

H I S T O R Y
of the
ARLINGTON GARDEN CLUB

When a woman has a vision, something usually happens. If she is of a practical turn of mind, things keep on happening; and, if she is artistic, as well as practical, with a love for all that is beautiful, the realization of that vision is bound to give inspiration and lasting pleasure to an infinite number of people. And so, when Minnie Meyer caught a vision of an Arlington with lovely homes, set off by beautiful gardens, and spots, once bare and unsightly, transformed into places of beauty, gay with color, and sweet with the perfume of flowers, made alive with the songs of the birds and the bees, she put her dream into action, and it became a reality.

It is doubtful if there is anyone living in Arlington, whose life has not been touched in some way by the crystalization of this dream. And, because the love of beautiful things is contagious, it has spread, not only throughout our own community, but the towns and cities surrounding it, have felt its influence.

The Garden Club has brought together people of varied interests, but with a common bond - that of a love of Nature, and this has been the background for many fine and lasting friendships.

It was in the latter part of February, 1934, that Mrs. Meyer called fifty ladies on the telephone, and asked them to meet at the City Hall on Thursday, March 1st, to consider the organizing of a Garden Club in Arlington, permission for the use of the hall having been obtained from the Mayor, Mr. Henry Backstrom, and Councilman, Dr. Batdorf. Twenty-four ladies responded to the invitation, all of whom were so heartily in accord with the idea, that the following officers were elected on that day: Mrs. Minnie Meyer, President; Mrs. John Enselman, Sec'y-Treas; Mrs. J. Boyd Ellis, Chairman of the Exchange Board. The second and fourth Mondays of each month were chosen for the days of meeting.

At the second meeting, held on March 12th, the name "Arlington Garden Club" was adopted, and a committee appointed to draw up the constitution and by-laws.

It was at this meeting, also, that the Garden Club was launched on a splendid series of programs, when Mrs. Hill gave a talk on the cultivation of sweet peas, and Mrs. Field read a paper on "Delphiniums".

One of the most interesting features of the early meetings, which has continued up to the present time, was the trophy display, - and upon comparing some of the present entries with those which were submitted when the Garden Club was in its infancy, one realizes what real strides have been made in the education of the members in the art of flower arrangement.

The enthusiasm of the president was contagious, and it was not long before the community became aware that this was not simply "just another club", but that the members were in earnest, and were actually doing things.

Early in April, some of the members met at Terrace Park, and planted a bed of perennials. This seemed to be the inspiration for the starting of several other projects for the beautification of the town, in all of which the city officials and different organizations gave most encouraging co-operation.

In April, Mr. Earl Livingston, of Everett, was introduced to the club, when he gave a most informative talk on Rock Gardens. Soon after this, loud lamentations were heard throughout the city and surrounding country, and masculine voices bitterly complained that the rocks which it had taken years to clear from their land, were now being hauled back, sometimes stealthily, sometimes even boldly, but inevitably they came, and embryonic rock gardens seemed to spring up almost over night. Gradually, however, the wailing subsided, and those who had protested most loudly, soon succumbed to the lure of the rockeries.

As the summer advanced, the influence of the Garden Club became more and more apparent. The unkept lot on Lebanon St., long an eyesore, and one which had conveyed a most unfavorable impression to strangers entering the town, was transformed into a green lawn, with beautiful shrubs and brilliant flowers.

About this time, also, permission was obtained from the City Council to plant a bed of geraniums at the south side of the municipal building, - the beginning of a project later taken over by the Firemen, which has resulted in the present beautiful, well-kept plot, with its lovely shrubs and flowers.

The plot around the fountain at the north entrance to town, also blossomed forth in the gorgeous colors of the dahlias, donated by those who were anxious to show some evidence of their appreciation for the work which the Garden Club was doing.

Members of the Lions Club, and other civic minded individuals, responded wholeheartedly to a call issued by the Garden Club to help clear the lot at the corner of Fifth and Olympic Ave., where the Twin Cities Hotel formerly stood, and native trees took the place of the rubbish and debris left from the burned buildings.

The funds necessary for the carrying out of these projects was raised in various ways, - by membership dues, by the sale of plants and bulbs, donated by members and friends; teas and lunches; and \$15 was received as first prize for a float entered in the Fourth of July parade.

Meanwhile the educational phase of the Garden Club was being carried forward, under the guidance of the president, Mrs. Meyer, who gave most freely of her time and talent. Besides several most interesting and instructive programs given by members, some very fine outside speakers were procured, - among them being Mr. H. H. Tower, gladiolus specialist; Mr. Jos. Bohl, from Chas. H. Lilly Co., who talked on "Home Gardens"; Mr. Earl Livingston, on "Rhododendrons and Azaleas"; Mrs. Frank Curtis, of Seattle, lectured on "Flower Arrangement"; Mr. Harvey R. Palmer, from the Palmer Bulb Farms, on "Narcissi and Tulips"; Mr. S. D. Boyer, from the Arlington High School, spoke on "Garden Pests and Their Control"; and Mr. J. R. Gray, from the Arlington Hardware Co., on "Garden Tools and Their Care".

The subsequent increase in the number and quality of the trophy entries, was sufficient proof that the members had put to practical use the knowledge gained from the speakers.

Trips made by members to commercial gardens and flower shows in adjacent cities and towns, resulted in much valuable and inspirational information being brought back.

The club made its first garden tour on August 13th, visiting the gardens of Mr. & Mrs. John Enselman, Dr. & Mrs. Adams, Mr. & Mrs. Newton Field, Mr. & Mrs. John Reid, Mrs. Oliver, Mr. & Mrs. Nels Peterson, Mr. & Mrs. Wheeler, Mr. & Mrs. Suckling, and Mr. & Mrs. L. R. Palmer.

In the fall, the Garden Club was asked to take charge of the general decorations at the Stillinghamish Fair, in return for a concession, where a flower show and a sale of plants and bulbs were conducted.

Election of officers was held on Nov. 12th, 1934 and Mrs. Meyer was re-elected President, with Mrs. E. W. Soper, as Vice President, and Mrs. John Wrage, Secretary-Treasurer.

Meetings were discontinued during the early winter months, and resumed on February 11th, when a pot-luck luncheon was held at the home of Mrs. A. H. Moll, and tentative plans were outlined for work for the coming year.

The club continued to meet throughout the year at the City Hall, except on special occasions, when homes of the members were made available.

Under the competent supervision of Mrs. Lou Sontra, Chairman of the Park Committee, effective work at Terrace Park was carried on, the number of shrubs and plants already there, augmented by generous gifts.

Encouraged by the general reaction to the effort to beautify the triangular plot on Lebanon St., and with the assurance of assistance from several of the business men, and from the City Council, who agreed to extend water pipes to the plot, more ambitious plans were put into effect, than had been attempted the previous year; and, under the direction of Mr. Earl Livingston, the soil was prepared, and the carrying out of a permanent plan was begun, Mrs. Mose and Mrs. Wrage especially distinguishing themselves, and qualifying as real "dirt gardeners".

The program followed along the lines of those of the previous year, and the program committee was fortunate in being able to obtain a number of excellent speakers on various phases of Gardening.

Several pleasant outings were enjoyed during the summer of 1935, notable among them being a picnic lunch at Darrington, in response to an invitation from Mrs. Niederprun, followed by a walk along the White Horse trail, leading from her home; a pot-luck lunch at Warm Beach; and a trip to the annual garden festival at Monroe, where a blue ribbon was awarded to Mrs. Field for a bouquet of delphiniums, for which she had also received a star at the meeting of the Arlington Garden Club the previous day. Several members also attended the flower festival given by the ladies of the Presbyterian church at Everett.

The Stilligumish Fair Committee again asked the Garden Club to take charge of the decorations and floral display at the fair on Sept. 19th, and, working in conjunction with Mr. Livingston, who had a fine landscape gardening exhibit, - a most pleasing result was obtained.

Meanwhile, a balance had been kept on the right side of the ledger, by the continued sale of plants and blubs; and by silver teas; the third prize of \$5, received in the Fourth of July parade, also helped to replete the treasury; and it received quite a substantial boost from the proceeds of a dinner and card party given at the WorkmanHall in November.

The second annual meeting was held on Nov. 18th, 1935, and Mrs. Meyer was again re-elected President, with Mrs. L.R. Palmer, Vice-President, and Mrs. Allison Birrell, Secretary-Treasurer. 1139

A rather unusual meeting, which typified the versatile nature of the Garden Club, was a pot luck luncheon, held at the home of Mrs. Meyer early in December, after which the members spent a happy afternoon making scrap books, to be distributed to children who were obliged to spend the Christmas holidays in hospitals.

The 1936 meetings started a month earlier than in the previous year, - the first meeting being held early in January at the City Hall.

Although there had been a steady increase in membership, a new membership drive was started, prizes being offered to those gaining the most points. Individual prizes were also offered for the best garden scrap book; and the best club creed, - the one submitted by Mrs. Ed. Soper later being chosen, and adopted as the official Garden Club creed.

One of the high spots in the program this year was an exhibit of colored slides by Mr. Lawrence Lindsley, nature photographer, showing the alpine beauties of the Cascades from Mt. Rainier to Lake Chelan. Mr. Lindsley had been thirty years collecting these pictures, and they depicted Nature in the wide latitude of her varying moods, from her sunniest smiles to her wildest tantrums.

1936
Early in the summer, Mrs. Meyer found it necessary to discontinue active work as President, much to the regret of everyone, and Mrs. L.R. Palmer served most efficiently in that capacity for the remainder of the year, and, with her love of flowers, and the knowledge gained from several years experience as an amateur gardener, she proved herself well qualified for the office.

During the summer, visits were made to neighboring garden clubs, - Darrington, the Darlington Club, at Mukilteo, the Warm Beach Club, which held a joint meeting with the Arlington club, at Warm Beach, and the newly organized Marysville Garden Club, being among those visited.

Members also attended a Judging School, and, later in the summer, a lecture on African flowers, - both held at the Bon Marche, in Seattle.

The Arlington Garden Club again received a prize for a Fourth of July entry, - this year taking second honors in the Decorated Cars class.

Meanwhile, improvements at Terrace Park were going forward, the work started by the Garden Club having been supplemented by a W. P. A. project; and the Lebanon Street plot, now being looked after by a care taker, hired by the Garden Club, had become recognized as a real asset to the community.

By this time the Arlington Garden Club seemed to have become a permanent feature at the Stilligamish Fair, and again took charge of the floral decorations and display when the fair was held early in October, and a substantial addition to the treasury was made from the plant sale.

Election of officers was held on Nov. 12th, 1936 and the new club year started with Mrs. Thelma Botten as President, and Mrs. A. H. Moll, Vice-President, and Mrs. L. R. Palmer, Sec'y-Treas.; and Mrs. Mose and Mrs. Wrage were appointed to take charge of the Lebanon St. plot for the year.

At this meeting, also, Mrs. Frank Curtis, of Seattle, gave a most entertaining and instructive lecture on the making of wreaths and charm strings, and other Christmas decorations. It would be hard to estimate the far reaching effects of this meeting, but it is certain that as a result many hearts were gladdened in distant parts of the country, by holly and evergreen wreaths, and charm strings, sent from Arlington, during the holiday season.

1937
On Jan. 28th, 1937, Mrs. Botten took over her duties as President, and the new year started off with very encouraging prospects, plans being made to start improvement of the lot across from the Lebanon St. plot; and suggestions were also presented for beautifying alley-ways and other unsightly places, by scattering seeds and planting surplus perennials and bulbs.

It was gratifying to have one of the younger members of the club assume the presidency with such genuine interest and enthusiasm, which brought forth a like response from the members.

Since little could be done toward the cultivation of the soil during February and March, the cultivation of the soul was encouraged by a poem contest, in which a number of the ladies participated, and some real talent was brought to light - a poem entered by Mrs. Fred Verd, entitled "The Gift", being chosen by the judges as the best of several very commendable ones.

