

Enumclaw Garden Club

growing
since
1923

September EGC Meetings

BOARD Meeting, 9:30am / Monday 9-8-25

Location - 1450 Battersby Ave.

Enumclaw, WA 98022

Our new club president, Dee O'Connor Nash, conducted the September board meeting at the NEW location. The EGC board meetings are now held at **St. Elizabeth Hospital**, in the Rainier Room (on the first floor, inside the cafeteria). Please note this meeting site is ADA accessible. All EGC members are welcome and encouraged to attend board meetings.

A few topics discussed:

- Proposed budget
- Committee reports / updates
- Website updates

October board meeting: 9:30 am, Monday, 10-13-25 at above location.



GENERAL Meeting, 9:30am / Wednesday 9-24-25

Location - VFW Hall, 44426 - 244th Ave. SE, Enumclaw, WA 98022

This is the first general meeting after our summer break, and a full house is anticipated.

9:30 Members arrive & sign in (please bring a potluck dish to share)

10:00 Meeting business

10:45 Horticulture (Tory B.) and Gardening Tips (Joy J.)

Bring a cutting from your garden if it's beautiful or unusual. Remember: we strive for flower-show quality, so no droopy blooms or spotted leaves. Tory is eager to showcase your specimens in a clean, proportionally sized, clear glass vase or container with a wee bit of water!

11:00 to noon - Speaker: Christine Gregorich, Master Gardener.

Topic: "Square Foot Gardening"

Square foot gardening a method that utilizes a raised bed divided into one-foot squares to maximize space and yield.

Method: Visuals, slideshow, handouts and Q & A

noon to 1:00 - Potluck lunch

We all help clean up, stack chairs, and put away tables after lunch.

- Centerpiece provided by - Doris Maris

Clarine, Maribeth and Dixie request:

- Hosts arrive by 8:30am to help set up tables and chairs.
- Each host bring one raffle item.
- Clear food tables, fold tablecloths and help put away table and chairs after lunch.
- **This month the 9 hosts are:** Kathy Wetton, Judy Thorsett, Carolyn Hotton, Gayle Schmidt, Sandy Bittner, Julie Adams, Chris Yourgliche, Lynne Woollum, Elyse Wilson

HOSTS: Please be sure to ask an EGC friend to trade their host-month with you if you're not able to attend the September general meeting.

2026 Proposed Budget Document

Carol Pedersen sent an email to the EGC member distribution list with a PDF of the EGC 2026 Proposed Budget Document attached. We will review, discuss and (the members present) will vote on the information in this document. Contact Val Skaggs with your questions.

Yearbooks and Welcome New Members

The 2025-2026 EGC Yearbook will be distributed at the September and October board and general meetings. If you keep your old yearbook - great! If you toss it - please consider shredding or burning the pages to safeguard member's contact information.

Our membership has beautifully blossomed this summer, we now have 117 members! You're invited to look around for new faces (and name tags) at the September meeting, introduce yourself and make new friends. The recently published yearbook contains our new member contact information. In future newsletters... this is the area where we'll feature (future) new members so you can add them to the 'New Member' section of your yearbook.

President's Desk • Welcome Fall!

by Dee O'Connor Nash

After an eventful summer with the Tea & Tour, Member Appreciation, July 4th parade, and the KC Fair, it's time to breathe in fall. I love the crisp air and sitting in the garden with the last rays of summer sun, ruminating about life. It reminds me how grateful I am to know all of you and how welcome you made me feel when I joined. A B4B invitation from Twyla, a post card from Lanette, an invitation from Yolanda to 'Come decorate a tree!', and urging from Liz to "Join a committee - it will be FUN!" (And it was!), all made me feel part of a group I was unfamiliar with. I found longtime members to be such a gift to the new folks, sharing their knowledge and appreciation for all things growing. With so many new members joining our ranks, I'm sure they will feel the same warm welcome and inclusion I did. **I'm looking forward to another exciting year with laughter, companionship and JOY!**



A Thank You Note From The Marion Grange

Thank you so much for your generous donation to the Marion Grange! Your donation will go a long way towards the improvements to our garden. Much appreciated! - Lisa Osterloh and the Marion Grange

P.S. From Doris Maris

May 2025 - I asked the EGC to donate \$300 to the Marion Grange to support improvements to their Buckley community gardening project, because they didn't receive one of the Chinook Youth Educational Grants. This donation was approved by the EGC general membership. Please contact me if I can share details about our wonderful ongoing project.

