



'THE BRAMBLE'

REDMOND GARDEN CLUB'S NEWSLETTER – GETTING DIRTY SINCE 1990

|| OCTOBER 2022 ||

www.redmondgardenclub.com, <https://www.facebook.com/RedmondGardenClubWA>



Hard to think fall when we are having record high summer temperatures. With any luck, we will get rain before Halloween? More time to clean up and dig for the sale! *Karen Adams and Charles Zandell*

"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers." ~ L.M. Montgomery, author



LOOKING AHEAD

FLOWERS OF THE MONTH: Japanese Anemone, Asters, Dahlias



OCTOBER 2022

LOCATION: TRILLIUM NURSERY FARM 19520 NE UNION HILL RD., REDMOND

Zoom "virtual" Meeting, with **Stan Giant** as host, to be provided via email

DATE: Tuesday, Oct. 13th Time: 6:30 pm social/linking, 7:00 pm meeting

SPEAKER: BRUCE BENNETT, "AN INTRODUCTION TO RAIN GARDENS"



Can it be? Rains will come back? For those who didn't catch Bruce's April BBG Rain Garden lecture, Bruce is here to update us on the importance of rain gardens in the ideal PNW. He will explore what, why and the science behind these unique focal points in the yard. Benefits for this addition are many, including a reduction in garden maintenance and property flooding, space and food sources for birds and pollinators and a reduction in water pollution. A

macro-view of the PNW, rain garden basics, questions to ask yourself before construction, resources and a handout will be provided. Bruce will discuss how to develop and position these beneficial and fluctuating water-flow spaces....and we do realize there are water flow issues. The striking before and after pictures may be the catalyst to get us moving to build this feature to suit any style landscape. There's just one hitch...some muscle and math required. He will answer all our rainy-day questions and for additional support can be reached at bennetbd@hotmail.com. And, of course, this opens a new host of plants for the garden—something that's always in our sights. This is a timely topic since raingear may be here to stay and the flow begins.



A Look-Ahead to our October meeting which will feature a return of our annual plant/seed exchange. Be prepared to discuss the properties of your labeled “little beauties”, with any information you can share about its likes, dislikes and various soil, sun, and water conditions. Any interesting plant attributes like height, leaf shape, size, color variegation or flower color are incidentals that will help seal the deal. Remember to include your name on the plant, so that the new owner can discuss its growth habits and problems with you. A plant drop-off spot near the Trillium entry will be available for the garden-sharing frenzy. Although this seems unlikely, please take home any plants that don’t find a new home and save for our spring Plant Sale.



October’s raffle items have a distinct floral theme and with some fall color. Thanks to **Mary Vermeulen** for her donation. Bid up the colorful ceramic bowl, metal container and a metal fan hook! A LWTC horticulture student thanks you... Be sure to pass along any of your raffle ideas for the Bramble months ahead. Thanks everyone.



~ In October/November...our Holiday Donations to **YWCA’s Family Village** begin ~

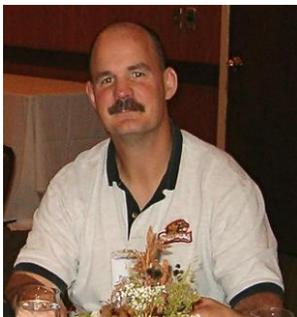


RGC YWCA FAMILY VILLAGE COLLECTIONS DRIVE

Reminder that our Redmond **YWCA Family Village** Holiday Gift donations event is a top October/ November agenda item. RGC members were very generous last year and the gifts were well received by “our family”. With that precedent set, let’s sustain or increase that generosity for these needy families.

Our RGC elf—**KATE MALONEY**—will coordinate this project with a *voluntary* donation campaign to support and add to the well-being of needy women and children. The family members’ names, ages and gender will not be available until early December for shopping.

October and November meetings will be a “Pass the Hat” style donation (cash and checks) with an option to mail your donation to **Kate Maloney, 5524 264th Ave. NE, Redmond 98053**. Once the YWCA Family Village supplies us with the necessary information, our contributions will be used to shop for their “wish list”. Please come prepared to meet or beat last year’s record high **\$1,055** through various means—a great response from a reduced membership (\$730), re-directed canceled Winterfest funds (\$250) and November Molbaks speaker **Joanie Clark** (\$75), donation. Note that we have fewer members this year, so consider being extra generous as the needs remain just as high. Please make checks payable to **KATE MALONEY** and send your donations no later than **Monday, November 21st**. And remember that YWCA Family Village helps thousands of courageous women and families rebuild their lives, which provides us an opportunity to spread some light on an otherwise bleak holiday season. Our YWCA “family” Village thanks us all for our open hearts and generosity!