Donations of shrubbery and plants, as well as soil and fertilizer for the Lebanon St. plot, which was now stretching out to take in the lot across the street, showed that the enthusiasm of the committee working on that project, had met with a generous response by civic minded citizens.

Several out-of-town speakers were probed during the year - Mrs. O. H. Nelson and Mrs. Carl Driftmeier, from Mount Vernon, told of the benefits of the State Federation of Garden Clubs; Mrs. Colvin, from Marysville, and Arnold Z. Smith both gave interesting talks; Rev. William Bell, a missionary, from Central Africa, who was in charge of building and agriculture at the mission with which he was connected, gave a very instructive and entertaining talk on his work, and the living conditions in that part of the world: Mr. Livingston, a very human encyclopaedia of garden information,

was, as usual, received with much interest, as indicated by the appearance of note books and busypencils; and Mrs. Frank Curtis, whose cleverness, and ability to create a beautiful picture out of, perhaps, a rock, and a twig, and a handful of weeds, reminds one of the poem by Shakespeare,

"And this our life, exempt from public haunt
Finds tongues in trees, books in the
running brooks,
Sermons in stones, and good in everything".

Out-of-town garden clubs were invited to attend Mrs. Curtis' demonstration, and a 25¢ lunch was served in the Congregational Church parlors, adding nearly \$25 to our treasury. This, together with a plant and bake sale, early in the year, and one held at the Stilligumish Fair, where the Garden Club again had charge of the decorations and flower display, helped materially with the finances, which had been given a decided boost by the addition of about \$117, realized from the refreshment stand sponsored by the club on July 4th.

As proof of the increasing recognition of the Garden Club, as an integral factor in the betterment of the community, it was invited by the City Council to work in conjunction with the Park Committee to consider how the balance of \$65, allotted to that committee, could best be spent, the money finally being used to pay for the installation of a sprinkling system in the new garden plot.

Visits were made during the year by different groups representing the club, to the Northwest District of Federated Garden Clubs at Mt. Vernon, the Darlington Garden Club, at Mukilteo, and the Palmer Tulip Farm, also to a plant sale at the former home of Mrs. Eliza Terry Leary, in Seattle, and most interesting reports were brought back.

We also had as our guests members from Marysville, Darlington, Mt. Vernon, and Darrington Garden Clubs. This interchange of ideas has been a most helpful policy of the Arlington Garden Club since its beginning, and it has been very delightful from a social standpoint, as well.

At the annual election of officers Mrs. Enselmen whose love of flowers and natural artistic ability, well fitted her for leadership in this group, was elected President, and in required no supernatural powers to predict the successful year which followed.

Splendid programs were presented, one of the outstanding ones being a talk on "Cacti and the Desert" by Mrs. Floyd, who showed many fine specimens of these interesting plants.

Mr. Lindley again showed his colored slides, reminding us once more of the rich blessings which are ours, to be privileged to live so close to Nature's Wonderland.

Other informative programs were an illustrated talk on "Tree Pruning" by Mr. Floyd Langdon, and a talk on "Iris", by Mr. Gaffney, and "Roses and Shrub Borders", by Mr. Livingston, - and Mrs. Curtis, who always brings us new ideas and inspiration, on "Christmas Decorations".

Visitors were welcomed from Snohomish, Warm Beach, Marysville, Mt. Vernon, and Darlington Garden Clubs, and Mrs. Champ, from Lewis County, and Mrs. Arne Jensen, again talked to us on the Federation.

Our Club was represented at the Highland Gardens in Seattle, the Sunnyside Club, the Chrysanthemum Show at Rumbaugh's, the Stilligumish Garden Club at Stanwood, and the Monroe Garden Club, also at the Marysville Flower Show, where Mrs. Enselmen acted as one of the judges, and she also served in that capacity at the Darlington Home and Garden Club show.

An essay contest on "I love my garden because-" was won by Mrs. Fred Verd and Mrs. Soper.

Always on the alert for anything affecting the beauty of our community, the Garden Club, upon hearing rumors that the maple trees on Olympic Ave. were to be destroyed, because of damage to the sidewalks, presented a new version of "Woodman, Spare That Tree" in a letter to the City Council, which was supplemented by a visit from a committee from the club, who suggested that the trees be root pruned, and thus saved for a few years longer, during which time more desirable shade trees might be planted, - and, as a result most of the trees in question were given a longer lease on life.

Our organization, in conjunction with the local Sportsmen, sponsored a Bird House contest open to boys and girls up to eighteen years of age, and donated prizes for the three best entries. The winning bird houses became the property of the Garden Club, one of which was placed on the Lebanon St. plot. A decorative sign, bearing the name of the Arlington Garden Club, was purchased, and also placed on this plot.

Money to replenish the treasury was raised in various ways during the year, - by teas and luncheons, and food sales, - and a refreshment booth, under our sponsorship, on the Fourth of July, brought in about \$30.

The outstanding feature of the year was a "Night Lighting of the Gardens" demonstration, given at the Mose Gardens, by the Puget Sound Power & Light Co., a luncheon served during the afternoon, being well patronized.

This organization again had charge of the floral exhibits and decorations at the Stilligamish Fair, in exchange for a booth where food and plants were sold: and at Christmas time the club again sponsored an outdoor Christmas tree contest, several gaily lighted trees being entered in a spirit of friendly competition.

Mrs. Enselman was re-elected as President for 1939, and under her efficient leadership, the Garden Club carried out its always progressive program, interspersed with innovations which added zest to the routine matters.

The Contest Committee arranged a Year Book Cover Design contest - thus bringing into the open more hidden talents among our members, and Mrs. Fred Verd, again demonstrating her versatility, took first honors.

A mole eradicating campaign was conducted, a bounty of 5¢ per mole captured, dead or alive, being offered. Doubtless fortunes were made and spent in the imaginations of some of our young citizens as they contemplated various methods of snaring these beasts, and, for awhile, some of the moles about town had a rather unhappy time; however, our treasurer had no real cause for worry, only about \$1.50 being paid out for the drive.

It was found necessary, during the year, to limit our membership to fifty, as most of the meetings were held at the homes of the members, - and more than this number cannot easily be accommodated in the average home.

In the spring, zinnia seeds were presented to the members by the Frazier Seed Co., with the request that a zinnia show be held in the late summer, prizes being offered for the best showing. September 16th was the date later decided upon, when a very beautiful display of the gorgeous flowers was held at the Backstrom Motor Co. sales rooms, - nine prizes being awarded in three separate divisions.

Meanwhile the improvement of the Lebanon St. plot, as well as the lot across the street, continued, - and large concrete blocks and rocks were placed along the highway on each side of the street, to prevent motorists from breaking down the shrubbery.

April 24, 1939, was one of the red letter days in the history of the Garden Club, when at an impressive ceremony held at the Lebanon St. garden, presided over by Mrs. Enselman, the plot was dedicated to the City of Arlington, members of the Garden Club, City officials, and other prominent citizens attending.

Money to carry on the various activities was raised in the usual manner, by sales, teas, etc. A float entered in the Fourth of July parade, received third prize, and the booth at which lunches were served, also yielded a worthwhile profit.

As part of our program for the year, the following speakers were presented: Mrs. Arne Jensen, of Mukilteo, who spoke on the Federation, Mr. W. R. Dalgren, of Seattle, on "Landscaping and Evergreens", Mr. John Wrage, on "Soils and Fertilizers"; Mrs. J. Houston Reusch, of Seattle, on "Flower Arrangement", and Mr. Earl Livingston on "Berried Perennials".

Visits were made to the Lakeside Garden Club, at Lake Stevens, and the Stilliguamish Garden Club and Flower Show, at East Stanwood, - and to a lecture on "Flower Arrangement", by Richard Malloy, at the Grand Leader, in Everett.

As in previous years, the Garden Club looked after the flower show and decorations at the fair, and at Christmas time, a committee was appointed to act as judges of the outdoor Christmas trees.

The election of Mrs. Soper, for President for 1940, to succeed Mrs. Enselman, presaged another interesting and successful year.

1940
Mrs. Soper assumed her duties with her usual thoroughness and efficiency.

It was during this term of office that the Garden Club sponsored a movement to plant uniform, ornamental shade trees in new parking strips throughout the city, and this project, with the full approval and co-operation of the City Council, as well as the property owners, insures an increasing beauty of the streets, as the years pass.

The garden plot, on Lebanon St., having reached the stage where regular pruning and transplanting was necessary, it was voted that Mr. Livingston be employed to look after this, for which the Garden Club was to pay him \$20. a year.

Early in the summer we entered a float in the Marysville Strawberry Festival parade; and on the Fourth of July, the club took charge of the election of Miss Coulmbia, and the purchasing of costumes for her and her attendants, - and decorating the float, - the theme being "Peace and Democracy, - and for this effort they were allowed \$100 by the general committee, the money to be used for street beautification. Miss Bonnie Cohoon, a daughter of one of our members, was chosen as Miss Columbia.

A garden tour was held in July, when the outstanding gardens were visited, and they still showed a profusion of color despite the fact that it was ~~past~~ mid-season, ~~and~~ the early summer flowers were past their prime, and the fall flowers still dormant.

In September an all day flower show was held at the Methodist Church, which was well attended, and \$25 was added to our treasury.

At Christmas time \$10 was contributed towards prizes for Christmas decorations.

Money was raised in various ways during the year, among other things being a series of card parties, and sales of plants.

Visits were made by representatives from the Garden Club to the Marysville Garden Club, Has-kill Gardens, at Edmonds, Darlington Garden Club, Hubbard Peony Farms, a lecture by Mr. Conway on "Flower Arrangement" at the Balboa Theater in Everett, a Judging School, at Seattle, and the Darrington Fair.

Speakers during the year were, - Mrs. Harriet Robertson, from Seattle, on "Landscaping"; Guilford Russell, on "Alpine Gardens"; Rachel Higley, Warm Beach, on "Rhododendrons"; Mrs. Ralph Parkhurst, Seattle, on "Flower Arrangement"; Mrs. Vonnella Bailey, Stanwood, on "Birds"; Mrs. Voltier, from the Marine Gardens, Edmonds, on "Mums"; Mr. Marxen on "Vitamin B1"; J. R. Gray, on "Tools and Their Use & Care"; and Mrs. Enselman, on "Corsage Making".

(By Irma M. Leach)

- 1941 -

History continued by Mrs. Edna Verd

The year 1939 had marked the last Stillaguimish Valley Fair and 1941 marked the last Fourth of July celebration, two events in which the Club took an active interest. War clouds were beginning to gather and our boys were volunteering for a year of selective service to their country. With the slogan, "Beauty for Home Morale" the Club carried on under the leadership of Mrs. Jess Cahoon whose ardent love of flowers made her an excellent presiding officer. Mrs. Muriel Valen was her secretary.

The financial condition of the Club was excellent. The treasury held \$143.59 of which two-thirds was spent during the year for the club's project, Town Beautification. Mrs. John Enselman and her committee did marvelous work in having dogwood and hawthorn trees purchased, planted under the direction of Mr. Guilford Russell, and collecting for the same. The trees, lining our residential streets, will stand as a monument to the ideals of the Garden Club and the nature-loving women in its personnel.

A second project of the Club during 1941 was the Garden Improvement Contest in which the Civic Club and Commercial Club joined with the Garden Club offering prizes for the most improvement in home gardens. Score cards were printed and in the fall prizes were awarded, culminating much work on the part of Mrs. E. V. Stanford and her associate workers.

The annual Flower Show was held in the basement of the M.E. Church on May 26, and featured also a Hobby Show. Tea was served during the after noon and in the evening a program drew a large attendance. The entries were of the loveliest and proved that May is an ideal month for the garden show. Other money-making affairs were two card parties and a plant sale.