Flowers and Greenery for the 19th Annual Community Fundraiser Dinner

By Sharon Fagnan



As part of our ongoing support to Plateau Outreach Ministries (POM) we have volunteered to provide flowers & greenery from our gardens. Vases will be provided. If you have bounty to share & talent to help decorate tables please contact Sharon Fagnan.

There will be 40 tables & arrangements to put together Friday, September 26, 4pm @ the Enumclaw High School Commons. Everyone is welcome to donate & arrange.

You're invited to take a look at the POM website ([plateauoutreach](http://plateauoutreach.com)) to read about the many community based services this group provides for those in need.



EGC Summer Recap

By Nancy Wittman

The Member Bus Trip was already covered by Sharon's July newsletter... so this little blurb is my personal recap, because I'm now co-editor and can do that sort of thing! *Note: you can email Kandi or me if you want your own blurb included in an upcoming newsletter.*

6-26-25: I woke up this morning thinking about how much fun I had yesterday on our bus trip – fun and educational – those are the best sort of days. **Side note:** detailed event planning is just one of Debora Aker's super powers – count me excited to hear about all she has planned for our EGC participation in the next 4th of July parade.

I honestly marvel at the wealth of wisdom fellow members have stored up in their brain-box. Sometimes a golden nugget of knowledge just pops out in conversation! For example... while at Wells Medina Nursery, I showed Gayle Schmidt a plant I was thinking about buying... she takes one look at the stem and says "it's square shaped, watch it because it will spread." My response to her was, "huh?" This square-stem-spreading-thing (SSST) was news to me! I decided to share Gayle's comment, because I (of course) assume someone else out there is also ignorant about SSST. You're welcome.

Check out all the photos from the fun Member Bus Trip: <https://enumclawgardenclub.info/2025-member-appreciation>



7-16-25 • Tea and Tour

By Marilyn Cooper

9:30 am: We met at the Expo Center parking lot to carpool to the first stop on our member's garden tour - **Dee O'Connor Nash** in Bonney Lake. Dee's garden felt Zen with lots of lovely shade trees and an impressive display of yard art and artifacts adding to the calm vibe. Light refreshments were served.



We rounded up the group and moved the tour to our second stop - the vintage country home and garden of **Diana and Dave Weston**. It really is a compound that reflects the love the two of them have for their home and each other. Every garden area felt unique and welcoming. Diana certainly has impressed us with her plant selections and attention to detail and Dave's full support was on display too.

The third stop on the tour was **Margaret Storbo's** home and garden. Her place is best described as farm-chic. We felt like we had arrived at a winery and were ready to sit a spell and enjoy Margaret's stunningly picturesque vistas.

Next on the tour was **Donna Bogdan's** place. Her garden took us to Greece. Maybe because it was so very hot by then or maybe it was her use of bright royal blue accents. She cleverly drew us in with all of her bright colors and

luscious landscape.

We finished the tour at **Trish Pierce's** garden. There we ate a delicious potluck lunch and basked in the beauty of Trish's masterpiece of a yard. Trish took great pains to provide us with ample shade and beverages to help keep us hydrated. It was inspiring to view the changes and additions to her garden since she had last shared it with us.

Thank you to Trish Blackburn, our Tea and Tour Organizer for thoughtfully coordinating a super fun day for us. Trish notes all of the above garden hosts were her helpers, and that **Julie McGrath** kindly put her grade-school teacher skills to use by rounding us up to stay on schedule, and on to the next garden. To quote Trish.... "I'm always excited when people get the courage to share (their gardens) and then realize what a joy it was to do so."

Here's a link to all the photos from the Member Tea & Tour: <https://enumclawgardclub.info/2025-tea-and-tour>

Thank you **Debbie B'Hymer** for sharing your photographic skills with us!

Chinook District Garden Club News

General Meeting, 10:00am / Wednesday, 11-5-25

<http://www.chinookgc.org/>

All EGC members are welcome and encouraged to attend district general meetings and flower shows. Meeting and horticulture programs are in the morning and design programs are in the afternoon.

