

February 2021
GARDEN CHATTER



PRESIDENT— KAREN ARRIS
VICE PRESIDENT— LANETTE KNAPP
SECRETARY— CAROLYN MAY
TREASURER— CYNTHIA SABLE

FLOWER—PEONY

**THEME—” Precious as the flowers we nurture
and grow, so are the friendships we all come to know”.**

Enumclaw Garden Club is a 501(c)(3)
non-profit corporation



- FEBRUARY 13 IT'S SNOWING!!!!**
- FEBRUARY 24 EGC GENERAL MEETING ON ZOOM...pg 6 has instructions on downloading the app.**
- MARCH 8 EGC BOARD MEETING ON ZOOM...ALL ARE WELCOME**
- MARCH 24 EGC GENERAL MEETING ON ZOOM...**

President Karen opened the EGC Board Meeting reminding us that gardeners always “give back” to mother earth. Once we started staying home more the earth has began repairing itself with better air quality...etc. Keep your eye out for ways to be Mother Natures little helper!

Janelle Frazer, former EGC member & current EGC web-site assistant, has reached out to us for a favor. Her mother-in-law is turning 90 soon & loves to knit small sweaters to donate to families. She also loves a good deal. So, Janelles goal is to present her with 90 balls of yarn. If you have any from a leftover project or if you find a box of leftover that is inexpensive to free please drop it off at Cynthia Sables or Lanette Knapps house and they will see that she gets it. Thanks in advance!

Highlights from the January EGC general meeting!

- President Karen opened the meeting with a reminder of Plato's allegory on the effect of education or lack of it on a person's nature & that it is not an accurate representation of what is going on in the world. Her challenge to us is "Keep open when talking to our Garden Club friends"...it is the gift we give each other & will enlarge our view of each other & the world. She thanked Yolanda & Shannon for their generosity at the Senior Center.
- • 17 members joined our ZOOM meeting.
- • See updated info on pg 2 for B4 Birds & Plant Sale.
- • Tory showed us some of her winter arrangements for the Design Slide Show at the Chinook District general meeting on Feb. 3. She used a quite a variety including orange-peel witch hazel, daphne, saraccocoa, hellebores, viburnum, & crepe myrtle with it's beautiful bark. The 3 design types are Line, Free Form, & Mass. Now is the time to clean up & mulch. Wait & prune your roses when the forsythia blooms so that they don't get die-back.

CHINOOK DISTRICT NEWS

- The April 26 & 27 WSFG Symposium 2021 has been cancelled. Certifications will be extended because of any hours missed.
- EGC sponsored 2 young artists in the Woodsy Owl Poster Contest. Adley & Jude were awarded 2nd place & honorary 2nd place in state. Congratulations! They were presented with a bag of goodies & are invited to attend the Chinook Districts Awards ceremony in June.
- Chinook District is looking for donations for the Blue Star Memorial Marker flower bed at Tahoma National Cemetery. No member should purchase anything. Instead, the hope is that we can donate from our own gardens five or 6 perennials that boom at different times during the growing season, grow about 1-2' tall, are nonaggressive, tolerate part shade/sun and are not heavy drinkers. Please submit pictures of what you have to president Karen & she will forward them to Tanya Galat, co-chair, for consideration. You will be notified when to dig!



Unfortunately, Punxsatawney Phil saw his shadow on FEBRUARY 2nd so we are in for 6 more weeks of winter! This prediction is 45% accurate for Seattle!

THINKING OF YOU
GARDEN THERAPY

Chairperson Becky Butcher

206-384-5174

becky.butcher@comcast.net

A sympathy card was sent to Judy Amburgey on the passing of her brother & a get well card was sent to Betty Hamilton after she broke her arm .

If you know of a Garden Club member who is ill or just needs a little cheering up or some encouragement, please let Becky know.

Please send all EGC Treasurer correspondence to Cynthia Sable at:
enumgcfinance@gmail.com or
POBox 714, Enumclaw

The newsletter is becoming more & more important as a way of communicating with our Garden Club friends who don't have access to email or ZOOM so please let me know if you have anything you would like to pass on.

Also please send any garden related DIY tips, articles, recipes, events, and/or photos that you would like included in the newsletter to

sharonjimfagnan@comcast.net

March 10th at noon is the cut-off date for the next newsletter.



Breakfast for the Birds & Plant Sale Update

- At the January General Meeting the decision was announced to cancel the B4B due to COVID restrictions. The new date is February 23, 2022 at Pete's Pool with Marianne Binetti speaking. All donated items will be stored. All committee Chairmen agreed to hold their position for next year's event but we would like to have a Chairperson for the Silent Auction.
- It was also announced that the Plant Sale is moved to June 5 (set-up June 4). We will be following the COVID outdoor mandatory restrictions. Shannon has submitted the forms for the City permit & to the Senior Center (we borrow their tables).
- As the weather gets warmer start potting up your plants! Karen has pots available & hopefully we can have a potting party or two later in the spring.

A big THANKS to Twyla & Shannon!

