

GARDEN CHATTER FEBRUARY 2024



2023-2024 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT — MARILYN COOPER
VICE PRESIDENT — DEBBIE B'HYMER
SECRETARY — LAURA CURNAN
TREASURER — JOAN MEYER

Enumclaw Garden Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation
member of the Chinook District, Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs,
& Pacific Region of the National Garden Club, Inc.

WHAT'S COMING UP in 2024 for the Garden Club?

February 12 9:30 am Board Meeting at Key Bank Community Room
February 20 11:00 am Set-up for Breakfast 4 the Birds at the Enumclaw Field House
February 21 9:00 am Breakfast 4 the Birds

March 10-Nov 3

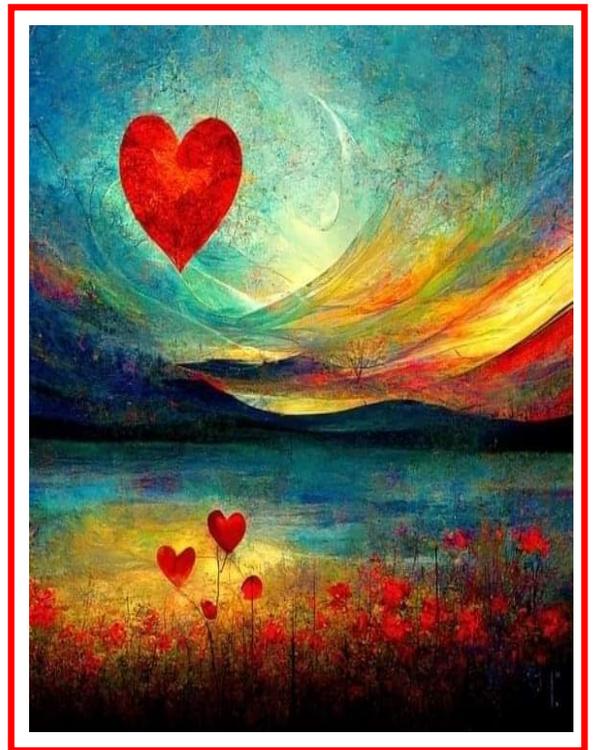


March 11 9:30 am Board Meeting
March 27 9:30 am Sign-in & get together before the General Meeting
Please bring whatever is starting to pop up in your garden for the Horticulture portion of our meeting & make sure it is well marked.

THINKING OF YOU
GARDEN THERAPY

If you know of a Garden Club member who is ill, or just needs a little cheering up or encouragement, please let Yolanda Nelson know @ 253-777-5810 or ziinia2007@yahoo.com
Carol Pedersen will also send out a group email to the members. Just let her know who needs remembering, @ 253-686-3942 or cajunchili@comcast.net

Yolanda sent out cards to Eileen Griffiths, Judy Amburgey, Tory Bennett, Dixie Good, & Liz Close. She also sent cards welcoming new members Lynne Holderbein & Gabriella (Ellie) Dodrill.



EGC BULLETIN BOARD



At the annual tongue-in-cheek Groundhog Day celebration, Punxsutawney Phil, the weather-prognosticating groundhog, did not see his shadow, which will usher in early spring like weather.

I would like to thank everyone for the Get Well Cards I received. I would also like to thank Yolanda Nelson for the birthday cake she baked me. I'm sorry I was sick and wasn't there to enjoy it.
Thank You! Eileen Griffiths

WEB-SITE

www.enumclawgardenclub.info

Please contact Debbie B'Hymer with any questions, comments or club updates for the web-site at: debhymer@aol.com

Remember, the newsletter is included on the web-site, so please let Sharon know if there is any info you don't want made public.



Find us on
Facebook

All members can join our Facebook page. Go to Enumclaw Garden Club & click on JOIN. Call or email Ginny Montgomery with any questions.

The cut-off date for the March newsletter will be Wednesday, the 13th, @ noon.
sharonjimfagnan@comcast.net
or
253-350-8930

Please send all EGC Treasurer correspondence to
Joan Meyer at:
enumgcfinance@gmail.com
or
PO Box 714, Enumclaw 98022

What went on at the January meeting...