The board and general meetings are held at the Auburn First Methodist Church, 1100 'N' St. SE Auburn, WA 98002. Contact **Tory Bennett** for Design and Horticultural criteria for the flower show.

The district newsletter, Chinook Winds, will be distributed 4X per year via email. A paper copy will be sent to those district members who opt to receive the newsletter via USPS.

Penny Pines has been changed to "Plant a Tree" - collection jars will make the rounds at club meetings and the proceeds will be used to reforest our area. In 2024, Penny Pines was able to plant 200 trees. Questions contact our club's Plant a Tree Coordinator, Marilyn Cooper.

The district sends a huge THANK YOU to the clubs for their donations to the Chinook Scholarship programs at WSU and UW.

Chinook District will sponsor a "Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl" Poster Contest for grades 1-5. Due date for entries is December 1, 2025. Questions contact Penny Merriman.

The district Youth Grant Committee will again distribute grants to community organizations and educators that promote hands on gardening opportunities for youth. Entries will be distributed via email in October, the due date for entries is March 1, 2026. Contact Nancy Wittman if you'd like a copy of the application or have a question about this grant.

2025 Holiday luncheon tickets are now available.

Come celebrate at the Chinook District Holiday Party – Raffle! Catered lunch! Entertainment! Silent auction! Dessert Dash!

December 3 • 11am to 3pm, at Grace Lutheran Church, 22975 - 24th Ave S, Des Moines, 98198-7196

Tickets: \$30 • Available at our September Board and General meetings, or contact Dee O'Connor Nash.

Upcoming Workshops -

September 29th - Design Class with Barbara Smith | Cost - \$20 includes supplies. Learn the fundamentals of design for home or flowers shows. Discover line design, mass design, and the principles and elements of

design. Contact Club President for registration. Space is limited.

October 9th - Make & Take Petite Design Workshop | Cost - \$15 includes supplies. Create a beautiful petite floral design to decorate your home or to enter into a show. To register, contact Club President.

October 29 & 30 - National Garden Clubs Garden School | Cost \$70 - 2 days (1 day registration also available) Topics include: Identification of outdoor plants, Growing Woody Ornamental, Styles of gardening, Edible gardening, and Pruning techniques. To register, contact Club President.

EGC Plant Swap of Unique Plants

1st Annual EGC Plant Swap Game - Wednesday, 10-8-25, for all interested members... this is a new idea that we hope will be a hit. Do you have an interesting, unique, rare, etc. hardy perennial plant that you'd be willing to divide and share with a fellow EGC member? Just one potted and labeled plant (any size pot) will do. Plan to bring your one plant to the Enumclaw Library and we'll make a game of the plant swap. **Time TBD** - Carol will send an email to EGC members once the meeting room is booked. Questions and / or to sign up contact Nancy Wittman.

EGC Seed Exchange

2nd Annual EGC Seed Exchange - Monday, 11-10-25, for all interested members... start saving your seeds now as you dead-head your dry, spent blooms. Be sure to note the name, size, color and growing needs of your plants (seeds). That way this labeling information is handy when you put your seeds in the little envelopes to share. We have plans to meet after the board meeting in the Rainer Room at St. Elizabeth Hospital. More details will be emailed to members in early October. To sign up contact Nancy Wittman.

Timely Gardening Tips

By Joy Emry Johnson

- Harvest and stake Dahlias for more blooms.
- Fertilize your lawn or plan a meadow.
- Buy and plant spring bulbs.
 1. Crocuses: 2-3 inches deep
 2. Tulips and daffodils: 6-8 inches deep
 3. Irises: 3-4 inches deep
 4. Why not seek out a new spring bulb?
- Add mulch and / or top dressing while planting and weeding - so the rains can soak into your garden.

