



Chuckanut Chatter

A Publication of the Chuckanut District

<http://chuckanutwa.org/>

Member of the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

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

Winter
2014

DISTRICT OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

2013-2015

Officers:

Representatives to State: *Joyce Johnson
and Daphne Ruxton*

Treasurer: *Daphne Ruxton*

Secretary: *Bea Bazinet*

Past Director: *Cherie Cobley*

Appointed Officers:

Newsletter Editor: *Anne Sullivan*
absullivan@comcast.net

Website Manager: *Val Manuel*

Parliamentarian: *Joyce Johnson*

Volunteer Coordinator: *Gerry Douglas*

WSFGC Nominating Committee Delegate:
Judith Juno

WSFGC Nominating Committee Alternate:
Anne Sullivan

District Committee Chairpersons

Awards: *Val Manuel*

Conservation: *Iola Ratcliff*

Current Club Presidents:

Anacortes Garden Club

Joyce Hollywood and Joetta Lantz

Chuckanut Judges Council

Judy Boxx

Designing Women Floral Club

Bea Bazinet

D.U.P.I. - rotating responsibility

Floral Arts

Lois Moffatt

LaConner Civic Garden Club

Susan Deyo

Oak Harbor Garden Club

Joyce Hollywood

Tulip Valley Gardeners

Anne Clarke and Val Manuel

News from the Chuckanut District Board Meeting Held January 27th.

There are still tickets available for GALA XXXVI, "Spring Magic", March 10th. This event is the annual fundraiser for WSFGC Headquarters House. This year's GALA takes place at the Everett Holiday Inn, 3105 Pine St. Guest Speaker is Gina Jogan, an NGC Flower Show School and Symposium Instructor from Florida. Tickets are \$35 and include lunch, floral design, auction and vendors. Doors open at 11 AM, lunch at 12 Noon. A number of us are going, so you might be able to car pool. Daphne Ruxton, Chuckanut District Treasurer, has tickets. Please send a check, payable to "Chuckanut District", along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Daphne Ruxton, 802 Cultus Mountain Dr., Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284. Questions? Call Daphne at 360-856-1923

DUPI activities for months of Oct. Nov. Dec. 2013 and Jan 2014
October 2013 - Regular meeting held with 14 members present. Program: Decorating mini pumpkins. November 2013 - Regular meeting held with 15 members present. A food basket was made for the Ferndale food bank. Program: Painting rocks. December 2013 - Annual Christmas luncheon was again held at the Blue Heron in Semiahmoo with 14 in attendance. A raffle raised \$90.00 for the Ferndale food bank. January 2014 - Regular meeting was held. Program: Ray Renaud from Plantas Nativa gave a talk on Native Plants. Submitted by Judy Boxx.

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Island County Master Gardener Foundation presents:

2014 **Whidbey
Gardening
Workshop**
"It's all about gardening!"



Saturday, March 8, 2014, Oak Harbor, WA, 98277

Oak Harbor High School

<http://whidbeygardeningworkshop.org/2014/>

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LaConner Civic Garden Club had a tour of the Extension Center. They also made sedum wreaths. The merchants in LaConner buy the Christmas wreaths they make to beautify the downtown.

The Tulip Valley Gardeners reconvened their meetings (first Tuesday of every month at the First Lutheran Church in Mount Vernon) in September of 2013. One of our first orders of business was to announce that we now have a "direct" website for our members to access (chuckanutwa.org/tulipvalleygardeners) We have had some interesting speakers, including Shirley and Jerry Rock who are members of the NW Fuschia Society, Roger Ragusa, who manages Well's Nursery in Mount Vernon and Madelyn Case, Co-Coordinator of the Enabling Garden at the WSU/MG Discovery Garden. We have organized group activities and workshops: making bird seed eggs for sale, our annual wreath-making in November, outings to gardens - Garden D'Lights was dazzling, despite their "under construction" status! Our club participates annually in a very worthwhile project with The Oasis Teen Shelter. We fill gift bags with MANY miscellaneous items a teen may need while temporarily staying at the shelter. This year our bags were very much appreciated and gave one or two teens the only gift they were to receive at all on Christmas Day. The Director there has expressed tremendous gratitude and appreciation for our efforts. Anyone can make donations at the shelter and we would encourage other clubs to consider this very important cause in their charity or donation planning. Anne Clarke, Co-President
Kathy Hansen submitted an article she sent to the Skagit Valley Herald about TVG's community service project.

She asked that we print her submission.