- VP, Debbie B'Hymer opened the meeting with these words: "Your life is your garden, Your thoughts are the seeds. If your life isn't awesome, You've been watering the weeds".
- After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, newest member Gabriella Dodrill was welcomed.
- Thank you cards were received from The Lake Wilderness Arboretum Foundation & The American Horticulture Society.
Our scholarship winner, Raegan Chevalier, also sent a card letting us know she will be attending the University of Montana.
- All 200 tickets for the Breakfast 4 the Birds have been sold! Lanette has a waiting list going. If at the last minute you can't attend, please give her a call. Additional information about Breakfast for the birds can be found on pg. 7.
- Raffle winners were Kathy Wetton, Maribeth Vassallo & Ella Eaton.
- At the Horticulture Table Sarococca, or Sweet Boxwood was on display. It is very fragrant & is blooming now. Plant by a spot that you pass frequently so you can brush up against it. There were also some snowdrops. Tory's hint is not to plant in clumps. Take apart, plant & they will soon become a clump. A beautiful bouquet was featured with evergreens of English Laurel, Euyonomous, Mini-Variiegated Pierus Japonica & Cedar. Tory invited us to drive by & see her parking strip display. Over the years she has planted hundreds of bulbs that are starting to put on their show.
- Nancy Wittman handed out the club t-shirts & sweatshirts we pre-ordered. It was fun to see all the different colors. She may be making another order if there is interest.

Tory wore two hats today...she also gave a great program on mulch. She provided a very informative handout titled "So Mulch to talk about, and so Mulch more".

Here are a few of the highlights:

- Mulch is more than decorative! It keeps the soil cool in the summer & warm in the winter. It keeps weeds down & retains moisture. It prevents crusting of soil surface, soil compaction & keeps the soil from splashing/erosion & helps with disease spread. Mulched plants have more roots & adds beauty to your landscape.
- Fall & Spring are the two times that mulch should be applied. Don't mulch during a freeze. 2-3" is best. More than that can suffocate the plant & should never be used against the bark of your woody plants, such as bushes & trees, as it can cause disease.
- Kinds of good mulch are: Straw/hay for vegetable gardens. Wood chips are not bark & take about 2 years to break down. Leaves need to be chipped/chopped/or shredded & mixed varieties work best. It is very important to use aged manure. Pine needles work well in shrub & tree beds. Lawn clippings (no chemicals) are best a little aged, dried or mixed. Cover crops such as Austrian Pea, Crimson Clover & a Daikon Radish Villana mix can be turned & will enrich your soil as it breaks down. Cardboard will block weeds & is best used under path ways that you will be covering with rock, gravel or heavy bark. Several layers of newspapers under a layer of mulch breaks down better than cardboard. You can try several kinds of mulches together, as the different sizes adds to the soil.
- Non enriching mulch are pea gravel & rocks. Good for pathways, but you must remember they hold the heat & can really heat up the roots of plants.
- Bad mulch is chipped tires, plastic fiber cloth, chemically treated or dark bark. Raw manure burns plants & robs soil of nitrogen. Black walnut leaves are toxic.
- Tea & coffee grounds are amendmets, not mulch.
- If it smells bad don't use it!



CHINOOK DISTRICT NEWS FOR 2024

www.chinookgc.org/

**Director Penny Merriman's theme this year is
"Celebrate each other & educate our youth".**

"Thank you for your energy, your cooperation and your creativity".

April 1 ***

Registration deadline for The National Garden Club's Gardening School. Course #1, to be held April 29-30, at the Dryer Masonic Center, Tacoma. More information below.

April 3, 10:00 am

Chinook District Board Meeting.

April 17-20

The Pacific Region Convention will be held at the Embassy Suites in Lynnwood. More information to come as it is available.

April 29-30 ***

NGC Gardening School, Course #1 in Tacoma. Pre-registration required.

May 1, 10:00 am

Chinook District 60th Birthday Celebration. For the Design Program, we will be making May Day baskets & hearing about roses for the Horticulture Program. We will be remembering the 60's, in our dress, & showcasing club activities from 1964-2024.

*****NGC Gardening School, Course #1 to be held April 29-30 at the Dryer Masonic Center, Tacoma. This course will be on Basic Botany & Soils, Techniques for Growing Outdoor Flowers, & Plant Propagation. The cost is \$70 for both days with lunch & refreshments included. It is open to the public, as well as garden club members, so invite a friend! These classes are for your general knowledge, but if you complete all 4 courses (8 days) & take the open book test each day, you can receive a certificate from National Garden clubs stating you are a Gardening Consultant. This is not a requirement, but everyone is welcome to take the test. Class starts at 8:30 & ends at either 3:30 or 4:30, depending on if you will be taking the test.**

Course #2 October 28-29, 2024

Course #3 April 28-29, 2025

Course #4 October 29-30, 2025

For more info contact Kathy Johnson at kathy16@msn.com



Keeping in mind for 2024

~Save the Date~

May 11

Annual Plant Sale is almost here!