During the year several of the members took long trips including the president, Mrs. Cahoon, who traveled East and afterwards gave the Club a lovely description of the wild lilac and wild iris in Oregon; Mrs. W.H. Verd, who told about her trip to California; Mrs. A.H. Moll, who described the many varieties of cactii she saw in Arizona and Texas, and Mrs. John Wrage who gave us a word picture of the rock gardens under the flood-lights at Diablo Dam.

The Club was entertained by the Marysville Garden Club, met with the Grange to hear a lecture on buds, went to Everett to hear Dr Snyder at Rumbaugh's Auditorium and many of the members availed themselves

of the rare opportunity to attend the National Flower Show held in Seattle. Mr. Livingston, Mrs. Fuller and Mrs. Albert Johnson were guest speakers before the Club. Papers by Mrs. Lillian Oliver on Color and Design, Mr. Russell on Perennials, Mrs. L.R. Palmer on All Season Bloom in the Garden, Mrs. Soper on Perennial Borders, Mrs. Fred McDonald on Oriental Arrangements and Mrs. George Davies on Hardy Vines were special features on the program.

At the December meeting plans were made for the decorated outdoor Christmas tree contest. Mrs. Enselman gave a fine paper on Christmas Customs and Legends and Mrs. Cahoon was presented with a valuable book on Flowers in appreciation of her year's work as presiding officer of the club. Christmas presents were exchanged and all spent a delightful afternoon.

1942
As the urgency for Red Cross work, home defence, and other war activities became uppermost in minds of all American women, club work too secondary place; curtailment of all social activities became evident and only the desire to keep alive our plot at the town's entrance and to complete the almost finished planting of residential trees, kept the club together in 1942. The club had difficulty in securing a president and only by cutting down the number of meetings did Mrs. Fred Verd finally consent to preside. Her first meeting opened with the singing of America and the presentation of small flags to each of the members present.

Victory Gardens were stressed as a project for individual members and vegetables were added to the trophy list. The list now included three horticultural divisions: flowers, vegetables and fruit. Mr. Arnold Smith addressed the club on Insects in Victory Gardens and booklets on the subject of planting and cultivating Victory Gardens ~~and booklets on the subject of planting and cultivating Victory Gardens~~ were distributed.

A Home Beautification contest was conducted for the second time--the Lion's Club and Commercial Club joining with us in offering prizes. Mrs. James Miller of Bryant gave the club a large number of Gladiola bulbs which were distributed among the members, who planted them in honor of Mrs. Miller's son, the first of this community reported to have given his life for his country.

A tour to the home of Mrs. Snelson to see her primrose garden was greatly enjoyed and the club picnic at the home of Mrs. M. Jacobson was another

delightful occasion although on both occasions "A little rain did fall." At the suburban home of Mrs. George Davies, Miss Gertrude Palmer showed her colored slides and gave an interesting talk on planned garden planting. Other speakers during the year were Mrs. J.C. Foster on Herbs; Mrs. Ziebell, who spoke interestingly on Roses and Their Culture; Mrs. Jack Healy read a paper on Old Fashioned Gardens which showed diligent research, and Mrs. Enselman who, assisted by Mrs. Lamp and Mrs. Cahoon, gave a demonstration on corsages and arrangements of dried grasses and flowers.

In the fall the members worked hard to put across the Annual Flower Show and it was financially most successful, with great beauty of floral exhibits and a very fine program. The entries were judged by vote of those attending. Mr. Ira W. Bedle of Seattle showed motion pictures taken by himself on a trip through Europe and scenes were shown which were very likely destroyed during the war.

On November 26 the beloved husband of the club president passed away and the club members contributed lovely flowers from their gardens to make a beautiful spray. The December meeting completed the work of the year and at that time Mrs. Verd was presented a lovely plant. Prizes were awarded for the greatest number of stars in the regular trophy contest in which there has been no lessening of interest. Mrs. John Wrage, who had been exceedingly faithful in supervising the Lebonon Street garden plot was elected to the presidency. Mrs. Louis Sontra again became the club secretary and Mrs. Fred Verd was elected treasurer for the ensuing year.

One of the modern proverbs is, "If you want a thing done, choose a busy person to do it." So the Club proved it's wisdom by choosing Mrs. John Wrage for its president for 1943. Washington's birthday was the date of the first meeting, and it was held in the Congregational Church. Mrs. Wrage planned to keep the members busy too by selecting as the principal activity for the year VICTORY GARDENS on plots one thousand feet square or 25x50 feet. Mr. Floyd Langdon addressed the Club on a plan to plow and offer to the public plots at the High School, but later this did not materialize. Instead a field was divided into plots on the Sam Patrick farm. Twelve adults and two children entered the contest for the best Victory Garden, who followed the rules laid down by the Club in score cards printed for us by the High School. At the end of the year a prize of \$10.00 (donated by the Commercial Club for first prize) was awarded to Mrs. L. A. Wheeler. Second prize to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lamp was donated by the Club as were the first prize to Rosemary Jacobsen and second to Evelyn Wallitner. Dr. and Mrs. E.M. Adams were awarded third adult prize--a sack of Valley Gem potatoes donated by John Wrage.

Capt Wilder was contacted at the Air Port regarding plantings for the Navy Base grounds, and a Mr. Dalgren was responsible for the transplanting of several fine shrubs from the Lebanon Street plot. We were glad to assist the Social Center committee by furnishing arrangements to beautify the rooms in the Robertson Building used by the soldiers and sailors for rest and recreation. We also furnished pastries for the cooky jar, all the committees working faithfully.

Even during these dark hours of strife and sorrow with dark clouds constantly hanging over the world, the Club women were giving thought to the beauty needed to keep alive the spirit of faith and hope. The Lebanon plot did not suffer neglect. Mr. Russell donated four or five flats of seedlings which were planted for future blooms. Mrs. Krauskoff, Mrs. Lamp and Mrs. Philip Pearson doing the work. During the year Mrs. Jess Cohoon gave a card party for a few friends and the Club benefited by \$1.75.

The Club picnic was held at the home of Mrs. M. Jacobsen whose flower garden is the delight and envy of all her friends. At a meeting held in the Congregational Church in September it was voted to hold the seventh annual garden show on October 19th. Many diligent workers put across a fine show with John Wrage showing excellent moving pictures of work being done at the Valley Gem Farm. Reverend Gordon delighted the audience with a chalk talk.

In November Mrs. Langdon demonstrated Christmas arrangements and how to construct a Della Robbia wreath. A completed wreath, lovely with cedar, fruit and frosted cones, was presented Mrs. Wrage from Mrs. Langdon and Mrs. Soper. The following month Mrs. Lou Sontra read a paper on Flower and Tree Legends of Christmas, also the story of mistletoe. Miss Johnson's chorus of eight girls sang Christmas carols and there was an exchange of gifts from the garden. Mrs. John Enselman, a past president and enthusiastic club worker, paid a surprise visit, the first since her serious illness, and she and the club president, Mrs. Wrage, were presented gifts of heather.

Speakers heard during the year were Mr. Langdon, Dr. Handley and Mr. Kaylor of the Kaylor Gladiolus Farms near Lakewood. Mrs. E. W. Soper and Mrs. Fred Verd read papers on "Greens and Their Vitamines" and Mrs. Soper also talked on Winter Storage of Vegetables.

1944 The Club did not meet again until March 6th when Mrs. Wrage who had been re-elected to the Presidency opened her home to the members. She was supported in office by Mrs. Albert Lamb, vice president; Mrs. Philip Pearson, secretary; and Mrs. Verd, treasurer, and a membership of whose numbers and quality we could be very proud. Mrs. Roesch, mother of J. C. Carpenter, who had been president of a Garden Club at Wapales, Florida, gave a most favorable talk on that southern State.

We had a call from Capt Williams asking for shrubs and plants for the Radar Station and several members promised to donate same. Nine dollars was donated to landscape the War Memorial at the county court house, a project undertaken by the Everett Garden Club. As the response was

not very good by other clubs we received profuse thanks for our donation.

The Club voted to again sponsor and promote planting of Victory Gardens as we were deep in the cruel war and nothing we could do was too much to aid the cause of our fighting men. In the same spirit it was voted ~~not~~ to have a Garden show in 1944.

In April one of our beloved members and pioneer of Arlington, Miss Christina Wilson, passed away as did Mrs. Ida Handley, mother of Mrs. W. H. Verd, and cards and floral tributes were sent to the bereaved families.

After our hard work in the Spring when we spaded, raked and hoed, when we planted seeds with the hope of every seed growing to mature fine vegetables and flowers, we looked forward to the luncheon and sociability at the Jacobsen home. The skies were gray and we must perforce enjoy the bounteous repast indoors served to 22 members and 5 guests. After filling ourselves to repletion we wandered outdoors to admire the lovely flowers Stillaguamish Valley can and does produce, and to buy slips and plants from our generous hostess.

Late in the year we returned the visit of the Snohomish Garden Club which had sent us the speakers Mrs. Strueber and Mrs. Hubbard in October. For their Christmas Show, Mrs. Cohoon, who attended with several others from our Club, entered a synthetic holiday arrangement with a Madonna and won first prize.

Snohomish furnished us also with Mrs. Killien as a speaker on Desirable Shrubs from which we elicited valuable information. Mrs. Gertrude Wold gave us a real treat by showing views she had taken from Mt Pilchuck. They were breathtaking in their beauty. Mrs. Soper gave a talk on Chrysanthemums and told what the woods and gardens have to offer in the way of Christmas gifts. During the year Mrs. Russell gave information on how to cut leaves and slips from house plants; Mrs. Lamp described the lovely Butchart Gardens at Victoria, B. C., and other real treats of a descriptive nature were enjoyed.

Christmas gifts were exchanged by matching halves of seasonal cards. Mrs. Wrage who retired as president after two years service during

1945
which she had done all the Club work she could squeeze in besides taking on, because of labor shortage, much additional farm work, was presented a gift of pottery with sincere words of appreciation. Next year's officers will be Mrs. Albert Lamp, President, a willing and enthusiastic leader; Mrs. Floyd Langdon, Vice President, a quiet but diligent worker; Mrs. Philip Pearson, Secretary, a little English woman who for a year had written the minutes we delighted to hear; Mrs. Hildor Eliason, Treasurer, a newcomer to the Club, an industrious housewife with all the know-how in raising flowers and vegetables.

Our prospects for 1945 were bright indeed. Our first order of business for the new club year was the discussion of joining the State Federation which at former meetings had been voted down but which not met with the approval of the members and we duly became affiliated with the State and County groups. Printed matter and privilege of certain speakers besides the pleasure and educational features of the quarterly meetings were made available to us and during the year many of our members enjoyed out-of-town gatherings. Mrs. E. G. Soper was appointed to represent our Club on the District Board and we paid our first State and County dues amounting to \$7.24. During the year reports were given on meetings held at Edison, Anacortes and other places and on the State Federation meeting in Seattle attended by Mrs. Lamp.

The many talks and demonstrations given by our own members during the year added much to our growing fund of information. Mrs. Snelson gave us a talk on Primrose culture, Mrs. Wrage on Rock-hill Everbearing Strawberries, also a second demonstration on how to start seed flats, Mrs. Sontra on correct pruning of roses, Mrs. Cohoon on flower arrangement, Mrs. Jacobsen demonstrated making a wreath of daffodils which was later placed at the War Memorial, Mrs. Soper on potting of bulbs for winter bloom, Mrs. Enselman devoted a morning to amateurs desiring instruction on arrangements and gave an afternoon talk on line and color harmony. Mrs. L. C. Palmer made us acquainted with our feathered friends and told of the benefit birds are to the gardener. And last but far from least was Mrs. Langdon's illustrations on combining fruits and vegetables for attractive centerpieces.

Outside speakers were Mrs. L. N. Hundt of Seattle who delighted us with her corsage-making for which she used flowers and feathers. Mr. William Lloyd of the Soil Conservation Service, ably talked on Washington Trees fully illustrating with specimen branches and cones. He talked to us at the home of Mrs. Soper while we rested in an ideal setting on a summer's afternoon following a hearty pot-luck luncheon. This followed the picnic at the Jacobsen home where Mrs. Nehammer of Mercer Island made eleven arrangements all different in design and unique in arrangement.