"When the world wearies and society fails to satisfy, there is always the garden." – Minnie Aumonier

Links to Learning

Are you interested in learning to harvest and save seeds from your garden? This link will take you to a 10 minute YouTube video about how to save seeds. <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=QqloGe-m2OM>



Or if you like written instructions for seed saving - check out this link to Martha Stewart's website - you'll find a most-excellent document to print or save. [jhttps://www.marthastewart.com/how-to-save-seeds-8677065](https://www.marthastewart.com/how-to-save-seeds-8677065)

If you consider yourself to be an intermediate level seed starter - the many resources on this website could feed your continued quest for knowledge. <https://underwoodgardens.com/resources/germination-guide/>

Do you know how to care for your gardening tools at the end of the season? If not, click on this link to download a PDF to print or save. <https://wpcdn.web.wsu.edu/wp-extension/uploads/sites/2073/2024/11/Tool-Maintenance.pdf>

Have you checked out all gardening resource links on the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs website? You'll want to bookmark this page... it's that good. <https://www.wagardenclubs.com/resourcecorner>

Ongoing

Garden Therapy / Thinking of You: is chaired by Donna Bogdan,

Please contact Donna if you know of a member who is ill, needs cheering up or could benefit from some encouragement. This summer cards were sent to: Lanette Knapp, Susan Petittlerc and Ginny Montgomery.

EGC website: is now managed by Cindy Johnson and Maryn Otto. They've ask that we all tour the EGC website and provide feedback.

EGC FaceBook page: is managed by Ginny Montgomery, All EGC members have access to our FaceBook page. Contact Ginny if you have EGC FB questions.

Send all treasurer correspondence to:
USPS mail to: PO Box 714, Enumclaw, WA 98022.

EGC Newsletter Editors: Nancy Wittman and Kandi Dodrill.

20% Discount: Use your Enumclaw Garden Club discount when you buy plants at Convington Creek Nursery. The new owner has supported our annual plant sale with a large donation of pots!

Book List

Do you listen to audio books while working in your garden? If so, this list of books may be of interest to you. The links below are to the King County Library, but these could also be purchased (printed, e-book or audio) at your favorite bookseller. And, do send Kandi Dodrill or Nancy Wittman an email with the name and author of your favorite audio book(s) so we can grow this list.

All the Tea in China, by Sarah Rose. This is the true story of Robert Fortune's remarkable journey as he ventured into the heart of China in the mid-1800s to procure tea plants and seeds for the East India Company. Fortune's story embodies the spirit of exploration and discovery (did he inspire Dan Hinkley?). It's a true story about how he made his way into China to steal tea plants and seeds! Note: I decided to fast-forward at the last bit of chapter one, because I didn't need to hear how pirates mistreated prisoners. But honestly, the rest of the book is amazing and worth the 10 hours it takes to listen - or read! <https://kcls.bibliocommons.com/v2/record/S82C771300>

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, By Mary Ann Shaffer. The author masterfully weaves a narrative through letters exchanged between the book's characters during the backdrop of post WWII. Listening to this book felt like attending a play, where each letter unfolds as a scene, inviting us to witness their experiences shared during tumultuous times (spoiler... it's also a love story with a happy ending too). <https://>

Requested Potluck Recipe

Quinoa Salad • from Trish Blackburn



2 c quinoa, cooked & chilled
½ cucumber, cubed
Tomatoes, chopped
½ red pepper, chopped
Toasted almonds
1 bunch green onions, finely chopped
1-2 avocados, cubed
DRESSING:
½ c rice vinegar
2 T sesame oil
2 T sugar
1 T+ ginger, minced
2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
salt and pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients, except avocado, and toss with ½ of the dressing. Toss with remaining dressing and avocado before serving. This is a fly by the seat of your pants type of recipe. You can easily adapt, switch or add additional items. Great proteins might include chicken or shrimp, but you may need to create more dressing.

2025 - 2026 EGC Officers

Dee O'Connor Nash, President
Joan Meyer, Vice President
Trish Blackburn, Secretary
Valerie Skaggs, Treasurer

The EGC is a member of the Chinook District of WA State Garden Clubs
and the Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Enumclaw Garden Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
All donations are tax deductible.

*** If you find a typo in this newsletter:** Please contact Kandi or Nancy so we can post a correction in the next newsletter - or we'll send an email to the membership if the information is time sensitive. Apologies in advance, but you may need to overlook punctuation and grammar issues - because we write how we speak. This newsletter is intended to be a lighthearted dialog with our fellow members.

*It's easy to connect with us via FaceBook or the EGC website –
just click on one of the buttons below.*





Try email & social marketing for free!