



**DECEMBER 2022 BRAMBLE**  
**REDMOND GARDEN CLUB'S NEWSLETTER – GETTING DIRTY SINCE 1990**



A Note  
from the Co-Presidents

Garden club is digging its way out of COVID and we have a new spring to look forward to. Enjoy the season, as we anticipate a new year of new beginnings! Bring on Winterfest! ~

*Karen Adams & Charles Zandell*

“One of the most delightful things about a garden is the anticipation it brings.” W.E. Johns, *The Passing Show*.



**LOOKING AHEAD**

**FLOWER OF THE MONTH: HOLLY**



**Location:** Redmond's Union Hill Church (20810 NE Union Hill Rd.),

**Date:** Tuesday, Dec. 13 **Time:** 6:30 pm social

**Assigned Potluck:** Appetizers, Salads, Veggies, Hot Dish Main Courses, Desserts, Wine

**Meat Course & Liquid Refreshments:** Club furnished

IT'S BACK.....After a two-year hiatus, let's get our glam duds in the ready position and get this anticipated **Winterfest** party started at our annual celebration! Thanks to host **Kate Maloney** and **Coordinator Mary Vermeulen**, the church site has been secured, decorated and readied for gardeners in the party mood. Back by popular demand... **Optional** garden-related gift exchange (one that *you* would like to receive), estimated \$20-\$25 price, as well as a shared food item that you volunteered to bring. Dress code varies... You choose--up or down, depending upon whim or comfort. Time to get your glitta and bling on (just kidding—it's requested that glitter and spiked heels remain at home) and enjoy a fun holiday social for all with...

**NO SPEAKERS, ZOOM LINKS OR BUSINESS ITEMS!**

**DIRECTIONS to Union Hill Alliance Church:** Look for RGC signs. Church is near the 4-way stop at the crest of Union Hill Rd and intersection with 208<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE.



*Your RGC Board wishes you a Joyous Season and a very Happy New Year!*

*KAREN ADAMS, APRIL CREASEY, STAN GIANT, MARILYN PULK,*

*MARY VERMEULEN, CHARLES ZANDELL*

## BOARD BUZZ



Winter Solstice is fast approaching bringing longer days and a steady creep out of winter. A warm cup and a seed catalog, garden books, and wistful glances to the garden are ahead. Cherish the quiet and rest. Cherish too the gift of this garden community, our shared experience through a major pandemic, and our steady growth towards a season of new club adventures. Take time to be thankful this season for the gifts our little group brings us all. Thankful we all help this club be a better club experience for each of us. Thankful for the friendships we find, the projects we share, and the skills we learn from each other. We are a gift to each other every month. Raise a glass to the joy the simple things this life gives us every day.

Thank you for being a part of Redmond Garden Club. You make RGC a better place in this busy world.

I wish for you this season a quiet moment of abundance, a sweet moment of breath full of joy, and the warmth of love to fill your hearts. *Peace and Joy, friends.*

### YWCA FAMILY VILLAGE COLLECTIONS DRIVE



With our Pass-the-Hat contributions in hand, **Kate Maloney** ventured forth this month and shopped for our Redmond YWCA Family Village needy families. Remember, home-made crafts and gift cards will be accepted at Winterfest—so spread the joy. After receiving her wish lists for our families, we'll be filled in on the goodies she was able to purchase with our generous donations. Stay tuned for January updates. Happy shopping, Kate. RGC and our families thank everyone for their generosity!