Plans for the annual Garden Show were progressing under the chairmanship of Mrs. Jess Co-hoon. The date was set for June 21st and a contest on advertising posters created interest. Cecil Solly announced the coming attraction on his radio program and when the big day arrived we were all prepared, tables set up, space properly divided, tea-tables invitingly set, all committees working. Exhibits, varied and lovely, included midsummers most gorgeous flowers; choice luscious fruit and vegetables, edible corsages made by Mrs. Sidney Pierce of Everett; gayly colored pottery, the product of the clever fingers of Mrs. Gertrude Wold. That money was plentiful during the war period was evinced by a total receipts of \$137.60. Expenses were \$44.75 leaving a net of \$92.85.

In September it was decided to make our Club year conform with that of Federated Clubs-- October 1 to September 30, and the dues were raised from 50¢ to 75¢ a year to include State and District tax. Hence at the October meeting election of officers was held, all current officers being re-elected. Annual reports told of much accomplished which space forbids us to mention.

Mrs. Lou Sontra who had been the unfailing and unfaltering chairman of the Lebanon garden plot was presented a gift in recognition of her years service, same to be used in beautifying her new home overlooking Kent's Prairie. Mrs. Lamp received a Club gift conveying the Club's appreciation of her untiring efforts and she in turn presented gifts to Mrs. Jacobsen as her most helpful member, as well as to the secretary, treasurer and vice president. The Club year had been only 8 months and we seemed to be only in the middle of the work but we go forward to another year with full resolve to make it a most pleasant and profitable one.

Poem

Poem

Wishing to comply with State Federation rules that the club year begin in October election of officers was held after Mrs. Lamp had served a highly successful short term of nine months. All officers were re-elected and we entered upon another year of active and fruitful club work.

The trees planted by the club in the parking strips were branching into ornamental beauty but some had to be replaced. This was done at the club's expense and fertilizer was purchased and spread.

Mrs. Sontra, our faithful chairman of the garden plot, was active throughout the year. She brought to our attention the need of a tool shed where implements can be safely locked away. She was given the go ahead signal.

Outstanding in the calendar of events was the Anniversary meeting held in Mrs. Jack Healy's lovely home. Mrs. Lamp welcomed five past-presidents and fifteen charter members. Mrs. Olive Rod sang for us, "The Birth of the Flowers." Mrs. Fred Verd read the club history from its organization and as each president's year was read she received her choice of lovely feather corsages passed on a garden basket. The members enjoyed reminiscing over pictures "Before and After" of our Lebanon garden plot.

Another outstanding club event was our first attempt at being hosts to the District Federation. Mr. C. L. Marsh having offered the Pioneer Building for any of our club activities, the meeting was held there, about 200 attending. Chicken dinner was served at tables decorated for the twelve months of the year. We cleared \$30.24 on the dinner.

Mrs. Ethel Romig Fuller, Northwest poet of note, living at Sky House, near Darrington, was becoming acquainted with us and began to figure as an inspiration, not only for her poetry but for building a garden on the barren and rocky heights of her mountainside.

Mrs. Lamp brought us back an interesting report on the 2-day State Federation meeting held in Seattle. Mesdames Enselman, Wrage, Soper, Lamp, Cohoon, Grewe, and Veilleux attended a 3-day judging school also in Seattle, and later gave us the benefit of much that they learned.

The 4th of July saw a committee of our members busily engaged in building a float featuring the "Horn of Plenty" which won us second prize of \$ 25.00. Mrs. Fred Verd was chairman of this float.

The flower show on September 19 was a gala event of which Mrs. E. R. Meier was chairman. The beautiful flowers, entered in large numbers, the arrangements and special features together with a good program made the affair an unqualified success. Mrs. Blossom Parkhurst demonstrated flower arrangements. Ethel Romig Fuller also was on the afternoon program.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stinson of Seattle attended our picnic at Mrs. Jakobsen's and later gave us instructions on corsage making. Mrs. Leighton of the lilac gardens at Edmonds was an interesting speaker and showed many lovely specimens which we had never seen before---blue lilacs and deep red ones.

Mrs. B. F. (Duskin) Hall of Marysville enlightened us on the culture of tuberous begonias. Mr. Harry Leckenby of Seattle spoke on control of plant diseases and pests. Mrs. Al Blair talked on dahlia culture and Mrs. Krauskoff on window boxes.

In addition to these Mrs. Davies read a paper on Holley and Mrs. Soper spoke on garden design. A garden quiz by Mrs. Sontra and a bulb identification contest added zest to the meetings.

The club was now firmly entrenched as a part of Chuckanut District. We follow Federation rules as to judging, shows and terms of office. Mrs. E. W. Soper was the first of our members to be honored with a district office being appointed Horticulture Chairman of the district.

1947 was still another successful year for the ARLINGTON GARDEN CLUB.

Mrs. Phillip Pearson, who with her cheerful, friendly, and humorous understanding, directed another friendly and cooperative year.

Beginning October 14th, 1947, Mrs. John Enselman, past president, installed the new officers in a most impressive ceremony, giving them their obligation in her most inimitable, impressive, friendly manner. With Mrs. Pearson were installed, Mrs. Hildur Eliason as vice president, Mrs. Fred Verd as secretary, and Mrs. Geo. Davis as treasurer. To Mrs. Al. Lamp our outgoing president, she gave sincere praise for her leadership.

The year started with a Christmas party and regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Frank Donnell.

The highlight of February was the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kauskroff for which the Garden Club arranged a handsome center piece for the tea table; this was presented together with a poem of congratulation composed by the president, Mrs. Pearson.

A large delegation attended the district meeting at Bellingham. We were proud to have Mrs. Soper who is also District Horticulture Chairman, give a fine talk on weeds and their eradication.

Mrs. Soper, Enselman, Cahoon, and Lamp attended the third judging school in Seattle.

April brought Mr. Nels Bruseth with his grand colored slides of wild flowers and mountain scenery of the Cascades.

Mrs. Lamp and Cahoon received congratulations on winning a good share of the ribbons at the Everett Flower Show.

The new tool house for the garden plot was completed.

In June another flower show under the leadership of Mrs. Lamp was enjoyed by the community.

July brought a picnic at the Sopers with two distinguished guests, Ethel Roenig Fuller, the poetess and her husband.

At the July 4th parade, the Garden Club won first prize in the Floral Floats which amounted to \$35.00. Mrs. Hildur Eliason was chairman.

Talks on birds, foundation planting, gardens of the Bible, compost, tulip, iris, and gladioli culture and moving pictures all helped educate and entertain the membership.

Mrs. Lamp and Cahoon have graduated and are now qualified to judge any flower show.

So ended another year with a president who really enjoyed her year as presiding officer.

1948

Mrs. John Enselman again did the honors in installing the new officers for 1947-1948. Mrs. Hildor Eliason was chosen President, Mrs. Al Blair vice president, Mrs. Alfred Meugniot Secretary, and Mrs. Frank Germain treasurer.

In December, under the direction of Mrs. Frank Germain, a huge decorated Christmas tree was erected on the garden plot. So much favorable comment was expressed by the Community, that it is hoped Christmas decorations for the garden plot will be adopted as one of the definite projects of the ARLINGTON GARDEN CLUB as has been the sponsorship of the Christmas Home Decoration Contest.

More ambitious plans for a year book were used this year by chairman Mrs. Al Lamp. The books were printed by the Arlington Press. Poems heading each month's program were composed by the Club's poetess, Mrs. Phillip Pearson.

Several out of town speakers were obtained, but each month a member or two was also scheduled to speak on a gardening subject. We all were pleased with the research, understanding, and intelligent outlook of the Garden Club members in gardening. The ARLINGTON GARDEN CLUB has really graduated from the Beginners to the High School class of gardening.

Always happy to share! -- cones and moss were taken to the State meeting at Seattle, by Mrs. Lamp where they were sold to help raise funds for a scholarship.

A box of seeds valued at \$3.98 was sent to Europe through the Church World Service. Shrubs and plants were given to the Government Radar Station.

Two pot luck picnic meetings were held, one at the friendly farm home of Mrs. Marinus Jakobsen and the other at the home of Mrs. Alfred Eliason at Oso where a special birthday cake and ice cream were extra treats as it was the birthday of Madame President, Mrs. Eleanor Eliason.

In June a letter of protest was written and a personal appearance made at the city council

against an anticipated sale of Terrace Park.

Three members attended the State Federation meeting at Wenatchee. Mrs. Hildor Eliason representing the Arlington Garden Club, Mrs. E. Soper as State Legislative chairman and Mrs. Albert Lamp, District Secretary, represented our District in the absence of the President.

The Stanwood and Fidelity clubs were also visited, also lectures by Mr. Carl Starker and other noted gardeners.

Our Garden Club has two qualified judges, Mrs. Lamp and Cohoon having received their certificates. Mrs. Enselman and Soper each have one more course to go.

Another honor was bestowed upon one of our members. Mrs. Lamp had the honor of being chosen as first guest arranger for the Northwest Gardens Magazine. The prize winning arrangement was photographed and described in the magazine.

We again did our civic duty and entered a float in the July 4th parade. Mrs. Al Blair as chairman did an excellent job. The cooperation of the membership was a pleasure to observe when the really big affair of the year, the Garden Club show under the skillful directorship of Mrs. John Enselman took place. Entitled "The Harvest Festival", held at the Pioneer Hall, it was the biggest, the best and the most outstanding and educational to date.

Another garden club member celebrated a golden wedding anniversary. In Sept. the Garden Club honored Mr. and Mrs. Will Verd by sending them a lovely container of flowers and congratulations.

The sale of plants and silver teas help to keep the balance of the Treasurer high on the right side.

It was a very successful year of service and an advantageous year for the presiding officer Mrs. Hildor Eliason and the membership.

Alice Sontra , Historian
October 1st, 1948.

1948-1949

According to Federation rules, Mrs. Hildor Eliason started her second year as president, Mrs. Al. Blair vice president, Mrs. Germain, treasurer and Mrs. Minnie Blair, superseding Mrs. McDonald as secretary.

Starting the year 1949 with the gardens Clubs renowned reputation; another blue ribbon was won at the Chuckanut District Federation of Garden Clubs at Mt. Vernon with the "Sophisticated Scarecrow a Halloween arrangement done by Mrs. Albert Lamp.

Mrs. Leo McCullough was chairman of the years program and year book, and with her committee gave a varied and educational years program and prepared attractive and well made year books.

The Lutheran social rooms were chosen as the meeting place for the year. December was a very active month; the decoration of the huge Christmas tree at the garden plot and again sponsoring the home decorations and Christmas trees. Mrs. Dan Hunter, Mr. Will Verd and Cal Marsh enjoyed judging the Christmas Decorations, as they had a preview of Christmas, judging at twilight with the snow softly falling and a big percent of the Arlington windows and doorways brilliantly illuminated. The Arlington Garden Club was again commended for sponsoring the Yuletide decorations. Gifts were also given to the two old peoples homes. Mrs. Cohoon and Lamp gave demonstrations on Christmas arrangements. Mrs. James R. Pierson read a poem written by herself called "20th anniversary of the Settlement of Mt. Higgens". Movies were also shown by The Standard Oil Co. of "Blossom Time in the State of Washington" and winter scenes of the Olympic scenes in Switzerland.

In January Mrs. Cohoon and Lamp again received blue and red ribbons for dried material arrangements at the district meeting. Winning ribbons at district meetings is getting to be a habit as Mrs. Lamp won a blue and Mrs. Soper and Enselman a red at the spring meeting in Everett.

The garden club float for the 4th of July, with Mrs. Leo McCullough as chairman, was again first prize winner in the floral division.

On Aug. 1st Mrs. Enselman and Soper arranged a table at the new Bon Marche in Everett and again won first prize, the club receiving a ten dollar gift certificate from the store.

