

## LaConner Civic Garden Club



### LaConner/ Civic Garden Club Centennial Celebration

The LaConner/ Civic Garden Club members celebrated their Centennial Anniversary on Saturday, April 4, 2009, with an open house at the club building.

Susie Deyo, current President of the club, was not able to be there, but she was ably represented by Vice-President, Mary Johnson, who will be taking the reins for the next term.

Visitors and friends attended from far and wide. State board members came from Seattle, Chuckanut District dignitaries were there, and members of the various clubs in the district came to help LaConner celebrate. The Butterfly Garden was on display with its freshly groomed appearance, attesting to the hard work of the club members.

The room was decorated with arrangements of tulips and daffodils, and refreshments were served to the happy visitors. The oldest attending, Sarah Stewart, who along with her husband was one of the first bulb growers in the area and who will be celebrating her own Centennial birthday in August, enjoyed the day. The youngest attending along with her proud parents and grandma was little eleven-week-old Vail Rawlins. Her great grandma, Joyce Johnson, one of the club hostesses, proudly showed her off to one and all.

Former members and officers, family members and friends from LaConner and the area were part of the enthusiastic crowd.

The members of LaConner Civic/Garden Club including LeAnn Wing and Ruth Carpenter, Chairmen of the affair; thank all those who helped them to celebrate this momentous occasion.

The Civic Club was formed in LaConner in 1909 with Mrs. A. B. Tillinghast as the first president. (one of the newly formed club's first action was to march on City Hall and demand that livestock be kept off of the city streets). The Civic Club sponsored the Garden Club in 1950 with Mrs. Miriam Nelson as the first president and the two clubs merged in 1954, the same year that The LaConner Civic/ Garden Club joined the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs. Mrs. Evelyn Church was the president at the time.