Has it really been 8 years since we heard **Patrick Spence** talk about iris? It’s high time we had him back and November is ideal, as we put them to bed and dream of spring. This time, Patrick will include peonies and lilacs. Perhaps his passions have broadened, and the Cascadia opportunities have included other NW blossom favorites? Bring it on. Irisarian Patrick, along with his wife Margaret are owners of *Cascadia Iris Gardens* near Woodinville, where he is recognized as an expert and premier hybridizer of Japanese, Pacific Coast, Sino- Siberian, and Siberian iris. Patrick brings his extensive knowledge and experience on these irises, as well as Louisiana, arilbred, spuria and species iris and their multiple uses in the landscape. All flowers in his topic are associated with fragrance, beauty and are stunners from spring through fall. Their perfumes can vary from light and sweet to heavily scented, dusky, and even a “chocolatey” essence to overwhelm senses. Chocolate and flowers—simply guarantees we’ll be converts in no time. BONUS: Possible iris door prize alert.

BOARD BUZZ



We have plenty of good weather to get some garden takedown chores accomplished, as we learned from last month’s speaker, Lisa Taylor. Inevitably, the rains will return.

Our survey to check in with membership about our new site and meeting mask wearing was a bit of a dud with 11 responses. That means we will meet at Trillium, continue with masking inside, and allow the speaker to forego a mask. We will monitor CDC guidelines as fall weather brings us indoors and COVID has a chance to identify its menace. That is, if we get fall weather. Don’t forget to vaccinate to keep us all safe. If you have any symptoms prior to meetings, please test! Then, if positive, stay home, away from your gardening friends, and zoom the meetings. We Zoom to keep ourselves safe! If you suspect **any illness**, please stay home! Thank you, Stan, for following this practice at our September meeting and a big thank you to James for being our Zoom master at our first meeting at a new site! Zoom has been a wonderful addition to our Club’s operations and using it to keep us all well benefits everyone.

The Board is developing a website policy to identify the purpose, use parameters, and monitoring process expectations for Alyssa and James as they work to develop the Go Daddy platform and we discontinue the Shopify site. This will save us a substantial sum, as discussed at the last meeting

during our budget review. Progress updates will be shared with members as this progresses. The website policy will be added to the Board's Policy & Procedures documentation and presented in total next spring for a membership vote of approval at our June Business Meeting. The Board Policy & Procedure documentation is being developed to guide all future Board members with foundational decisions for future reference. Currently, we are developing the Go Daddy website with our previous guidelines determined by membership input when the Shopify site was being developed. Prior to the Go Daddy site becoming our live site, the membership will be invited to review, comment, and approve the new site. Stay tuned! Karen

SALVAGED "GARDEN GLASS FLOWERS" WORKSHOP



DATE/TIME: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH, 10 AM - 1 PM (Must sign up)

INSTRUCTOR: PATRICE ROSSANO

LOCATION: UNION HILL CHURCH 20810 NE UNION HILL RD. REDMOND

CLASS DESCRIPTION: Participants/artists will need to bring a variety of odds and ends—vases, saucers, mismatched plates, bowls, ashtrays, candleholders, knobs, glass light shades, mugs, and/or whatever ceramic and glass treasures catch your eye—to build your own “garden glass flowers” flashy decorations. All supplies will be provided except for the dishes. These can be either brought from home or purchased at garage sales or thrift stores. The glass pieces will be stacked and then attached to a post, with either two-way display (facing straight or tilted). Each artist will make two flowers...the first a plant sale piece and the second, a keeper. You can buy from the workshop stash of dish supplies at the price paid, simply to mix and match for some creative additions. These look charming in garden beds clustered in groups of three or in containers. Create a new one-of-a-kind hybrid garden glass flower that will shine on through all seasons and entice plant sale shoppers.