Mrs. Soper, Wrage and Bagley were appointed a special committee to supervise replanting of

garden park on railroad grounds. A \$100.00 was voted this committee for expenses.

Excellent speakers were heard throughout the year. Mr. Cole on Chrysanthemums; Mrs. White on garden craft; Mrs. Nan Boyer a talk on birds with Mrs. Floyd Langdon showing slides. Mrs. Soper gave an excellent talk on primroses; Miss Honoria Philbin an advance talk on color, and Mrs. Lamp and Cohoon judged our arrangements at the May meeting by point scoring as is done at a regular flower show. A great deal of useful information was gained by the club.

The club entertained their husbands at an evening meeting. This was on our regular meeting date in Jan. DR. Hanley of Seattle was our guest speaker and his subject was "English Gardens".

We were asked by the Library Board to make arrangement for Tea Table for Library Tea. Mrs. Lamp made a lovely centerpiece using a May basket as her theme.

A "better than ever" Harvest Festival was held in the Pioneer Building with Mrs. Wrage as Chairman. It was a very successful show and well attended.

In Sept. the garden club members were saddened to learn of the passing of their faithful secretary, Mrs. Minnie Blair.

The climax of the year came when on Sept. 28, Mrs. Albert Lamp was installed to the highest office of the Chuckanut district, as director, Mrs. Edward Soper appointed corresponding secretary, Mrs. Hildor Eliason registration clerk and Mrs. John Enselman judging school chairman. Mrs. Eliason presented Mrs. Lamp a corsage of chrysanthemums, grown in Mrs. Stout's garden and made into a corsage by Mrs. Enselman. Also on behalf of the Arlington Garden Club, Mrs. Soper presented a basket of golden chrysanthemums to Mrs. Lamp. We wish Mrs. Lamp two golden years, The Arlington Garden Club to be the strongest link in the golden chain of Federated Clubs of the Chuckanut district. At this meeting we invited the district to be our guests at the winter meeting and they very graciously accepted our invitation.

In 15 years Arlington Garden Club members have been educated in the high art of seeking beauty, through the speakers, the sharing of slips and plants bulbs; the cooperation and friendly exchange of knowledge --- of what we know of growing plants or the art of arrangement. All this has made us good neighbors, and Arlington, through the garden club, a

friendly, pleasant town, characterized by beautiful lawns and gardens, parking strips and the welcome mat-- The Garden Plot.

Alice Sontra, Historian
October 1, 1949

***** 1949 *****
1950

History continued by Rouie N. Enselman

On October 10, 1949 another chapter in the history of the Arlington Garden Club was begun.

New officers assuming the executive responsibilities for the ensuing two year term were Mrs. L.C. Palmer, president; Mrs. Mae Pautzke, Vice President; Mrs. William Bagley, Secretary and Mrs. Will Verd, Treasurer.

Mrs. Albert Lamp who had recently been installed as Chuckanut District Director, had charge of the installation ceremony, presenting each officer with a pretty corsage. Mrs. Palmer accepted the gavel in a gracious and sincere manner, then with her usual executive ability announced committee chairmen selected to carry out the coming year's work. The Year Book committee headed by Mrs. Leo McCullough was instructed to proceed at once with drawing up the Club's program.

Members were informed that Arlington was scheduled to serve as hostess for the Chuckanut District meeting to be held in January of 1950. Mrs. E.W. Soper was named chairman. At once, ideas and suggestions were in order for an unusual theme for this special occasion.

Before the meeting adjourned, Mrs. Hildor Eliason retiring president, was presented a beautiful cup and saucer in recognition of her untiring two years service as president.

November 14, club members gathered for an all-day meeting. Starting at 10 A.M. Mrs. Jess Cohoon demonstrated Holiday arrangements. At noon a bountiful pot luck luncheon was enjoyed. The afternoon was taken up with lessons on "Swags and Wreath" making, by Mrs. John Enselman and "Arranging Fruits and Vegetables" by Mrs. Albert Lamp. A business session was held also, during which Mrs. Soper, chairman of arrangements for the District meeting, named co-workers and presented entertainment plans. "Visions of Spring" was selected as motif. Forced red tulips and pussy willows would serve as decorations, with garden seeds furnished by the Lilly Seed Company as favors. Action was taken to sponsor the out-door Christmas decorations for homes, for which prizes were to be offered. This is an excellent community project in that it adds much beauty and cheer to the town throughout the Holiday season.

In keeping with the customary procedure, the December meeting included a gay Christmas party. Carols were sung and gifts were exchanged around a lovely tree. All enjoyed small christmas puddings topped with lighted candles. Action was taken to send table size decorated trees and gift baskets to all the known shut-ins in town. Several members reported the pleasure of attending the beautiful display, " Winter-Wonderland" staged by the Everett Garden Club.

By January 9th real suspense was being felt as to whether the forced tulips for the District meeting would reveal their hidden beauty by the 18 of January. (Looking ahead just a bit - the tulips did not bloom too profusely, but ingenuity came to the rescue - paper tulips were used to fill in the vacant spots remarks heard that day were " Oh! those lovely tulips, this time of the year, how did they ever get so many blooms at once..... but the suspense the progress of those tulips did cause!!!!). Committees had been working diligently to complete all details for the event, and all seemed under control except what the weather-man might have in mind. During the afternoon Mrs. Jess Cohoon gave instructions on the circular line in arrangements, and Mrs. Albert Lamp shared with the membership, her pleasure of travel through many states of the Union.

An evening meeting in honor of the Graden Club husbands was held on February 13. Each man present received a valentine and a package of seeds - a gentle reminder that it was almost time for the shovel and hoe. Dr. Paul Brown spoke on "Landscaping". His subject was planned to be of interest to men.

It was announced during the business session that Arlington Garden Club had been assigned the responsibility of selecting and supplying the badges for the annual State Convention of Garden Clubs to be held in Bellingham June 15, 16, 17. A marker was to be placed on the planter boxes at the High School and the boxes replanted.

March 13 - Spring brought forth plans for the care of the Lebanon garden plot. Work bees were planned and several of the club's faithful workers promised to do their part again in helping to keep the entrance to Arlington one of the most attractive in this area.

"The City Bred Farmer" Clarence Dirks of Camano Island was guest speaker. His topic was "Conservation and Birds".

In April Mrs. Harry Stinson, of Seattle, was featured in a lecture and demonstration of Flower Arrangement. This was well attended. Everyone's attention was held fast by the artistic compositions created by Mrs. Stinson.

About this time the club furnished an appropriate flower arrangement for the golden wedding anniversary of one of its active members, Mr. and Mrs. Fred McDonald.

Twenty-three members attended the April District meeting held in Edmonds. Reports indicated that much constructive information was gained and a good time had by all. Everyone was of course proud of the efficient manner in which Mrs. Lamp conducted the meeting.

At the June meeting the most important issues were the pending State Convention for which 400 badges had been made; a wind-mill float for the Fourth of July and the ever discussible subject, Garden Plot, now in the process of being revamped.

August 9, twenty members attend the Chuckanut District meeting held in Oak Harbor. Several awards for floral exhibits were won. On the return trip a tour was made of the Slonaker begonia gardens nestled on a steep, rocky point overlooking the bay at Smilk beach. The cool lush vegetation surrounding the quaint home was a real inspiration.

The annual Garden Club picnic was held at the home of Mrs. E.W. Soper, August 14, Rain dampened the beautiful garden and previously set tables but not the appetities nor the pleasure of the friendly occasion.

During the business session the Dogwood was selected as the club flower. It was decided to protect the native Dogwood wherever possible and to encourage its propogation on private property and parking strips. Mrs. Palmer, president, spoke with pride of the very helpful manner in which the various members had assisted at the State Convention. Mrs. Hildor Eliason, Flower Show chairman announced September 16-17 as the tentative date set for the fall show... this put the wheels into action for committee meetings and preliminary preparations. Following the business meeting Mrs. Helen Brown of Granite Falls gave an informative talk on Herbs. Mrs. Jess Cohoon identified some of the lovely gladiolus taken from her garden. Some of which she had won a silver medal (2nd prize) at a Gladiolus Show in Tacoma. (The Cohoons have won many awards on their gladiolus exhibits both in horticulture and decorative divisions.

Past presidents were honored at the September 12th meeting. Mrs. Minz Meyer the Club's first president told of the charter organization and reviewed its progress. Pointing out the value of such an organization in the community.

Rouie N. Enselman, Historian
October 1, 1950

*** ** 1950 - 1951 *****

History continued by Rouie N. Enselman

October 9, 1950 was the beginning of another club year with all executive officers carrying on the last half of their two year term.

The "Harvest Festival" Flower Show held in September was reported by the chairman Mrs. Hildor Eliason as being most successful both financially and educationally, the results of many hours of diligent work by almost every member in the club. Mrs. Frank Germain and Mrs. E.W. Soper tied for Sweepstakes.

Members were urged to take advantage of the Flower Show Judging School to be held in Bellingham October 23, 24, 25. This was the first course in a series of five and the first such to be held in Chuckant District under the auspices of the National Council of Garden Clubs. Mrs. John Enselman, chairman would be assisted by other accredited judges in the District. While Mrs. E.W. Soper District Corresponding Secretary would help with the necessary mimeographing. For the afternoon program Mr. Guilford Russell gave valuable information on Flowering shrubs.

At the regular meeting in November the club was hostess to the newly organized Heather Garden Club of Darrington. The guests and Arlington membership had the privilege of hearing Mr. L. Gilds speak on Soil Conservation and seeing Mrs. Jess Cohoon demonstrate arrangements featuring figurines.

Plum puddings aglow with a lighted candle on each, a beautiful Christmas tree and exchange of gifts were part of the high lights for December. Mrs. Lamp demonstrated Christmas decorations for the home. Mrs. H. Foster and Mrs. H.W. Sessoms reported on the out-door Christmas contest. Ten dollars to be allowed for prizes.

Within a month's time Mrs. William Bagley and Mrs. Will Verd resigned their respective offices because of illness. Mrs. Fred McDonald was elected to take over the secretary's duties and Mrs. Clarence Shaw those of the treasurer.

A Bird House building contest got underway early in January. This was to be preliminary to the Chuckanut District Bird House Contest. Mrs. John Wrage and Mrs. Floyd Langdon were appointed as the local committee. The rules were well publicized. The response was gratifying, with thirty bird houses of various designs entered in the contest. All were displayed at the Library, school and Arlington Cash Feed Store for two or three weeks. Winning houses were taken to the District meeting in Stanwood to compete with contestants from other clubs in the District. Two of the Arlington entries won awards.

An appropriate topic at this time was "Our Birds" which was informatively and entertainingly presented by Mrs. W.S. Page of Everett.

The annual "Men's Night" was held March 12. Br-r-r-r was it cold! Snow and ice everywhere but a goodly crowd enjoyed the evenings program in spite of the weather. Mr. Orrin Hale, editor of Northwest Gardens and Homes Magazine was the speaker.

Several members attended the second Judging School held April 17, 18 and 19 in Mt. Vernon.

"Through the Garden Gate", was selected as theme for the Spring Flower Show, June 2 and 3. Mrs. Hildor Eliason served as general chairman. The Show proved to be another pleasant community event.

During the remainder of the spring and through the summer months district meetings were attended by members of the club. Flower shows and garden tours of neighboring clubs served as opportunities for new ideas and pleasant associations. In fact, the calendar was crowded for the past two years with Garden Club activities not only on the local level but also on the State and District levels. Several members serving as District officers and chairmen kindled a keener interest in such events.

Meetings throughout Mrs. Palmer's term were interesting and constructive. Several educational travelogues of the States, Europe, South America and Hawaii accompanied by colored slides were enjoyed. There were demonstrations and lectures on horticulture, floral design, landscaping, flower show exhibiting and many general gardening subjects.