**JANUARY'S SPEAKER, DARREN STRENGE** will provide a timely discussion on "When Moss is Not Really a Moss"! We've now entered those extensive moss-growing days, but hopefully not between our toes, as some folks describe Seattle-ites. **Darren Strenge**, a plant pathologist with a BA in Horticulture and MS in Botany, is our moss expert, who has for the past 5 years overseen one of the largest public moss gardens in North America and will share his moss passion. Darren has found his plant world niche and described his fascination as having multiple reasons; "they are particularly interesting because despite being small and delicate, they rival or even exceed the drought tolerance of desert plants—and moss species grow on every continent, including Antarctica." Darren's talk will cover the Bloedel Reserve moss garden and moss biology, garden design and propagation. From a bryophile's (moss lover's) point-of-view, referring to a plant as a "moss" is a form of high praise, even though there are those plants that commonly masquerade as moss. From a purely scientific basis, he has been documenting and photographing the moss and liverwort species found at Bloedel. Darren has found that "the form and variety of mosses rivals that of the vascular plants but on a more Lilliputian scale. Exploring that miniature world has been as fascinating as any other botanical foray." As Ciscoe Morris has often spouted on about lawn care and moss...we need to "embrace the moss" and "learn to love it". After Darren's presentation we may just be so inclined to do that and morph our shady lawns into our own moss gardens. Drop-kick that moss killer.

## RGC BOOK CLUB – ARMCHAIR GARDEN READING WITH ANGIE GROSVENOR HANSEN



### GREAT AMERICAN GARDEN-CATION



**RGC UPDATE:** We have moved January's meeting for Book Review to February, where we will meet in person at Molbaks. Angela Grosvenor Hansen's Garden Book Reviews will be presented there instead of Horticulture (which requires winter planting anyway). It will be armchair gardening time with those dark, rainy days perfect for motivational garden reading...and a chance to take those books home that very day to get started". So many garden books, so little time".

*Inspiration vs. perspiration—a February garden win-win.*

**A book is like a garden carried in the pocket. ~ Chinese Proverb**

### HORTICULTURE HIGHLIGHTS with Dianne Stime



#### Greetings Fellow Gardeners, Horticulture is on a holiday break

The lucky winners for November's plants **Spider Plant Chlorophytum**, **Clumping Bamboo - Fargesia Robusta Bamboo**, **Sedum Pot** and book "The Big Book of Garden Design" were in order, **Lori Fleuchaus**, **Sue Chenault**, **Leigh Ann Hines** and **Iben Dransfield**. Happy planting and reading! More plants will be coming in the months ahead. See everyone in January in lieu of February's Garden Book Review.



#### SHOP TALK



#### HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS...

SHOP TALK is on holiday until January. Garden books, hot drinks, and warmth are tops on our list. But seed-dreaming AND sprouting plant images have begun in earnest...We'll be back after vacation.

*Happy Holidays, Stan Giant*



#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Current Balance: **\$15,990.35**



## POTPOURRI



*Another celebration we were forced to skip was our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.*



**AND THIS FUN IDEA HAD TO BE ON THE BACK BURNER AS WELL.....NEW YEAR, NEW US....** RGC – getting dirty for **30 years! OR 32 YEARS?**

Let's have a belated celebration with a garden tee-shirt competition at the June 2023 meeting. Better late than never! Start shopping now, gardeners (or ask Santa) for that winning tee-shirt you will be wearing at the June meeting, whether it's via Zoom or in-person. These make [great holiday gifts](#), if only to yourself. Lots of time to shop, plan, and laugh the dirt off! Dirty, nice, cute, or funny – lets' strut our gardening fun and celebrate our 30s in style.



***SOIL PILE ETIQUETTE: A quick reminder to all of us about our soil site:***

Kudos to President Karen, who spent time at **Sue Chenault's** cleaning up our soil site and removing pots that don't belong there. She ended up with half a pickup load that needed removal and proper disposal. ***Please remember that site is for the soil, one-gallon pots, and in the spring a container with our plant tags and fertilizer. PLEASE DO NOT USE IT FOR***

***ANY OTHER REASON.*** Please remember this is the entrance to Sue's home and we need to keep it tidy and use it only for its intended purpose.

After cleaning up the site, usable loads of one-gallon pots were then stored for our use. These were obtained in bulk, and it is noticeable there are some broken pots in the long stacks of pots. PLEASE, if you happen to find a broken pot, take it home and dispose of it. We appreciate Sue's willingness to deliver soil and allow us to store our pots in this convenient spot for everyone. Let's show her our thanks by following the guidelines and keeping this site tidy.