SHOP TALK



A reminder that soil and pots remain at **Sue Chenault's** house for your fall divisions. We will be ready in November and beyond to present more information on how our Plant Sale will proceed now that we have voted to proceed with a sale. Let's get potting and documenting. *Best, Stan Giant*



TREASURER'S REPORT

Current Balance: \$16,334.21



MEMBER BULLETIN BOARD



Not only are two of the four new members listed below happy to become RGC members, but a couple of them were happy to have won the September's Horticulture plants. Beginner's luck all the way around, it seems. A big welcome to our newest members and what a terrific way to start the year! Please take note of their roster information for your files.

Tamara Bell 11202 204th Ave. NE, Redmond WA 98053 425-765-8832, tamarabell@msn.com
 Alyssa Hagen 23505 NE 140th St. Woodinville, WA 98077 206-409-2001, alyssahagen@gmail.com
 Kathy Steeh 8226 196th Ave. NE Redmond, WA 425-289-6263, kathysteeh2016@gmail.com
 Nicole Wilson 6692 264th Ave. NE Redmond, WA 425-713-5647, nicoleachapman@gmail.com



With a virtual clink of a glass, a toss of golden confetti and a gardener's yelp, we extend congratulations to some early 2000 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. We greatly appreciate and value your friendships, hard work and volunteerism that have strengthened the RGC. Congrats! And here's to more years of digging in the dirt!

Karen Adams (2007) Natalie Stien (M.E. 2005), Dianne Stime (2008)

We're Having a Heat Wave....a NW heat wave



The temperatures were risin', but the site was amazin'.... for our annual Summer Luncheon held in **John and Cindy Lockwood's** shady, Asian-themed garden. John and the committee thought of everything to mitigate those 90-degree plus temps—electric fans, cool drinks (sangria included) and great food. The red color theme along with the matching beautiful centerpieces did nothing to raise the temps but served as a highlight of our “hot time in the summertime”

festivities and fun party favors. The catered Asian food from Woodinville's Twin Dragon Restaurant was authentic and bountiful and those oh-so-yummy summer desserts didn't fail to please. The party was complete with kimonos (supplied by **Lori Fleuchaus** and **Dianne Stime**) for an impromptu, untraditional fan dance. Sorry, I did my best. A scaled-back awards session followed, as a time to recognize all RGC member contributions. Quite a successful year, as we tentatively emerged from COVID restrictions. We're pretty good at adapting and having a good time! Thanks to all the Summer Luncheon team who pulled this end-of-garden-season party together: Chairs—**Dianne Stime & Lori Fleuchaus**, Catering—**Cassie and James Wegner**, Desserts—**Carol Stanley**, Drinks—**Kate Maloney** and Invitations—**April Creasey**. Behind the scenes production grips were plentiful and a huge shout-out to splendid hosts, **John and Cindy Lockwood** for their spectacular site (complete with new COVID garden features) and host/entertainer expertise. We truly didn't mind the heat when we were having such fun. Raising a teacup to all!





AWARDS SEASON

FOLDER PLEASE....AND THE A&B (ABOVE & BEYOND) AWARDS GO TO:
Dianne Stime and Charles Zandell for their unwavering RGC volunteerism this past year. We couldn't have operated so close to a normal year without them. Both Dianne and Charles were instrumental in steering RGC operations--from their Board service to policy development, Plant Sale, Workshops, Roster, Surveys, Signups, Parties, Digs, ad infinitum. Serious contributors who helped us through some unique times and are very much appreciated. Thank you to both.



Dianne Stime, 2022 A&B winner



Charles Zandell, 2022 A&B winner

LIM PRIVATE SEPTEMBER GARDEN TOUR



This opening tour could be called “Dancin’ in September” with just the right vibes for forest bathing thrown in along the way. Thanks to **Iben Dransfield** who discovered this fantastic spot on the Woodinville Garden Tour and made a request of owner **Alex Lim** for a private RGC showing. Those lucky “bathers/dancers” included **Karen Adams, Iben, LeighAnn Hines, Patrice Rossano, Natalie Stien** with guest former member **Phyllis Grossman, Mary Vermeulen** and daughter-in-law **Emily Vermeulen, Charles Zandell, and Jeannie Boag Zandell.**

Serenity abounded through the pathways with woven arches, water features, well-designed plantings, and an Asian-style woodbin that made everyone think **John Lockwood** might enjoy this garden feature. And this all from an owner, who came to gardening only after a barbecue pit idea. Alex propagates unique plants (rare and native) for his micro-nursery, which of course, included a shopping stop. Besides the woodland escape, the pond area hosted tropicals, as well as cottage/meadow themes and veggie gardens throughout this one-acre Cottage Lake site. The slopes were no obstacle for Alex and unique plant exhibits were woven throughout

the paths. What a season-opener with wonderful sunshine as a bonus this time of year. That lime-green locust tree simply pops and I'll bet the many aucubas stood out as well. Fully refreshed, all headed to the shopping and took home a sense of woodland gardening ideas. Thanks, Iben for a fun season-opener.