If you have any B4B questions please contact Twyla @ 253-886-2414 or
TwylaC@comcast.net

June Plant Sale questions please contact Shannon @ 206-914-4181 or
shannonb@skynetbb.com

Lake Wilderness Arboretum – A Brief History

The area around the Lake Wilderness Arboretum has changed a lot over the years. Let us introduce you to our neighborhood and history.

Lake Wilderness Area In the 1890's, one of the largest logging mills in King County was located at Lake Wilderness. In the early 1900s, a homesteader whose property was on the shore of the lake offered a few rental cabins on his farm to fishermen and hunters. The Gaffney brothers, Tom and Kane, bought the land and began developing a resort in 1926. They later bought two adjacent resort properties and combined them all into a complex of about sixty rental cabins that offered indoor and outdoor recreation, including boat rentals, a golf course, a bowling alley, a dance hall, a roller rink, and a restaurant. The resort was a popular destination for locals and visitors during World War II. The award-winning Lake Wilderness Lodge was constructed in the early 1950's. At the same time a 2,400-foot airstrip was added to encourage visitors to take air taxis to the resort. Some 8,000 people had attended the lodge's 1950 opening celebration that included an air show utilizing the new air strip near the building. But over the next decade, the resort's popularity declined. By the 1960s the crowds would die down and the park was purchased by King County in 1964.

The Arboretum's Early Years Unlike most public gardens, the Lake Wilderness Arboretum did not begin with an endowment, an estate, nor a city or state to back it. It didn't even begin with a location. In 1965 George Tersisky, a Bulgarian immigrant, and a small group of supporters, including Kent Mayor Isabel Hogan, Ardis Johnson, and Lillie Wagner, organized and incorporated the South King County Arboretum Foundation as a 501c3 nonprofit. The Foundation's goal was to establish an arboretum in south King County. The committed group lacked land and funding but approached King County with their strong desire. In October 1967, King County approved in principle the concept of an arboretum on a portion of the acreage held by King County Parks Department – the former Gaffney Resort on Lake Wilderness in Maple Valley. In 1969, the King County Parks Department gave final approval to a partnership with the Foundation for the development and management of an arboretum on over 40 acres of the Gaffney property- the area surrounding what had been the resort's airstrip. In 1970, the County engaged an architect whose overall design for Lake Wilderness Arboretum was approved by the Parks Department and endorsed by the Foundation. A growing membership and devoted volunteers proceeded to enact manageable elements of the design. The resort's old corral became an active nursery for the propagation of plants, including trees and shrubs. Development and operation required funding and the concept of a plant sale became reality. In 1971, donations and nursery stock went on sale on the board walk at the Golden Steer Restaurant at 240th and Benson in Kent. Now taking place at the Arboretum, the Spring and Fall Plant Sales have become annual events and a major funding source. In 1972, augmented by Forward Thrust funds, the County installed a well, electricity, a lath house with overhead irrigation and cyclone fencing at the nursery site. These projects were jointly completed with Arboretum volunteers and students hired by the King County Work Program. Later in the 80's, the County approved and funded the field irrigation, installed by volunteers and work program youth. County-wide comprehensive planning in the early 90's involved community input to establish the use of public property in King County. The resulting plans for the park and Arboretum serve as a guideline as the Foundation continues to develop the Arboretum into a regional resource. The mid-1990's brought a flurry of activity as new gardens and plant collections were added.

The Turn of the Century The land remained as part of King County Parks until 2003 when it was transferred to the City of Maple Valley, which had recently been incorporated. Later that same year, the name was changed from the original name, South King County Arboretum, to Lake Wilderness Arboretum. The name of the Arboretum Foundation was changed to Lake Wilderness Arboretum Foundation in 2007. Currently, the Lake Wilderness Arboretum Foundation has a Joint Use Agreement with the City of Maple Valley to develop and manage the property.

Just as the Arboretum came into existence through the hard work and commitment of volunteers over 50 years ago, we still rely on the efforts of volunteers today.

A sanctuary to inspire, educate and connect us to the natural world.

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Amenities to visitors include free parking, picnic tables, public restrooms, benches throughout the grounds, kiosks containing maps & brochures, trash cans, and covered gazebo with seating. The ground are comprised of 5 acres of gardens, 30 acres of forest trails for strolling, biking or just wandering. Leash & poop laws apply to your pets. Most garden paths are wheel-chair & stroller accessible. For more info go to lakewildernessarboretum.org

Next month's favorite place article will be on the Bellevue Botanical Garden.

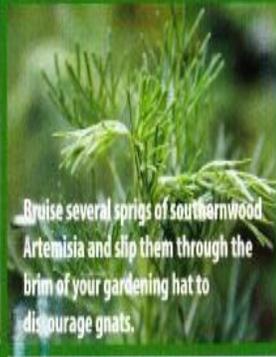
Do you have a favorite local place to go when you just want to wander & take in the beauty of the Pacific Northwest?