Thank you, garden mates!

## SALVAGED "GARDEN GLASS FLOWERS" WORKSHOP

Under the tutelage of **Patrice Rossano** and her splendid array of glass plates, vases, glasses, and bowls, nine glass worker wannabes took to those drills like they were made for this kind of creativity. Drill, baby, drill could have been the mantra here at Union Hill Church's facilities, as Patrice demonstrated her newly found garden art idea. Participants **Karen Adams, Patrice Rossano, Lori Fleuchaus, Leigh Ann Hines, Dianne Stime, Tamara Bell, Angie Grosvenor Hansen, Kate**

**Maloney** and daughter **Amy** were shown how this new garden art workshop was both beautiful, creative and fun. Matching glass and ceramic items together for just the right look allowed individuality to shine through. Patrice showed everyone how to drill glass under water with a special diamond drill bit. Sometimes it took 2 minutes to drill through, sometimes 5-10 minutes, all dependent upon the glass and widths and a light touch. Although scary at times, this method mostly works, with few items breaking. There were two methods to attach items together—washers and nuts or silicone glue, both using pvc pipe for display. The glass pieces were stacked and glued or bolted together, or any combination that worked best for the design. Results were spectacular, as all participants created one for themselves and three for the Plant Sale. Check in with Patrice, who also offered a printed instruction sheet for those wishing to become a glass artist on their own.



Goggles, drill bits, thrift store finds and imagination were instrumental in beautiful garden art



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## BELLEVUE BOTANICAL GARDEN HOLIDAY LIGHTS FIELD TRIP

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### Bellevue Botanical Garden's GARDEN D'LIGHTS

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Take  
Note

A last-minute snow cancellation for the BBG Garden D'Lights annual RGC field trip forced a rescheduled date of Thursday, Dec. 8th at 5:30 PM. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the BBG website, since there are not ticket sales at the event. Please let **Iben Dransfield** know if you will be joining in on the rescheduled season of lights festivities. Dress warm and hope for no snow!



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## EVERGREEN & HERB WREATH/CENTERPIECE WORKSHOP

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### Holiday Wreath Make and Take



Well, the snow gods have spoken once again. This traditional RGC wreath-making, holiday mood-setter was canceled due to snow accumulations and unplowed streets at **Karen Adam's** host site. We're on high alert for any rescheduling news prior to our holiday needs. Same time, same place, when and if the rains return. How could we ever wish for that? Stay tuned for notifications from either **Karen, Lori Fleuchaus** or **Dianne Stime**. Meanwhile, keep those greens in the ready position.

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NORTHWEST  
**FLOWER & GARDEN**  
SHOW



**WINTER CURE TIME WITH "SPRING VIBES ONLY"**

*Winter is Coming*.....and then it's time to shake off that musty "cabin fever". Throw the windows wide open for much-needed doses of the NW Flower & Garden Show theme "Spring Vibes Only" from February 15-19, 2023. That spark of joy that comes while giving or receiving flowers or frankly, just looking at them, is the moment we've all been anticipating amidst Seattle's endless gray days. With fond speaker memories of a NW Flower Show manager, who described the blood, sweat and tears of "some assembly required" to create this spectacular garden show attraction, we look forward to yet another fabulous garden party featuring the over-

the-top garden designs, City Living, Seminars, Marketplace shopping, Container Wars, Blooms & Bubbles, and maybe even a Ciscoe sighting. Get ready for so many “vibes”, so small a price.