It is difficult for a Historian to adequately record the achievements, or estimate the value of an organization such as the Arlington Garden Club. For its influence can be seen and felt throughout the community. Prettier gardens, attractive parking strips, inviting parks, even those lovely floral compositions seen on tables and mantels in the homes have likely been inspired by Garden Club efforts.

Such an organization is not only an asset to a community but an invaluable stabilizing agency for a nation.

In writing this chronicle only a few names of individuals have been mentioned as they have appeared in the records in connection with major activities, yet every member has played an important part in the club's progress and is worthy of recognition. But since this is only a brief review of events during the past two years I wish to refer all interested persons to the secretary's book and the Club's scrap book for detailed accounts of many praise worthy accomplishments achieved by unselfish and stead-fast endeavor.

Rouie N. Enselman, Historian
October 1, 1951

October 1951 - October 1953

History continued by Mrs. Albert Lamp (Myrtle)

On October 8, 1951, Mrs. L.C. Palmer installed Mrs. Mae Pautzke, an energetic business woman and dirt-gradener, as president; Mrs. Gilbert Foster, secretary; and Mrs. Clarence Shaw, treasurer. Corsages and gifts added to the beauty of the meeting which was held at the Lutheran Church.

Quoting from the secretary's minutes, "Our president, Mrs. Palmer, mentioned Mrs. Lamp's work as Chuckanut District Director and the reflected glory to our club. A gift was presented to Mrs. Lamp showing our esteem."

Our new president had been among the group riding with Mrs. Lamp, retiring district director, to the state convention in Walla Walla in June. Both were inspired and full of enthusiasm to increase our treasury balance of \$62.30 for projects such as needed improvements to the Garden Club Park on Lebanon Street. The once beautiful park had become an eye-sore on the railroad side where plants had been torn up and piles of debris left standing for two years. Management of the park was changed from a committee to a Board, the first members being Mrs. Lamp, chairman, Mrs. Pautzke, Mrs. Shaw with Mrs. Soper and Mrs. Wrage holdovers. Plans were to install a sprinkling system, replant with lawn, build a low fence on line designated by the railroad company and use low-growing, inexpensive plants such as heather, daphne, bulbs and bedding plants.

A combination Spring Flower Show and Easter Bazaar, with Mrs. Lamp as chairman, started the park fund with \$332.63 to begin its work. The Harvest Dinner, with Mrs. McCollough as chairman, added over \$225. to this fund. Within two years the major work had been accomplished at a cost of approximately \$650 and with donated work such as the painting of the fence by boys of the high school agriculture class; Floyd Heaton repainting the sign; and many work bees by members for whom Mae always brought cake and coffee for added stimulus.

Upon the recommendation of Mrs. Fred Verd and Mrs. Palmer, our library books were moved to a shelf in the public library for the convenience of the members.

Having lost our efficient treasurer, Edna Shaw by illness and later death, in June 1952 we elected Mrs. J. W. Wiggs to fill the vacancy.

Work with Juniors was promoted in 1952 through a Garden Contest and by a poster contest for our Easter Show. In our 1953 fall show, "Summer's Golden Glow", a large section was filled with weird creatures carved from vegetables by grade school children. Mrs. McCollough was chairman of this colorful show and Mrs. William Quake had charge of the Junior Section.

Members of the Darrington Garden Club were invited to take part in our 1952 and 1953 shows. We appreciated their entries and patronage and are reciprocating to these good neighbors with frequent invitations to hear our outstanding guest speakers. Our members have also taken courtesy exhibits to their shows.

Christmas Home Decorations contests and decorating for certain school affairs were continued. Plant sales, Mrs. Cohoon's card party, and first prize entry in the Fourth of July parade added to our general fund. This interesting parade feature was a beautifully decorated horse-drawn carriage in which two of our members in old fashioned attire rode with Dr. Mose. LaVon Quake was our July 4th chairman and \$35. was our prize money.

We cooperated with the state and district federation programs by giving \$2. to the "Seeds for Asia" funds, taking part in the 1953 district show in Everett, and planting 6 cascara trees in the Arboretum at the Camano Island State Park.

Programs such as colored movies, wreath making, decorating gift packages, candle making, flower arranging, horticulture, and landscaping were provided by our members. Guest speakers were Harry Stinson on Conservation; Cecil Solly at a well-attended night meeting on Landscaping; Frances Lundsted on making plaques and baskets from crepe paper; Floyd Kaylor on Bulbs; Hary Lekenbee on pruning and spraying; and Jerry Kluin on Azaleas and Rhododendrons. Colored slides and interesting comments by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Backstrom on their recent trip to South America made up another program.

Summer outings were held at Hutchinson's cabin at the Stillaguamish Country Club near Darrington and at our own Terrace Park.

Vice-President Marion Shea, our delegate to the 1953 state convention in Seattle, gave her report at our outdoor meeting at Soper's in September. This meeting marked the close of a fruitful two-year term under the leadership of Mae Pautzke.

Oct. 1, 1951

Oct. 1, 1953

Myrtle Lamp
Historian

October 1953 - October 1955

Officers installed on October 8, 1953 by Mrs. Fred Verd were: Mrs. Marian Shea, president, Mrs. Leo McCollough, vice-president, Mrs. Gilbert Foster, secretary, and Mrs. J. W. Wiggs, treasurer. Corsages and gifts were presented to the retiring and incoming officers.

Attractive yearbooks were distributed by Mrs. Lamp, chairman. On the gray covers was a picture of our park sign, handpainted by Mrs. Shea. The design had been copied by Ron Thompson, a high school boy, and a plate was commercially made of the design for extended use. The year's program commemorating the 20th anniversary of our club was complete as proved by its winning \$3 as first prize in the district contest. Mrs. Palmer, district yearbook chairman, made the presentation which was proudly accepted by Mrs. Leo McCollough, who had taken over as president on March 8th after the resignation of Mrs. Shea. Mrs. Henry Stedman was elected vice-president; the club's business was in reliable hands and we were off to a good start.

Garden Therapy, a new state project of which Mrs. Lamp had served as district chairman the previous term, was taken up in earnest with Mrs. Larry Munizza as our club chairman. Mrs. Shea's idea of a state bird quilt was carried out with members embroidering blocks and doing the quilting. This beautiful creation, won by Mrs. Frank Donnell, netted \$105 of which \$35 was turned over to the district for garden therapy work.

In June, Mrs. McCollough, as delegate, accompanied Mrs. Lamp who drove to the state convention in Yakima. Conversation on the return trip mostly concerned plans for the club's 4th of July float. It turned out to be another first prize winner, with theme "Young Americans". Featured were little girls winding a May pole in a setting of fresh flowers -- all in patriotic colors and depicting supervised playgrounds. LaVon Quake, dressed in suitable attire, represented the playground director.

A fall luncheon, with Mrs. Hildor Eliason as chairman, netted \$66.39. A December Market Day sale of decorations, pastries and miscellaneous attractions, following our Christmas meeting,

augmented our general fund as did plant sales, a white elephant sale, and \$28.60 commissions on garden supplies sold by our members on Saturday at the Arlington Farm and Garden Supply Company.

A diversion from our usual type of Flower Show was a combined Garden Tour, Placement Show and Silver Tea held on May 4, 1954. Our garden park sign was printed on the covers of the programs which listed the 12 homes to be visited -- some featuring gardens and others with flowers arranged specifically for each room inside. A plant sale and light refreshments were added attractions at the Soper home. A beautiful silver tea at the Palmer home was the highlight of the day. This project was a decided social and financial success, with more than 150 guests from near and far attending and \$170 cleared for our park fund. A detailed and pictorial report was sent to the state awards committee by Mrs. Lamp, chairman of the project for which our club received a Blue Ribbon award at the 1955 state convention held in Everett.

At our September 1954 meeting each past president was presented a corsage and the club voted to make a planting of red roses at the park in their honor. Three dozen Ernie Grootendorst rose bushes were planted in 3 semicircular beds by the Marysville Nursery who had recommended them as a good choice and from whom they were purchased. Fitting dedication was made in April 1955 at our Arbor Day ceremonies when a gift tree was also planted.

The state Litterbug campaign was well projected through this area by Mrs. Hiram Foster's articles in the local paper and talks at schools. She was given the go-ahead by the club to work out contests and purchase all the needed equipment such as posters and bags to help exterminate litterbugs, those dreadful pests, and keep our public thoroughfares tidy.

\$5.00 was donated to the National Garden Club Home.

Our club went on record as favoring the establishment of Highway 99 as a Blue Star Memorial Highway and also as favoring the protection of the Mourning Dove and the Mountain Goat. Members volunteered to write our legislatures soliciting their help on these bills.

Another approach was made to interest young people in our work when Mrs. Groves, junior garden chairman, invited Camp Fire groups to receive instruction from our members in making dish gardens, flower arrangements, and in the study of soils. Several dish gardens were selected to be taken to a district meeting and the state convention where they won many high awards. The dish gardens were given to shut-ins, who are also remembered in various ways through the years.

Representatives of the Walking Blood Bank came to one of our meetings and typed all members desiring this service.

The tradition begun years ago of decorating for certain school affairs is still carried on and flower arrangements have been made for the city library functions.

Sentiments are expressed by flowers or cards to members during their joys as well as their sorrows. It was noted that golden wedding anniversaries were celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. Al Blair and by Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Stout. We regret that several members, Mrs. W.H. Verd, Mrs. O.G. Kesling, Mrs. George Davies, Mrs. Lily McDonald, Mrs. Ernest Meier, Mrs. Frank Krauskoff, were sadly bereaved by the loss of their husbands and Mrs. Palmer by the loss of her sister, Edna Shaw.

It is good to hear from members who have moved away, thus a box of cones sent from Alaska brought us good tidings from Mae Bagley. Mrs. Lou Sontra, at Grants Pass, Oregon, heard about our Garden Tour and Show and sent a \$1.00 contribution. This and other felicitious notes have proved that the Arlington Garden Club holds a fond place in her memory as does Alice in our hearts.

Instead of by a decorated float, we were represented on July 4th by eleven gardeners stepping handsomely down the street in summer dresses, white hats and gloves, as a first prize-winning feature. One carried our Country's flag; two carried the club's name and arm baskets of flowers; two in garden togs pushed wheelbarrows filled with garden equipment and vegetables; and six wheeled newly painted garden carts filled with beautiful flowers.

We again sponsored the home decorations contest during the Christmas season and our park featured a well-lighted pastoral scene of three life-size shepherds and six sheep on the lawn with a background of shrubs. The figures cut from plywood and painted were purchased from Mr. Halverson of Marysville.

Mrs. Henry Stedman, our vice-president and delegate, represented our club at the 1955 state convention in Everett and many other members attended also. With Mrs. Lamp as chairman of special gifts, the making of 200 dainty gavel corsages for the presidents had been assigned to us and we were proud of our work. Mrs. Lamp was among the 33 state life members honored, Chuckanut District having placed \$50 in the state scholarship fund in the name of each of the district's past directors.

Again our yearbook, with Mrs. Lamp as chairman, placed in the 1955 contest receiving \$1 as third prize. Among our many outstanding guest speakers during the two years were: Mrs. Joe E. Wolff, Christmas arrangements; Paul Brown, Insect and Weed Control; Mrs. F. E. Sullivan, Spring Flower Arrangements; Mrs. Alarence Adams, Cuttings; Mrs. L. W. Slonaker, Garden Therapy, Fuschsias and Tuberos Begonias illustrated with colored slides (also a sale of Barber's primroses); Mrs. J. C. Johnson, Corsage Workshop; Wayne Cockborn of Marysville Nursery, Garden Design; Al Weiss, Chrysanthemums showing specimens; Mrs. Zappallo, Flower Arrangements. Members talked on Birds; House Plants; Conservation; Seeds; Glads; tin ornament cutting; showed Federation and local colored slides.

Not only were picnics held at Sopers and at Camano Island State Park but club members also enjoyed many planned trips together such as the Fashions and Fuchsia Show by Town and Country Garden Club at Anacortes, the Arboretum in Seattle, and to Richland Highlands as luncheon guests at the home and garden of Bill Burnett, formerly of Arlington.