Seed starting to the max?



POTPOURRI



The Fall Green Elephant Plant Swap – Autumnal Abundance, Nov. 5, 10 AM – Noon



The Green Elephant Fall plant swap at Redmond’s Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross parking lot (11526 162nd Ave NE, Redmond) can turn out to be a fun event, as seen in the photo. Some RGC groupies have seen this event grow in numbers from the early days. It’s a great way to add to your plant collections or get your 25 plants fulfilled for our Plant Sale. If you’d like to get a jump on some pre-arranged swaps, think about joining their FaceBook Public Group Page (Green Elephant Plant Swap). Then you can post your swaps and ask for others, although the hunt is part of the plant frenzy. Here’s how it works:

- No sales, just exchanges and freebies
- Arrive at 10 AM for best selection
- Tailgating encouraged
- Free stuff, including garden advice
- Chocolate and cookies work well, if you’ve nothing to trade
- More answers at [Welcome \(squarespace.com\)](https://www.squarespace.com) FAQ on Green Elephant Swap

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION
Master Gardener Program



2022 Workshops (October), Bellevue Demo Garden

Bellevue Demonstration Gardens continue in the streaming world and will hold the following donation workshops via Zoom. **MEMO:** The Workshops and Zoom links will continue Saturdays and the speaker times will be from 9:30 to 10:30 AM. All workshops will require pre-registration and a small fee. Zoom access information will be emailed to all registrants at 7:15 AM on the morning of the workshop. **Join in on some great speakers and topics, from the comfort of your computer screen by just registering at <https://www.mgfk.org/education/bdg-workshops> for future Zoom links to be sent your way.**

WORKSHOP SPEAKERS FINAL SERIES 3 (JULY TO OCTOBER)

October 1, 2022 Speaker: Penny Kriese, Master Gardener. Topic: Home is for Houseplants. Looking for a successful relationship with your houseplants? Knowing what you have to offer

your houseplants is the first step on the road to success. Learn how to evaluate your space and your style of care as well as tips for potting, planting and possible pitfalls. Penny will show you which are the easiest and the not-so-easy houseplants to choose to settle in your home with insights on plant pests, too. *Attendees will receive an informative handout.*

October 8, 2022 Speaker: **Laura Matter**, Program Director-Natural Yard Care at Tilth Alliance. Topic: **Fall Groundwork in the Natural Garden**. Get a jump on spring by taking care of the garden in fall. We'll cover the maritime northwest climate and microclimates, how to do it and why this is a good season to plant, the plant choices good for the Northwest, lawncare tasks to do in this season that will save you time in the growing season, and tips for winterizing your garden. Discover why a total garden cleanup of your garden may not be the way to go. Find ways to encourage and take care of wildlife this winter.

October 15, 2022 Speakers: **Jim Little and Molly van der Burch**, Master Gardeners. Topic: **Our Pacific Northwest Gardens and Climate Change**. Jim and Molly will try to demystify the complex topic of climate change and how it is affecting our PNW gardens. They will discuss the causes of climate change and how we can make our gardening more climate-friendly by reducing our gardening greenhouse gas emissions and by storing atmospheric CO₂ in plants and soil via photosynthesis. They hope to encourage gardeners to educate and inspire others to take climate action.

Upcoming October BBG Classes

Upcoming in-person and online classes are listed below. BBG is also continuing webinars. Check the Webinar page for more details. Pre-registration is required for all webinars and in-person classes.