## GARDEN SHED TIPS AND TRICKS

### House Plant Insect Rescue – Fine Gardening Magazine

Turning our attention inward after colder weather arrived, house plants newly returned from the outdoor summer break time, can use a once-over inspection for insects. I have a bird of paradise that’s a flashy lady, but after the power and heat were removed for several days, she took a turn with some browning leaves. I inspected further to determine that along with the cool temps, those pesky white scale insects hitched a ride back into the house to suck the life out of these leaves. I turned to some tips from Fine Gardening magazine Q&A. One reader recommended using Buf-Puf facial cleansing sponges (without soap in them) moistened with isopropyl alcohol to gently scrub them away. The 3M sponges are available in cosmetics sections, have a surface that is rough enough to do the job but not rough enough to hurt the plant. These work better than cotton swabs, which are too soft, and toothbrushes, which are too large to reach into small crevices. As effective as these sponges are, one scrubbing usually isn’t enough, so check once a week for several weeks to ensure these critters have all vacated their host and put an end to the infestation. Buf-Puf to the rescue on both sides of the leaves.



Thanks to **Iben Dransfield** for sharing this magnificent walkway project. Not only does she get a gravel path and new retaining wall, but additional garden space to fill with plants. Total bonus. Iben shared that, “My husband, Jim’s, summer project was to make a graveled walking path around our Hobby House. As most of these projects go, it starts out small and morphs. The challenge was the big steep hill in the back and that tree trunk.

So, he dug out the hill, shaved the tree trunk and made a stone wall with stairs. Lots of roots and rocks on this project - really wanted to take the whole stump out but just getting half of it out was a chore. We will use what’s left as a garden feature...that’s such a good line when you run out of energy” Simple project?...not. You can only imagine that gravel walking path beneath the snow, but it’s there. Terrific summer garden project, Iben and Jim. Is Jim for hire?



Summer starting point



Hobby House with cool red door



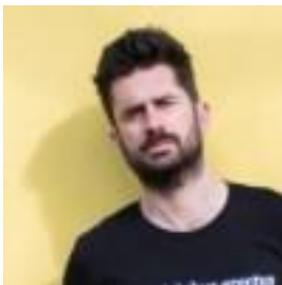
Enclosed stump—container ready



Gravel path project, in time for winter



## BLOGGING AROUND



It seems we've found our British version of Dan Hinkley in Plant Geek Michael Perry ([www.mrplantgeek.com](http://www.mrplantgeek.com)). His love of plants has continued throughout his interesting and varied career. He has brought more than 500 plants to home gardeners in the UK and was listed in the Sunday Times' top 20 most influential people in the gardening world, thanks to his plant development and marketing skills. The Mr Plant Geek brand and The Plant Based Podcast, have garnered a number of awards from prestigious bodies within the horticulture world. Like our own Dan Hinkley, he also travels in search of new plants, as well as lecturing worldwide, with regular visits to Japan and the US. Michael has also authored the book, "Hortus Curious", a look at weird and wonderful plants and

fungi. Gardening since the age of 5, and after a work stint at Thompson & Morgan mail order nursery, he launched mrplantgeek.com by documenting his travels around the Costa Rican jungle. His work has taken him to North and Central America, Africa, Asia and Europe, and he still manages to keep up appearances on TV, with regular contributions to ITV *This Morning*, as well as his own show, *Michael Perry's Gardening World*, on Britain's QVC. Michael regularly participates in charity work, with one notable experience involving a nude calendar shoot for the benefit of charity Perennial. He champions gardening for mental health and well-being and promotes gender equality for gardeners and plant geeks alike. His innovative blog has super accessible content from WTF Gardening to Your Ideal Plant Guide, as well as an online gardening school that can help any level of gardener. He is very active on social media, and more than 50,000 followers enjoy his laid-back, yet informative style and the fun clothing designs that you'll find here! Check out the Rude Botany selections. Perhaps a plant tee-shirt for June? And how many garden geeks do you know bold enough to pose for a nude calendar? Michael's one up on Dan Hinkley there. Click on the "nude calendar shoot" above for a hilarious peek...somehow, I just can't see Mr. Hinkley in this type of photo shoot.



### MEMBER BULLETIN BOARD



New member **Kathy Steeh** has chosen to drop her membership at this time after careful consideration. She stated, "I am going to have to bow out of your wonderful club. I now have some extra family obligations that take all my extra time. Even the simple things I need to do for the club seem to put me into a place of "where am I going to find the time". So, thank you and have a great year. Don't worry about the dues. I want to donate them to the club."