Fuchsia being the flower for this term, a contest was planned to increase our knowledge of raising this "Garden Jewel". Mrs. Veilleux, chairman, distributed plants purchased through Mrs. Slonaker's "Seeing Eye Dog Fund" and gave timely information

as to their culture with our aim being to have a fine display for judging at our fall show.

"Garden Melodies Featuring Fuchsia Bells" was the theme of our Fall Show held at Pioneer Hall October 1, 1955, with Mrs. Stedman, chairman. Mrs. Lamp was co-ordinator of the unique schedule for which Mrs. Oman traced and colored a spray of fuchsias on the covers. This schedule won for us an award in the state contest. Our Conservation feature was a display, "Keep Washington Green" by the Darrington Forest Service at the front entrance. The inside center of attraction was a patio scene where "Fuchsia Bells" in hanging baskets, huge tubs ~~and pots~~, silently chimed the theme of the show. Many of these were grown by Mrs. Veilleux. Nearby were the fuchsias brought for judging (winners were Mrs. McCollough, Mrs. W.H. Verd and Mrs. Fred Verd). Occupying a reserved section were five tables each complete with covering and other appointments and featuring an appropriate floral design. A fine array of exhibits was made by Juniors to whom cash prizes were given.

Our scrapbook from April 1934 to October 1, 1955, was displayed and filed away by Mrs. Lamp, historian, who recommended a more substantial new one be started that might enter state contests and be kept by a separate committee. Mrs. McCollough presented a handsome new book for this purpose and appointed Mrs. W. R. Stout and Mrs. Ernie Oman in charge. Mrs. Stout urged the members to contribute pictures and articles for the book.

Maryette Lamp
Historian

Oct. 1, 1953
Oct. 5, 1955

October 1, 1955 - October 1, 1957

Although new officers, Mrs. Henry Stedman, president; Mrs. Gilbert Foster, vice-president; Mrs. Fred Verd, secretary; and Mrs. Frank Germain, treasurer, had been installed at our Camano Island State Park picnic-meeting by Mrs. L.C. Palmer in July, they did not take over until October. They were presented corsages at both meetings. Retiring after two years of magnificent presidential leadership, Mrs. McCollough was presented a beautiful figurine, "The Flower Madonna", as a token of appreciation for many years of generous service to the club.

A district honor came to our club when Mrs. Gilbert Foster was elected organizing secretary of Evergreen District which is comprised of Snohomish County clubs following the division of Chuckanut District. At the first meeting of Evergreen District, held in Pinehurst Nov. 4, 1955, Mrs. Lamp was featured speaker, giving a demonstration, "Ideas for the Holidays". District meetings held in Everett are well attended by our members and many awards are received there for our entries in the standard flower shows.

After five years as chairman of the park board, Mrs. Lamp's endurance seemed to wane and Mrs. Stedman, a diligent assistant for some time, took over this responsibility. Among her helpers were Mrs. Winston Baldwin, Mrs. J. W. Schmidt, and Mrs. E. L. Brandt, all newcomers to the club who later became board members. Many plants were lost during the damaging winter of 55-56 and fifteen of the roses had to be replaced. With the addition of crocus and annuals there is a continuous showing of color on both sides. Three Wise Men and their camels, at a cost of \$45, were added to the Christmas scene, and of late, the evergreen tree on the east side has been illuminated with colored lights during the Holiday season. The City reimburses our Club for approximate expense of lawn upkeep.

Through Mr. A. W. Swanson and Mr. Henry Stedman, we now have a cabinet with shelves where our books, brought back from the public library, can be kept. Our supplies now have better storage in the Methodist Church social rooms where we hold regular meetings. Mrs. Germaine resigned as Treasurer and Mrs. Winston Baldwin was elected to this office.

We were saddened by the loss of a much loved member, Mrs. (E. W.) Louise Stilke Soper who passed away March 23, 1956 after several months of critical illness. A memorial service was held during the May meeting with Mrs. Philip Pearson expressing the feelings of the club in the loss of this fine friend and diligent member since its beginning in 1934, and reading Proverbs 31, verses 10-31, "To live in the hearts of those we love is not to die." The members then adjourned to the Garden Club Park where a newly-planted Thuja shrub was dedicated to her memory. Mrs. Stedman spoke words of dedication and read a poem as a memorial to our departed member. Mrs. Pearson recited "Trees" and Mr. Soper, who was present, took several colored pictures of the proceedings.

The vice-presidency, having been left vacant by the resignation of Mrs. Gilbert Foster, was filled by the election of Mrs. J. W. Wiggs in June, and she became our delegate to the 1956 state convention. As Mrs. Lamp was driving over to Wenatchee, Grace was given a lift, and the two enjoyed the companionship of Mrs. Earl Weber, formerly of Arlington who is now an ardent garden clubber of Quincy. At our July meeting held at Camano Island State Park, our delegate gave a report and displayed the state ribbon award received for our "Garden Melodies" show schedule. Also at this meeting, Mrs. Bertha Benson introduced Miss Helen Sill who showed and identified scores of wild flowers.

Another outdoor meeting was enjoyed at Terrace Park and it was climaxed by a visit to the Veilleux home to view their fuchsias, tuberous begonias and geraniums which grow so luxuriantly and make a gorgeous display.

Mrs. Wiggs worked on the two yearbooks for this term using the former cover design on both. Our 1957 book received the district second prize award in the mimeographed section. Programs included pictures of "Birds and their Habitat" by Mr. and Mrs. Jay Kempkes; "Christmas Decorations" demonstration by Mrs. Lamp; "Hawaiian Souvenirs" by Mrs. Shea; "Color in the Garden" by Mrs. Frantz Nehammer; "Plants and Soil for Planters" by Jerry Kluin; "Fuchsia Pruning and Care", also "Garden Therapy" by Mrs. Loella Slonaker; "Dried Material" with slides by Mr. Jack Sullivan; "Clematis" with

Slides by Mrs. Betty Forsell; "September Flower Arrangements" by Mrs. Cohoon; short talks and demonstrations by members on timely subjects, and colored slides of an auto trip by Mrs. McCollough.

Being interested in learning more about Arlington's prospects for a new hospital, at our September 1956 meeting we gave attention to the explanation of the bond sale by Mr. Jence Thompson, hospital owner. Having this first-hand information, we were individually better prepared to purchase bonds and the fall of 1957 saw the hospital, a beautiful structure on South Stillaguamish Avenue well under way.

Following a talk on "Garden Design" by Mr. Wayne Cockburn of the Marysville Nursery at the October 1956 meeting, we were invited to the new home of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Brandt on McLeod Ave., where Mr. Cockburn further illustrated his talk. Tea was served and we all enjoyed the hospitality of our gracious hostess. Mr. Cockburn kindly gave several plants as door prizes.

Over \$100 was netted for our general fund at a November 1956 "Sale Day" at the V.F.W. Hall with Mrs. M. M. Williams as chairman. The club also received a \$25 prize for being the best sales group at the district sale of plants at the Marysville Nursery in April 1957; and the traveling basket brought in several more dollars. A marching feature in the July 4th Parade (similar to that of 1955) won a second prize in its section. For the convenience of our members and a small profit, we handled some of the 1956 and 1957 Helen Van Pelt Wilson Calendar books, both issues having pictures of designs by Mrs. Albert Lamp.

As a Valentine tribute to our husbands, we have invited them to evening meetings the past two Februarys, and the public was included to enjoy the amateur photography, home-made pie and coffee. Among those showing movies or colored slides were: Mr. J. C. Carpenter, Mr. J. R. Gray, Mr. Jack Sturgeon, Mr. Victor Pearson, Mr. S. F. Donnell, Mrs. Albert Lamp and Mrs. Hildor Eliason.

A new project during this term was the making of corsages and Boutonnieres for the Teachers' Receptions. Three winter corsages were contributed to the State Holiday Show's sales booth. Mrs. Lamp and Mrs. Cohoon have been among the exhibitors at

this show for several successive years. Mrs. Lamp's table, "After Caroling Egg-nog Party", rated high in popularity at the 1956 show.

Three posters by grade school pupils were entered in the "Keep Washington Green" poster contest and three entries in the Button Garden contest were taken to a district meeting. \$2.00 was donated to "Seeds for Democracy" and \$1.00 to the district Conservation Scholarship.

Mrs. Veilleux was chairman of the 1955 Christmas Home Decorations contest and Mrs. Pautzke of the 1957 contest. The Commercial Club assisted with cash prizes to winners who are listed in our secretary's books.

"May Time", our 1957 spring Flower Show held at the Methodist Church was chairmanned by Mrs. Hildor Eliason. The exhibits were a credit to our club and the lovely tea was enjoyed by all who attended, though the community was poorly represented in number.

We had no delegate to the 1957 state convention in Tacoma. Mrs. L. C. Palmer was elected Treasurer of Evergreen district and Mrs. Gilbert Foster was re-elected district Organizing Secretary.

Latest congratulations conveyed to members were for the Golden Wedding Anniversaries of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Palmer; and of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Cohoon; also for the birth of a baby girl to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Almli. Those recently bereaved were Mrs. Lily Meier, whose mother passed away; Mrs. Leo McCollough, Mrs. Lou Sontra; Mrs. L. C. Palmer and Mrs. Al Blair in the loss of their husbands. Our condolences were expressed to these members in their sorrow and hereby recorded in our club history.

An outdoor meeting and pot luck luncheon at the Veilleux Warm Beach home was much enjoyed. Mrs. Al Bundt, the assistant hostess, added to the pleasure of this day in the "Good Old Summer-time."

Members come and go and we find at the close of Mrs. Stedman's term as president, many new members taking active part. Some had come only to visit, but feeling a kindred spirit and admiring our president's conscientious efforts, soon became interested in our work and decided to join forces with us for the beautification of home, community, state and nation.

Maryelle Lamp
Historian

Oct. 1, 1957

Thanks to Shirley Lamp
Nickerson for typing these
13 pages for me ^{and the club.}
M.M.L.





October 1958 - October 1959

October 13, 1959 was the beginning of another club year, with Mrs. J. W. Wiggs starting her second year as our president. A happy beginning it was too with 40 guests from Lakewood, Darrington, Camaino Island and Arlington present to help us enjoy one of Mrs. Albert Lamps impressive flower arranging demonstrations.

Other outstanding programs for the year were ones by the Reverend Gaffney who spoke on flowers of the Bible, colored slides of many beautiful Northwest gardens shown by Victor Pearsen and again when we asked our neighboring garden clubs to join us in enjoying the special talents of another one of our members Mrs. Jess Cahoon. Add to this swag making by Mrs. Ernie Oman, making of flats by Mrs. John Wrage, corsage making by Mrs. Henry Stedman and Mrs. Joe Wiggs, garden tour to Blain and White Rock B. C., a group workshop, picnic at the Warm Beach home of Mrs. Alex Vielleux and I am sure no one can deny 1958-59 has been an active and interesting year. Mrs. Fred Verd was program chairman.

Other festivities enjoyed by the club members were the March 5th. luncheon and style show of the Laquella garden club - "Around The World with Autumn" flower show and home tour of the Evergreen Club - Snohomish County garden club tour and the Grandview garden club flower show.

A "Kissing Ball" made by Mrs. Joe Wiggs was donated to the Evergreen District to be raffeled off as our clubs effort in helping raise money to caver cost of the district meeting.

We again this year took charge of the "Christmas Home Decorating Contest" with the Chamber of Commerce donating the money for prizes.

Mrs. Albert Lamp was among the exhibitors at the "Holiday Christmas Show" in Seattle.

State Convention held in the twin cities of Centralia and Chahalis was attended by Mrs. Ernie Oman and Mrs. Jess Cahoon, who brought back a most complete and interesting report of all the activities.