OCTOBER 6....PEONIES: Taught by Kit Haesloop. With their gorgeous blooms, peonies are the crown jewels of the spring garden. They are prized for their easy upkeep and long lives. Kit will provide an overview of peonies including important care to ensure maximum blooms and disease prevention. Learn how to have several months of blooms by overlapping peony types, and find out why your peonies stopped blooming or never bloomed. Kit will also demonstrate how to plant and divide them. \$10.50 BBGS member/ \$15 Non-member. Virtual Webinar

October 15....Multi-Media Birds and Flowers. Taught by Terry MacDonald. Let your creativity run wild! Learn techniques using a variety of mixed media objects in a painting to create one-of-a-kind projects. Participants will learn about mediums and products used in mixed media, using stencils and unique painted papers. There will be a demonstration by the instructor and participants will work on two projects – one on cradled board and one on watercolor paper. All materials provided. Students should wear clothing that they don't mind getting paint on and/or provide their own apron and, if desired, gloves. \$87.50 BBGS member/\$125 Non-member.

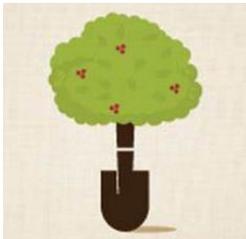


BLOGGING AROUND



You must kiss a lot of frogs before you find your prince...or so it goes. After trolling many garden blog sites this month, my “aha, perfect” site shown through the limitless blogs. **Rochelle Greayer’s** Pith and Vigor (<https://pithandvigor.com/blog>) was not only beautifully designed but informative and well-written as well. Just check out the “About Rochelle” header to verify. Rochelle, born in Colorado, a former Englander, but now a *New Englander* (CT) has blogged her way from aerospace/space development to a garden designer on TV, radio (Garden Lady Show) and IRL, author and entrepreneur, (a book, magazine, newspaper), to her current journey into teaching (garden design boot camp) “who thinks she can save the world by teaching everyone a little something about landscape design”. And judging by these credentials and her enlightening site, she’s hit on something. Her 2014 book, “*Cultivating Garden Style*” looks like a beautifully photographed, page-turner, as a supplement to this blog. Simply get lost in the photos and categories: Garden design, plants, garden styles, genus Loci (garden travel), trends, arts for gardeners, and planting design. There’s something for everyone including course study. Her own garden looks just as she describes it... “*WHERE SHE DIG HOLES WHEN I'M P.... OR MISERABLE OR JUST NEED SOME STEPS. WHERE I LET MY INNER SCIENTIST DUKE IT OUT WITH MY DESIGNER LOFTINESS AND WHERE I THROW SOME SERIOUSLY KICK-A.. PARTIES.*” My kind of blogging people with pith and vigor.

GARDEN SHED TIPS AND TRICKS



Gardening Tips

In keeping with September speaker Lisa Taylor’s suggestions on composting and putting the garden to bed, a NY gardener provided an idea for those carved pumpkins, soon to be gracing our front steps. When Halloween is over, she puts her carved pumpkins on the top board over the compost bin to admire the view from her kitchen. The squirrels feast on the pumpkin seeds scattered on the compost pile all through fall, and when the jack-o-lantern’s faces cave in, she just tosses the whole thing overboard into the compost bin. Scary guy disappears in about 8-12 weeks.



Nothing like a little patience. Many years ago, when former member Maureen Fitzpatrick was President, she gave me a couple of clivia houseplant starts after a Board meeting. Waiting for a bloom became a



never-ending obsession until I finally gave up and realized that the strappy leaves were valuable in their own right. They even produced other little clivias, but no flowers. Until now. To my utter amazement and just in time for Minnesota relatives to believe I was a terrific gardener, both set blooms. I never even knew what color they might be, but this salmon orange with the yellow centers just spelled out “sunshine, medicine and food for the soul” (Luther Burbank). Unsure whether I can claim that great gardener title; however, I am a firm believer now that “patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet”.



MEMBERS IN



CASSIE WEGNER



It's been a while since we've profiled a Member in the Spotlight (May 2021), but new-er member, **Cassie Wegner**, is our October victim....errhhh, volunteer hand-raiser---to kick start a return from our COVID hibernation. We're thrilled that both gardeners Cassie and James found their way to Washington and RGC, which was probably quite a challenge in the COVID early days. As they say, “retirement is the world's longest coffee break”, but probably not with a 5-acre gardening site. Welcome, Cassie. We await the garden gnome travel photos. And *we* couldn't be happier....

Get to know you questions...