A special RGC thank you to November's speaker, **Patrick Spence**, for the donation of his speaker's fee to our YWCA Family Village Holiday Gift Project. As our member numbers are less, our contributions were also falling behind and Patrick generously offered to help these families in need. Iris, Lilacs, and Peonies aside, Patrick is also a compassionate contributor.



With a virtual clink of a glass, a toss of black gold compost and a gardener's yelp, we extend congratulations to some 2010-decade Anniversary members listed below! You survivors have been with us through many garden years, and we'd like to thank you for being part of our club's success. Some have gone onto Emeritus Status, but we remain joined at the garden apron strings. We greatly appreciate and value your friendships, hard work and volunteerism

that have strengthened RGC. Congrats! And here's to more years of digging in the dirt!

Jeannie Boag Zandell (2017), Stan Giant (2014), John Lockwood (2011), Kate Maloney (2019),  
Wendi Meier (2011), Patrice Rossano (2017), Carol Stanley (2014)

### MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BEGINS



As the new year approaches, we're looking to add RGC members. As a bonus signing agreement, recruits get a reduced dues fee. Check in with like-minded gardening friends or neighbors, who will be able to join in on the fun tours, workshops, informative speakers and plants, plants, plants! RGC membership offers festive celebrations, fun team-building plant sale fundraiser and many garden friendships. Invite your garden buddies to a meeting or tell them to apply either through our website or contacting President Karen Adams

([keatalk@comcast.net](mailto:keatalk@comcast.net)). Let's roll out the welcome mat!



### NOVEMBER 2022 MEETING MINUTES by Marilyn Pulk



**Announcements:** November's RGC Zoom and Trillium Nursery/Farm meeting began at 7:05 PM with Zoom host **Stan Giant**. A reminder was given to turn off cell phones and electronic devices.

**SPEAKER:** **Patrice Rossano** introduced speaker **Patrick Spence** of Cascadia Iris Gardens on the topic of "*Lilacs, Peonies and Iris, Oh My*". Patrick & Margaret have a thriving Lk. Stevens' iris nursery site, which has expanded into other fragrant bloomers. Patrice sent out a list of the slides of his presentation, which is helpful for plant selection. Patrick has discussed his passion for iris before at our meetings but has now broadened into lilacs and peonies—anything with fragrance. Patrick confessed that he might have a problem, as his passions for these flowers have grown into the thousands on his 5-acre site. He recommends a visit to Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens in Woodland, Washington. His passion for lilacs began with information about some rare species that he will propagate and get off to other lilac growers when ready. Lilacs are olive family members with the common species "*syringa vulgaris*" that has many varieties. A favorite is the heavily scented, unique flowered "*Sensation*". There are more than 3500 varieties on the International Lilac Society's spreadsheet. Lilacs like it cold down to Zone 3 and do not thrive in anything above Zone 8 as they need some frost to set buds. Soil preference is for light soil, rich in organic matter, alkaline, but our acidic soil is fine. Full sun is ideal but can be difficult here. Patrick showed many slides of beautiful lilacs, including dwarfs like "*Miss Kim*" and others that can be shrub-like. "*Copper Curls*" or trade name "*Sun Dak*" can become 30 ft. tall with exfoliating bark. Plant them now so they establish well with winter rains or keep watered well in the spring during their first year. Lilacs are extremely drought tolerant and don't require fertilizer, as this is harmful. If you want to prune, cut off the spent panicles and they can be trimmed down to 6 inches. He sang the praises of "*Bloomerang*" (a *Pubescentes* variety) and is hard to find at nurseries or online. But his favorite is the *Syringa vulgaris aucubaefolia* with its variegated leaf interest and a light blue flower. If planting in containers, they need frequent watering. The dwarfs (that will rebloom) do well in containers, and he has some in large, galvanized garbage cans that do well. Lilacs are an international sensation, and he does have some Russian hybridized lilacs. Weather does affect blooming. This year's late frost wiped out his blooms, but not the bushes. However, the *prestoniae* lilacs bloom later than the *vulgaris*. Some varieties don't send out runners, so they must be propagated by cuttings.

