degrees F. Fungus diseases appear where storage conditions are too

warm and if there is too much moisture present. Most growers store tubers in plastic bags, half-filled with slightly damp vermiculite, peat moss or cedar chips moistened to prevent shriveling. Store bats in sturdy boxes or Styrofoam container, such as those used in shipping grapes. Line a box with plastic or newspaper and store the bags securely until March. Check the roots twice during the winter and discard any that show rot.

Dahlia tubers left in the ground will survive cold winter days if kept from freezing. After cutting off stalks, heap mulch over the roots and cover the pile with a tarp. Good drainage is essential for tubers to be kept successfully in this manner. However, the risk remains that a cool spring will cause them to rot. If you do not plan on digging tubers annually, plan on having a working party—after two or three years the tuber clumps can be quite large. So successful division of such clumps may present a huge challenge.

Puget Sound Dahlia Association

www.pugetsounddahlias.org

425-836-4487