Our garden club flower show "Heralding Autumn Beauty" and featuring tuberous begonias was held on the 26-27th.

of September at the Pioneer Hall. Mrs. Ernie Oman was general chairman. Special features of the show were the "Silver Tea" chaired by Mrs. E. R. Maier and Mrs. H. R. Laird and the drawing of Door prizes each afternoon and evening. The Show drew a large attendance and much favorable comment. Sweepstake winners were Mrs. Frank Germain in arrangements and Mrs. Bert Mills in horticulture.

New officers installed for the year 1959-60 were Mrs. Ernie Oman president, Mrs. Alex Vailleux vice president and Mrs. Frank Germain secretary.

Lucille R. Brandt, Historian
October 1, 1959

October 1959 - October 1961

Our new president, Mrs. Ernie Oman, started her first meeting on October 12, 1959. by saying that anything worth doing, was worth doing well and that she had confidence we would all work together to make her period of presidency successful with many accomplishments. Looking over these past two years, we feel our worthy president should not be disappointed for the Club's activities have been many and varied.

We started ~~the~~ the new year by donating \$10.00 to the Camp Fire girls. ^{This} money was to be used for buying and planting trees in conjunction with Arlington's beautification program. We requested that two of these trees be planted in Lebanon Park. A planter was furnished the Opportunity school in ~~Silvava~~ and later members helped the pupils of that school, pot their many plants they had started from slips. A donation of \$1.00 was made to Mrs. Lund's Camp Fire girls as part of our Junion Garden Club activity and \$2.00 was given to the state conservation Scholarship fund.

After lengthy discussion and planning, we decided to give Lebanon Park a complete renovation. We were fortunate in finding a man who really knew landscaping and by spending \$340.19, our plot was beautiful once more. At a later date, through a news clipping of 1938 vintage, we found this park had been presented ^{to} and accepted by the City.

We held a very successful Christmas sale and show in December of 1959 and another on December 17, 1960. This time it was a struggle for winter cold and Flu had layed some of our best workers low so it just meant those of us who were lucky enough to have remained well, must work a little harder. This we did and we were delighted to hear our treasurer Miss Satre report that we had made a profit of \$186.95.

Going back to March 14, 1960, it was on that date that we made the big decision to landscape the new library building grounds. We realized this was a fairly large undertaking but ~~the~~ the enthusiasm of Mrs. E.L. Brandt was so great, it permeated thru the Club and with her expert planning and guidance on the ways and means committee of which she was chairman, we made the hurdle. Here are some of the projects that brought home the bacon:

The first venture was a book reveiw by Mrs. Chase of Everett and a tea held at the home of Mrs. Ernie Oman and it netted \$51.25 with 58 ladies in attendance.

A good old fashioned rummage sale was our next venture held April 23 in the V.F.W. Hall and after all expenses were paid, we realized the tidy sum of \$109.22. We were so encouraged by this sale, we decided to use the materials left and by adding more, have another. This time we raised \$82.80 and we then gave the leftovers to the Goodwill. By this time we had \$247.27 for our project.

The Murphy Feed Company offered us 10% of a two day sale if some of our members would act as salesladies. They did, bless 'em and they served cookies and coffee to boot so here we made \$59.06. This helped defray the expenses on Lebanon Park.

In the meantime it was decided to raise the dues to \$2.00 beginning October 1960.

In our January 9 meeting, we voted to send \$5.00 to the Opportunity school for badly needed tools. This sum was augmented by \$15.00, Mrs. McCollough, Mrs. Oman and Mrs. Germain each donating \$5.00.

It wasn't all work either for we had a very interesting and informative program, thanks to Mrs. Brandt and her committee.

We had slides from Holland's beautiful tulip gardens, shown by Mr. Kaypten of Mount Vernon who gave us much useful information on growing these bulbies, a demonstration on tin craft by Mrs. Herman Lark of Marysville. Mrs. Gilbert Foster gave a wonderful series of talks on landscaping, using the textbook by John Grant as her guide. Mrs. Cohoon gave us many useful hints and helps in her many demonstrations on flower arranging. A tour of the Seattle waterfront by boat was made by 34 members on June 13, 1960 and a most interesting and pleasurable trip was made on June 19, 1961 via a Grey Hound Bus to Vancouver B.C. Forty members climbed on board at 8:00 AM and there never was a dull moment until we returned at 7:00 PM thanks to a jolly and well informed driver who was most gracious and really showed us the City. A little profit was made too. The bus cost us \$120.00 and we sold 40 tickets at \$4.00.

All in all it was a good two year term. Our president has done a good job and we hope she has not been disappointed in the extent of the Club's reciprocation.

Verna M. Germain, Historian
October 1, 1961

October 1961 - October 1962

Our first meeting of the new year was held in a new place with our new president, Mrs. E.L. Brandt presiding.

Kesling Hall with old Sol pouring his warm rays thru the windows and the fresh scent of newness, gave us all a lift with tho'ts of success for the coming year. There were a few inconveniences to begin with, a lack of kitchen facilities and dishes for one thing but our gracious hostesses soon overcame those obstacles with their ingenuity and forethought. The club got busy and had four veneer tables made which have helped out in many ways.

The landscaping of the library grounds is very lovely. We are proud of those who were so active in it's planning and grateful to Harry Sargent for his efforts in obtaining the effects he has, with his composition of rock, stone, and plant material. The cost to the club was \$320.27. Besides this outlay, we have \$80.00 set aside to assist in the purchase for of draperies for the Hall.

We had to spend \$282.50 on Lebanon Park for a continuance of our refurbishing plans, this year. Many of the older shrubs are overgrown and are taking more care and expense as each year goes by.

Christmas

We again took charge of the /Home Decorating contest with the Chamber of Commerce donating the prize money. We felt a religious theme at this time of year was important so the club sponsored and furnished the necessary funds for prizes. A contribution of \$1.00 was made to the conservation fund toward a scholarship. We also voted to make a planting in memory of two of our deceased members, Mrs. Krauskoff and Mrs. Mills. It was decided to make these plantings in Lebanon Park.

We were thrilled to receive notification, that our club had received the Richfield Award on Conservation of Civic Beauty. This we received for our efforts in landscaping the library grounds. Our award is a beautiful redwood plaque and our own selection of \$50.00 in shrubs.

So much for the work, now for the fun. In February, we had Mrs. Wolfe of Lake Stevens who talked on Heather and it's uses in landscaping. March brought us Mr. Harold Engles, a retired U.S. forester, who gave us a very informative and interesting talk on our native trees and evergreens. In April we had

ten visitors from the Mukilteo Garden Club. Some of us had previously attended one of their meetings, five of us bringing arrangements and talking about them. They returned the compliment and we all enjoyed them, especially Helen Jensen with her driftwood and good humor.

May brought on more activity when we had a flower show with Florence Sparks and Ruth Oman, co-chairmen. It was a very successful and colorful little show, once more drawing the Public's interest and attention. Myrtle Lamp received sweepstakes for her horticulture displays and Verna Germain for her entries in the artistic division.

On August 13, we again picniced at the Washington State Park on Comano Island. The weather was perfect and so was the atmosphere of cordial friendship. Mrs. Sparks and Mrs. Oman, who both attended the State convention, gave us an interesting report after which, we all signed a card of good wishes for one of our oldest members. Mrs. Maud Cohoon who was very ill.

We had another Christmas sale on December 18 which netted us \$135.21. On December 11, we met in Mrs. Oman's basement for a work shop. The rooms were piled high with many beautiful greens and interesting material, a fire in the fireplace and between a lot of chatter and fun, before the day was over, we had turned out many beautiful things for sale. Besides netting this tidy sum, we have considerable material left for another sale.

During Library Week, we gave a tea in Kesling Hall and engaged for our speaker, a Mr. Alex Coleman of Jamaica who is an exchange student studying for the medical profession. It was well attended and netted us \$57.00.

It was decided to hold a salad luncheon and card party on May 14, tickets \$1.00. The chairman, Mae Pautzke always the generous one, donated the salad and this party netted \$62.00

We also had another go at sponsoring a sale at Murphy's feed on April 29, serving coffee and cookies and tho' the weather was not at all cooperative, we received \$54.61 for our efforts.

We feel this past year has not only been instructive and constructive but also a financial success, thanks to some of ^{our} dedicated and hard workers.

In closing this I would like to repeat a part of Rouie Enselman's tho'ts written in this book for 1950 - 1951. I quote:

"It is difficult for a historian to adequately record the achievements, or estimate the value of an organization such as the Arlington Garden Club. For it's influence can be seen and felt throughout the community. Prettier gardens, attractive parking strips, inviting parks, even those lovely compositions seen on tables and mantels in homes have likely been inspired by Garden Club efforts.

Such an organization is not only an asset to a community, but is an invaluable, stabilizing agency for a nation.

In writing this chronicle only a few names of the individuals have been mentioned as they have appeared in the records in connection with major activities, yet every member has displayed an important part in the club's progress and is worthy of recognition. But since this is only a brief review of events during the past year, I wish to refer all interested persons to the secretary's book and the Club's scrap book for detailed accounts of many praise worthy accomplishments achieved by unselfish and steadfast endeavor."

So sayeth Rouie. It has ever been the same and I, Verna M. Germain concur most heartily.

Verna M. Germain, Historian

October 29, 1962

October 1962 - October 1964

Our new president Mrs. Harry Sparks presided at her first meeting October 13, 1962. October 13 was the date set for the presentation of our award for participation in the city beautification project. The Ritchfield Company presented this to us.

The beginning of the new year was a busy one with a successful rummage sale held on October 27. We made a profit of \$118.80.

With reluctance we decided to notify the city we can no longer undertake the responsibility of keeping Lebanon Park. However, we voted to donate \$100.00 a year toward it's improvement. Our Garden Club sign will remain in the park. We decided it should be repainted.

Our Christmas sale was a good money maker. We netted \$96.82.

We are very proud that three of our members attended Judges school and received their certificates. They are Mary Gates, Alice Satre, and Ruth Oman.

One of our worthwhile projects was sharing expenses with the Lady Lions Club for draperies for Kesling Hall. This was \$89.00.

Our programs for the years 1962 to 1963 included demonstrations on flower arranging by Mrs. A. Lamp and Mrs. Roening, slides on Chrysanthemums shown by Mrs. Gilbert Foster, slides of the World's Fair flower show, Past Presidents Tea, Tea at the Governor's Mansion at Olympia, a tour of Rhod-A-Zalea Gardens, and an informative talk on Chrysanthemums by Mrs. Fintz.

Our first meeting of the 1963 season was presided over by our able and experienced president Mrs. Harry Sparks.

We were unable to find a suitable spot to hold our Christmas sale. To compensate for the lost funds, each member donated a dollar to the Club. Orders were taken for swags. Nineteen dollars was taken in from the bake sale and orders for swags. Christmas arrangements were taken to hospitals, rest homes, and three ill members.

A basket of food and clothing was taken to a needy family by Mrs. Sparks and Mrs. Stedman.

We had a very successful Garden Sale at Murphy's, and added \$82.92 to the treasury.

We did not get enough members to go on the garden tour to Ohme Gardens so we did not go.

Programs for the year were varied. Mr. Kempley from Marysville showed slides on nature birds. Members Mmes. Oman, Sparks, Gates, Veilleux, and Lund made Thanksgiving table arrangements for the November meeting. Lou Hiatt gave an informative talk on landscaping. Mrs. Brandt & Mrs. Oldham showed slides of their recent trip to Europe. Mrs. Lamp showed slides of her flower arrangements.

The picnic was held at the Juniper Beach home of Mrs. Richard Lund. Seventeen members attended and three guests. A delicious pot-luck lunch was enjoyed. The weather was lovely.

September was a busy time for all as we held our flower show "Summer Sunset Brings Autumn Beauty" It was held at Pioneer Hall, September 26 & 27, Mrs. Ruth Oman chairman.

So we close the activities for the Arlington Garden Club for the years 1962-1964 and look forward to new activities and accomplishments.

Katherine Lund, Historian

October 1964