**Peonies:** Similar to lilacs his small numbers grew to over 150 varieties. There are 25-28 identified species and many sub-species in the Paeonia family with two that are native to North America (one native to SE Washington called Paeonia brownii). Hardy to Zone 2, the peony has been in cultivation for many years and has many uses aside from their flowers (medicines, perfumes). Two types of peonies (woody—shrub-like and herbaceous) include stunning flower colors. The woody “tree peonies” are slow-growers and take a while to bloom. Do not prune, fertilize, or overwater, but they do like potassium, if you choose to fertilize. They like 1-2 inches of water per week, and 5-6 hours of sun for best performance. Better soil conditions are best for growing (raised beds), not native soil. They like it slightly alkaline but do well here without adding lime. He does not use charcoal when planting. When planting dig the hole twice as wide and just as deep as the pot or as deep as the bare root. Plant with the eyes (growth points) at 1/8<sup>th</sup> inch below soil level. Tamp it in and water. Bloom length was discussed. Iris will last 3 days, whereas peonies go for a week or more. Look for peonies that don’t just have one stalk of blooms but are multi-stemmed. The relatively new Itoh peony with its big flowers created by Itoh back in the 1940s, is a cross between a woody and herbaceous peony. Most all peonies need staking, except for Itohs which stand up to worst conditions. A lesser-known woodland peony variety are a great selection for shady gardens, but they’re hard to find and are expensive. With their small flowers and indistinct foliage, they are grown for their star shaped seedpods, which will open with hot pink or black for many months. They’re long-lived, hardy and can be divided. His all-time favorite peony, although not fragrant is “Gay Paree”. Ants: Not true that you must have ants for blooms to open. The sugar on blooms draws the ants. Botrytis is a water-borne fungus that resides in the soil, which affects peony leaves. Rain splashes it up to the leaves. Clip these leaves off and place in the garbage, not compost. In the fall, cut herbaceous peonies all the way down to the ground, but for woody peonies, wait until the leaves fall and rake them up.

**Bearded Iris:** There are roughly 280 known species of iris. Patrick described the abbreviations for Bearded Iris found on his Presentation sheet. He began with iris sizes and first was MDB—Miniature Dwarf Bearded iris that are under 8” tall, drought tolerant and good for rock gardens or the front of a bed. Next was SDB—Standard Dwarf Bearded, which is from 8-16 inches tall. IB—Intermediate Bearded Iris are somewhere from 16-27” tall. Border Bearded are similar but just a bigger plant, bigger flower. MTB—Miniature Tall, is an entirely different iris line, that have the same height, but much smaller flowers and more of them with fragrance. TB—Tall Bearded are the familiar iris we grow. AR Aril and AB Arilbred are iris that come from the mountains in the Middle East. These categories are most important to many judges in the bearded iris world, but to everyone else they don’t have much meaning. What matters is how tall they are. The shorter the height, the earlier it will bloom. From early April to late June, you can succession bloom plan, assuming there aren’t rebloomers. Patrick calls these “a flower for all seasons” since he has bloomers every month of the year. These thrive in full sun, well-drained soil, occasional water, light fertilizer. Water once every other week, but not too deeply. Rebloomers in every category will tend to have more blooms on every stalk, which typically bloom better the second time around, but these need to be genetically disposed to rebloom. Rely on iris rebloomers from the best Bearded Iris growers locally or in the Portland/Willamette Valley area, not catalogs.