Topsoil for potting up your plants will be available at the March General Meeting. Email Twyla Colvin if you have any questions at twylac@comcast.net

May 29

Membership Appreciation bus tour to Heronswood Botanical Gardens & Bay Hay & Feed on Bainbridge Island
8:30am - 4:30pm (at least)



In appreciation of all the member's hard work, and a celebration of our garden club and friendships, the garden club is going to visit Heronswood in Kingston. Heronswood was created by renowned plant explorer Dan Hinkley. The botanical garden is an amazing display of rare and unusual plants. For more information, visit <https://www.héronswoodgarden.org/visit>. We will also be visiting the Bay, Hay and Feed Store; a combination of a nursery, garden shop and old fashioned mercantile. Catered box lunches will also be provided.

Summer member garden tour...TBD

Planning is already underway for this summers tour. If you weren't able to fill out the questionnaire at the last meeting & you would like to share your garden this year, or in the future, or if there is a special garden you would like to revisit, please email Trish Blackburn at johnandtrish@comcast.net to let her know.





BREAKFAST 4 THE BIRDS

OH, LA LA! Ciscoe Morris is going to delight us with homegrown stories, helpful tips & garden wisdom.

WE HAVE A FULL HOUSE!!!

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR TICKET. IT WILL BE YOUR SILENT AUCTION NUMBER.

Marilyn Nelson reminded us that there are no categories for the hat parade, however all hats must be worn. She gave out birds & feathers to adorn your hat. It's always so much fun to see where your imagination takes you! The ballot for the best hat will be in your program on the table.

There will be photo opportunities, so this is a perfect time to get your picture taken for next years yearbook! Don't forget to email it to Sharon Fagnan.

Proceeds from this years event will go towards planting rhododendrons around the edge of the Cemetery, as well as shade trees for the local parks.

Sunday, Feb 18, at 11 am, we are gathering at Karen Arris' to put together centerpieces for the tables. You can park in her neighbors driveway, if needed. She will supply materials & lunch.

Trex 'Bags to Bench' Challenge

We can help fight plastic waste!

According to the TREX company they recycle about 400 million pounds of discarded plastic annually. Tory Bennett has begun collecting stretchy plastic shopping bags, newspaper sleeves, bubble wrap, package liners, product overwrap, shrink wrap & stretch film used to palletize boxes, which she will collect at our general meetings & drop off at District. Every 1000 pounds donated makes one trex bench. For more information Google 'Trex Bags to Bench Challenge'.





Please add this info to page 39 in your yearbook...
We now have 107 members!

Ellie Dodrill **NEW MEMBER** 2024
38609-200th Ave SE 206-766-0687
Auburn, WA 98092
ellie@dodrill.net

Lynne Holderbein **NEW MEMBER** 2024
24419 SE 372nd St 425-531-2632
Enumclaw, WA 98022
lynne.holderbein@gmail.com

A couple of tips from Marianne Binetti: "Snowdrops can be dug & split apart as soon as the first year after planting. Just divide the clumps every year & soon you will have hundreds. Columbine will reseed easily & you can move the seedlings to wherever you want a cluster of color. Then there is the hardy Cyclamen that you don't have to move because the ants plant the seeds for you all over your garden. So buy these 3 plants & you'll soon have hundreds!" It's time to prune roses in Western Washington & also clematis that blooms in summer. Cut your David Austin roses down by 1/3 & others down to 2' tall. Some roses I just let stay tall so they can bloom above the plants in front. I call this going natural or just being lazy & watching what happens when you let thing go a bit wild."



IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

Thanks for the very nice welcome email! I have lived in Enumclaw for 1 ½ years. My husband and I bought a 1931 farmhouse that we will be doing an addition on in 2024. The yard and garden area has been neglected for a few years, so I started last spring working on bringing it back to life. I love flowers, especially the old fashioned ones like snapdragons, hollyhocks, hydrangeas and roses. I am excited to be a part of the garden club to learn more about gardening. Thanks,
Cathy Martin



Thanks, Sharon

sharonjimfagnan@comcast.net

**It is my plan to have everyone's picture in the 2024-2025 yearbook, but
I NEED YOUR HELP!**

**Please email me a newer picture of yourself that you would like for me to include.
If you would rather not include a picture please let me know that, too.**

Enumclaw Garden Club
Sharon Fagnan
1171 Florence St
Enumclaw WA 98022

Where friendships GROW
FEBRUARY 2024



TO ALL WHO
CELEBRATE IN
FEBRUARY