"Besides an interest in gardening, Tulip Valley Gardeners also has a community service project of Christmas gift bags for the YMCA Oasis Teen Shelter in Mount Vernon. This project was instigated by Gerry Douglas a few years ago because she wanted to do something for the teens. The next year, Gerry had family emergencies so Kathy Hansen took over that project. Kathy hands out 20 gift bags in October and members each fill one or two bags with items such as an assortment of toiletries, school supplies, warm hats and/or gloves, T-shirts, sleep wear, backpacks, combs, brushes, gift cards or movie passes, grooming appliances cologne, or lotions. Each bag will have a different assortment, and will include a candy cane or two. The bags are delivered approximately December 18 so that they may be handed out to teens who spend the days of Christmas at Oasis. TVG meets at First Lutheran Church in Mount Vernon. For the use of the meeting room, TVG donates \$25 to the church each time they meet, for benefit of Oasis."

Oak Harbor Garden Club now has 108 members. The President's Project, the Permaculture Food and Forest, is moving forward to help create a new city park on land adjacent to Hal Ramaley Park, which we maintain on behalf of the city of Oak Harbor. It is exciting as a club to be involved in the creation of a new park that will provide food, habitat and beauty to people, animals and the environment in the long-term future. The club made and sold over 400 Christmas wreaths for a total of \$7,600. The club has been doing smaller projects for Civic Improvement around the city that members have suggested. Oak Harbor Garden Club now has a Facebook page

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Sorticulture

Everett's Garden Arts Festival

June 6 – 8, 2014

Friday, 10-8, Saturday, 10-6, Sunday 10-4

Legion Park – 145 Alverson Blvd – Everett, WA

Free Admission

Park at Everett Community College and take the bus. Regular fares apply.
There is handicap parking located at the Legion Park.

Landscape Designers, Hand-crafted Garden Art, Specialty Nurseries, Display Gardens, Kids' Activities, Wine Garden
Live Music: Mark DuFresne Band – Friday 6pm
Special Guest: Cisco Morris – Saturday 1pm

enjoyeverett.org

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW JOYCE JOHNSON?

She has been a member of the LaConner Civic Garden Club since 1971. She became President in 1974 for two years and again in 1996 for three years. She has held every other office in the LaConner Civic Garden Club (LCGC) at least once over the years. As President, in 1974, she represented the LCGC at the Chuckanut District (which includes the garden clubs from Skagit, Whatcom and Island Counties). She became Director of the Chuckanut District (CD) in 1989 for four years. She has held many other offices over the years for CD. During this time, Joyce became the Chairman of the horticulture and floral design section for the Skagit County Fair. She did this for 11 years. Along the way, Joyce got involved in judging "all things gardening". She had to attend five different "Flower Schools" in order to become a Student Judge. She then became an "Accredited Judge", then a "Life Judge", and finally, a "Master Judge". She has judged horticulture and floral designs at flower shows all over Washington. As a judge, she is a member of the Chuckanut District Judges Council. The judges in our district automatically belong to this group. She has been President of Judges Council several times and has been Treasurer/Secretary for at least ten years. Joyce joined the Floral Arts Garden Club in 1998. This club focuses on designing with flowers only. As a "Student Judge" she started designing flower arrangements or floral design for entry into local flower shows, as well as the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs (WSFGC) state shows. She still enters designs in shows throughout the year. She has a drawer full of ribbons to show for her achievements. As a member of Washington

State Federation of Garden Clubs, Joyce has been Nominating Committee Delegate for several terms and also Credentials Chairman for WSFGC board meetings since 2005. In 1999, after the sudden loss of her son, Joyce started writing poetry of all kinds, as many of you know by her entries in the LCGC Yearbooks and the poems she has read at many of our meetings. She gives out 200 Christmas cards each year that are full of her poems. You have all been lucky recipients of her wonderful gift of poetry. Did you know that Joyce submits her work on several poetry websites? She does! She has written thousands of poems that have been read all over the world. One of the on-line sites is called "Poetry Soup". She is currently in third place, in the world, having won 849 times in those contests. She is also a Cowboy Poet Laureate. In learning more about Joyce's contributions and accomplishments over the years in the various garden clubs, you'll understand why the Chuckanut District is pleased to present "The Joyce Show" in her honor.

Read by Gerry Douglas during the Joyce Show



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and is expanding its website. Ten of our members participated in the Designing Women's Flower Show. Five members participated in the December WSFGC Holiday Show. Many members enjoyed a bus trip to Molbaks and Wights nurseries in December. At our November meeting, Carol Goldberg gave a fascinating program on "The Legacy of Linnaeus". In December we had our holiday pot luck. Our January program was Cathy Rooks on "Making Your Ornamental Garden Beautiful and Tasty Too".

Designing Women had a very successful Small Standard Flower Show in November.

The next Chuckanut District General Meeting will be held May 22nd at the Burlington Senior Center, 1011 Greenleaf Ave, Burlington, WA. Flower Show entries at 9AM. Presentations begin at 10:30. Lunch is \$5.