**Beardless Iris:** Classes of Bearded Iris include 5 mains: Japanese, Siberian, Spuria, Pacific Coast Louisiana, but there are more. Siberian iris hybridizers are coming up with new colors. There is no true red iris, and probably will never be. Spuria irises are especially great for cut flowers in full sun. Japanese iris is found on the Pacific Coast (12 species that only grow here). Leonineiris.com is a garden in the Skyway area for tours. Louisiana iris come from the Louisiana swamps. There are “repeating” iris blooms in this category. Sino-Siberian iris comes from 8 species from the Himalayan region, but they grow well here with often 6 weeks of blooms. These are attractors for butterflies like “Dotted Line” or “Miss Margaret” and hummingbirds. Winter-blooming iris include Iris unquicularis from the Mediterranean area. It is notable for “transplant pouting” but will emerge after several years. Most iris need full sun, but some are deep-shade varieties. Pacific Coast—bright shade to part sun and iris foetidissima for shade. Questions: About rhizome viability: Every rhizome will bloom once in its lifetime and once only. The big fat ones that have already bloomed will never bloom again; however, their babies will bloom. Firm rhizomes are key. Patrick keeps the babies, not the fat rhizomes. Bearded iris rhizomes should be halfway

above the ground. Too deep, they will rot. Divide the rhizomes every 3-5 years. The smaller rhizomes on the outside edge of a big clump are kept. Fertilizers: Bearded use a balanced fertilizer, in early spring, sprinkle sparingly around the clump, not on top right after they are done blooming. Japanese Iris needs to be divided several years and never returned to the same site, as they will emit a chemical that kills themselves. Patrick's new additions for next year: JI Twilight Attraction, JI Twilight Daydreamer, Sino-Sub Black Belt and Species SP13-1-1 possibly. Patrick closed with his Cascadia Garden Events for 2023: Open Gardens – Mid-May through July Friday through Sundays. Iris 101 Series of Classes, June 3<sup>rd</sup> Iris & Culture – Aug. 26, Hybridizing – June 10 & Sept. 17. Patrick's garden will be a host garden for the 2025 American DayLily Society National Convention. Like Patrick on FB with posted photos, or the website: [www.CascadiaIrisGardens.com](http://www.CascadiaIrisGardens.com). They sell both online and at the garden. Patrick was thanked and Margaret sold some plants from their truck after breaking down the presentation.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**MINUTES:** Meeting was called back to order after shopping and restroom breaks. Iben mentioned that there were Bellevue Garden d'Lights tickets available for the raffle item as well, IOU would also be accepted by those on Zoom. October Minutes Approval request by **Karen Adams'** motion and seconded by **Mary Vermeulen**. Minutes were approved as written.

**Winterfest:** **Kate Maloney** discussed our December Winterfest event scheduled for Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> at Union Hill Church, which is a social time with potluck dinner (entrees provided) and gift exchange. Majority present approved meeting for Winterfest party. **Karen Adams** will send out an email the week before the Committee buys the food to ensure that everyone is still onboard for this event. If there are only a few willing to participate, then this will be canceled. **Kate Maloney** will send around a signup sheet to help **Dianne Stime** with the decorations and cleanup duties. **Mary Vermeulen** will buy the poinsettias. Another signup sheet will circulate for a potluck dish to share, as well as a beverage you might want to share (i.e., wine, beer, etc.). **Patrice Rossano** added that there will be a photo booth the Church sets up if we want to come early for some fun holiday photo memories. In addition, the Church has a food drive box inside and it is recommended that we donate to that effort, but please no mac and cheese or top ramen. Please also check expiration dates on your food items. Kate will get a food preference list from Patrice and the Church, which she will circulate. The wrapped garden-related gifts should be about \$20-25, and we will do an anonymous exchange.

**YWCA Family Village Update:** Switching hats, Kate, who is also in charge of our YWCA Family Village donations project passed around a stocking for our families wish lists. The deadline for cash or check is the end of November, so that Kate can do the online Amazon Smile shopping, with a portion being returned to us. **Patrick Spence** agreed to donate his speaker fee to this cause to match the amount the club donates. A \$200 amount was agreed upon. At present, we have \$300, as opposed to nearly \$1,000 last year. Your donations can be mailed to Kate like several members have already done.