Favorite Year-round Herbal Hacks

from The Herb Society of America



<p>Keep a bowl of lavender buds on your nightstand. Stir with your fingers before bedtime for calming sleep.</p> 	<p>Simmer expired dried herbs - cinnamon sticks, nutmeg, and cloves to infuse your house with a subtle scent. The herb water can be refrigerated and used again.</p> 	<p>Plant mints near your dogs' favorite outdoor napping spot to help discourage biting insects.</p> 	<p>Two white socks + one cup of baking soda + 1/2 cup dried herbs. Blend ingredients and divide between socks. Tie in a loose knot and leave in stinky shoes for at least 24 hours.</p> 
<p>Drop a sprig of flowering lavender on the bottom of a cake pan before pouring in the batter</p> 	<p>Bruise several sprigs of southernwood Artemisia and slip them through the brim of your gardening hat to discourage gnats.</p> 	<p>Chop and mix together good herb partners. Add to an ice cube tray. Cover with olive oil and freeze. Add cubes to everything.</p> 	<p>Discourage deer foraging with aromatic borders that irritate sensitive noses. Surround tasty perennials with smelly lavenders, sages, lemon grass, and mints.</p> 
<p>Freeze fresh herb flowers in ice cube trays. Pair with a well-chosen adult beverage.</p> 	<p>After the final herb harvest, chop all parts of the plants except roots. Wash and cover with water. Simmer for at least an hour, strain well. Freeze in one cup portions and add to soups and stocks.</p> 	<p>Baby socks filled with dried catnip and sewed closed make irresistible cat toys.</p> 	<p>Strip all but two top leaves from 4-6" basil stem. Drop into filtered water and leave in full sun several weeks to develop roots. Eat fresh basil in the dead of winter</p> 

We are Zooming this year!

Because of Covid-19 we will continue to conduct all meetings via ZOOM until it is safe to meet in person. Some of you have already been sharing laughs with family, enjoyed happy hour or been seen by a doctor over this app! If you already have this app on your phone, iPad or computer you are ready to go. For those who are scratching your head, hang on!

Installing Zoom

Yes, you can do it!

Zoom is an application (an app) that allows you to be in the room with others. You will be able to join a meeting in the comfort of your living room in your jammies with your favorite beverage! But to be part of the action you need to download ZOOM.

Step 1: Install ZOOM on your computer, i-pad or phone. There are a couple of options on how to do that.

Search your “App Store” on your phone. The icon is a blue square with a white A.

OR

Type “installing zoom” in your browser or google search and watch a video or follow instructions.

OR

Type <https://zoom.us> and download yourself. It is free!

There may be some security questions to make sure you are not a robot, but there is nothing intrusive and it is all still free.

After ZOOM is installed just wait for a meeting notice email from Carol Pedersen and click on the link a few minutes before the meeting day & time & follow the prompts.

You may be asked to wait for the host to invite you in. Make sure your audio is turned on.

If you are still unsure of how it works you might want ask a friend for help or join a friend the first time (with masks, of course).

SEE YOU SOON ON ZOOM!

At Lanette's urging, Linda sent in a story with these pictures for our enjoyment

Here is what happened...

Within the last week, or so, who knows these days what day it is anyway?!? My husband and I were walking through our north garden. It is on a steep slope, with rockery stairways with some level spots in between. It was a lot easier to go down there 15+ years ago! I just don't wander down there everyday, let's just say. We have a gorgeous hellebore that is blooming right now. I'm not sure how old this hellebore is, but I'm going to guess at least 10 years old. We've lived here going on 16 years this coming December. We designed our home and the landscape as well. I'm just not sure this is an "original" plant from when we moved in. I'd have to go back and look at the notes and pics from when we moved in to be sure.

Getting back to the story, Steve and I were walking around the garden and I noticed a few other spots that might make a hellebore happy, and Steve agreed! Because they are in bloom right now, I convinced him that we should go soon for best choices, etc. We packed up a couple of days ago and went to Christensen's Nursery in Mt. Vernon. That's the closest nursery to us. (It's about half an hour drive away.) Anacortes just last year lost it's last nursery, so now if you want a plant, it's either one of two hardware stores or two grocery stores if you "need" to buy a plant! The first pic is of my beautiful hellebore, that sent me on a quest to plant more! And just to the left of that big one, I'm putting two more. The second picture is the one big hellebore to the left of the black iron rod railing. The third picture is of the four new hellebores we bought that day. ♡

No, I didn't get a chance to "place" them yesterday, and today it's raining. I have lots of good excuses....BUT they will be planted very soon! I'm hoping that there will be a bit of a break over the weekend to get them in their "forever home!...hopefully.

If, and when, I get around to putting them to bed, I'll be sure and send you some pics for "the rest of the story"!

I really thought about waiting until I got them in the ground and it was all completed, before I sent you this email. But with Lanette's encouragement, I decided to go for it. Loving to garden...Linda Wilhoit



Recent reports of sick or dead birds at backyard feeders is prompting the Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife to recommend that we temporarily discontinue feeding wild birds & hummingbirds or take extra steps to maintain their feeders & water dishes at least through March. Birds & Hummingbirds use natural food sources year-round, even while also using backyard bird feeders so they should be fine without the feeders. For more information google "salmonella in bird feeders" or go to the WDFW web-site.

Enumclaw Garden Club

Sharon Fagnan

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FEBRUARY