**Field Trips:** **Iben Dransfield** discussed our annual trip to Bellevue Botanical Garden's Garden d'Lights on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at 5:30 PM at the front. Parking is available near the front of the building for \$5 cash or down the hill for free. Tickets are \$8 and must be purchased ahead of time on their website. Family/friends are welcome. Dress for the weather and wear sensible shoes. The \$1 raffle for 2 tickets is a good deal for those wanting to attend and will be awarded at the end of the meeting. For future reference, Iben mentioned that the UW has opened some of their greenhouses to the public one day a week, which would be fun to see a state-of-the-art greenhouse with plants from all over the world and propagation of unique plants. To be discussed later. It could involve a bus ride from Redmond, so let Iben know if there's interest and she'll pursue the details.

**Workshops:** **Patrice Rossano** and **Lori Fleuchaus**. Patrice began with a description of the upcoming Garden Art Glass Workshop coming up on Saturday, at the Union Hill Church from 10 AM to 1 PM. The signup sheets were sent around. We will make 2 flowers—one for practice (yours) and one for the plant sale (supplies included). Please bring goggles, a cordless drill, gloves and drummel, if you have them. They take about 20 minutes to make, but additional time for glue to dry. Lori discussed the Holiday

Wreath/Centerpiece Workshop on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Club will supply the wreath form, foam, and ribbon. Bring your own container for a centerpiece and other extra decorations, as well as greens from your yard and a crochet hook. The site will be in **Karen Adams'** garage for easier assembly and cleanup.

Karen also added comments addressing a Board discussion regarding doing the Wreath Workshop at Trillium with the public in attendance. A decision was made not to do that this year because of monitoring masks/vaccinations compliance and with children as well. We will reconsider next year and hopefully, COVID concerns are a thing of the past.

**Horticulture:** **Dianne Stime** presented 3 plants: a spider plant, a sedum pot (from plant sale) and bamboo.



#### **Spider Plant Chlorophytum**

Indoor plant great for cleaning the air in the house! Easy-care--just feed and water it. They grow about 5' or more. Put outside in summer bring in in before 1st frost. A tropical, it loves half-shade and moisture. Has little white flowers. This came from Dianne's larger hanging plant, but it hasn't produced babies. It does well in part shade/part sun and indirect light indoors. **Jeannie Boag Zandell** couldn't accept, so **Lori Fleuchaus** won.



#### **Clumping Bamboo - Fargesia Robustia**

Giant grass with woody stems divided into sections called internodes. Bamboos are not trees; they are giant grasses. Most clumping bamboo is slow growing. Diane has had this bamboo for 30 years in pots. It's light, airy and has fine small leaves. Bamboo is called the miracle plant because it does so much! As a renewable resource, it can be used for food, fabric, fences, building, antibacterial and so much more. Clumping Bamboo grows 3-4 in. across the roots. Running Bamboo grows 4-5' a year. There are 1,000 species of bamboo. This one will grow 10-12 ft. tall. Dianne trims hers to 4 feet, with 8 square pots in her front yard that are trimmed. Some Bamboo is quite expensive. She has about 5 varieties. Black bamboo is \$90.00 for one small start. She uses bamboo to hide a neighbor's shed, as it is about 10-12 ft. tall. The front Bamboo blends in their R.V. It is in pots so can be moved around. Bamboo is a wonderful contrast to our big leaves and dark green colors. It is useful in centerpieces and flower arrangements. Don't be afraid of it! **Sue Chenault** won the bamboo.



#### **Sedum Pot**

This black pot was filled with trailing green sedum and hens and chicks from our past plant sale. It can stay outside all year and prefers full sun. The sedums were won by **Leigh Ann Hines**.

**The Big Book of Garden Design by Marianne Lipanovich and Tom Wilhite** was won by **Iben Dransfield**.

**Raffle:** We collected \$7 for the BBG Garden d'Lights tickets and the winners were **Patrice Rossano** and **Leigh Ann Hines**. Iben will have the tickets available tour night at 5:30 PM at the entrance. No other garden club discussions.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM. And we're onto Winterfest.