[Where were you born? Tell us about your family? Children/Grandchildren ages...Bio background & Birthday \(year optional\)](#) I was born in Chicago and grew up in a suburb called Hoffman Estates. Both my parents were teachers, so we had summers free for travel. Eventually they bought a gentleman's farm in southwestern Wisconsin near Highland, WI with 265 acres but only 60 tillable acres that they rented out to other farmers. We spent every weekend, holiday, and summer up there. I have an older brother and a twin sister (who is the opposite of me) born May 7, 1953. James and I have been married 47 years and have 2 amazing children who gave us a total of 6 grandchildren ranging from 6 to 16 (also a set of twins in there). Two years ago, as COVID began, my daughter suggested we all live close by in Washington, so we sold our 5-acre Colorado dream home and moved closer to the kids. We couldn't be happier.

Where did/do you work? Volunteer work? I worked as a bookkeeper, trainer, and finally a learning designer. As the learning designer, I created online training at HP, Wells Fargo, and finally Salesforce. I just retired in August and am still figuring out what I really want to do.

What gave you your first interest in gardening? My mother-in-law was an avid flower gardener. She got me started and I have planted flowers every year but only this year became interested in vegetable gardens. My dad had vegetable gardens at our farm, but I never really took an interest. I was more interested in our 3 horses.

What are some of your other interests/hobbies? I have always been a seamstress but want to really try out fabric art. I can't draw but would like to copy someone else's in fabric. Looks like Monroe's Ben Franklin is a hub for sewers, so going to go to some classes.

A garden book you'd recommend. Or another favorite read? We use the book, "Growing Vegetables West of the Cascades" for our new garden. Plus, James is a huge YouTuber. The PNW is nothing like Colorado or Illinois. I feel like we are starting over.

An accomplishment you are proud of? I'm proud of my career. I got my PMP (project management certificate) and gratefully applied all those skills to my training and course development projects. I was able to lead and mentor many others in the profession. Very rewarding. I'm also very proud of my children and the relationship I have with my husband.

An interesting place you've traveled or visited? James and I have a motorhome, so we love visiting National Parks and the outdoors. Now that I'm retired, we have to experience the northwest.

Your favorite dessert or food? I love Asian food and seafood. There has to be a ton of vegetables in each meal, or it is not complete.

Something you keep postponing? Future plans? I postponed retirement, but not anymore. We have a beautiful 5-acre property that deserves our love and care. That is where the plans are.

Garden Questions:

Earliest gardening memory? I remember eating a tomato right off the plant in my Dad's garden in Wisconsin. It was heaven.

Garden tip Learn all the time either in books, YouTube, or websites. Makes a world of difference especially if you come from completely different zones.

If you could only plant in a 3'x3' plot of ground, what would you include? Sorry - but it would be as many cuttable flowers that can be planted so I can enjoy inside and out!!!

What is the best piece of gardening advice you have ever received? Did you follow it? It's all about the soil. Finally, we are living the fruits of that advice this year.

Reason you joined the Redmond Garden Club and what do you expect to get/learn as a member? I joined first and wanted to join up with a network of people who shared my interests. Then to have my husband join the club and live the passion is really a bonus.

Education you have that relates to gardening? Nothing - I'm a wing-it-as-you-go type of gal.

Type of gardening you have or like to pursue? Traditionally I was a flower gardener but now with this fabulous, raised bed garden that James built, I'm ecstatic to learn about veggies.

What is your favorite veggie to grow? I won't know that until I've grown them all. Each new one I try, I love better than the one before!

Favorite flower and why? I'm tossed between begonia and dahlia. But now rhododendrons and azaleas are in my life and I'm in love! But the simple zinnia steals my heart.

What is your favorite garden plant of all? I love any kind of beans or peas!!!

What is your most troublesome garden plant of all? These darn tomatoes and getting them ripe!!!

What is your worst garden problem? I think we have magic rabbits! Need a tighter weave in the cow panels!!!

What is your most troublesome weed or garden pest? I had a spring and summer fighting foxglove. Most of it was emotional. I love the flower but dislike it's invasiveness!

What tool couldn't you live without? My trowel.

What is your favorite garden element and why? Not sure what an element is, but James got 3 garden gnomes for his birthday from our kids. Now the challenge is to see where he moves them periodically!!



September 2022 Minutes by Marilyn Pulk

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Our first in-person RGC Trillium Nursery & Farm site meeting for the season began at 7:03 PM with **James Wegner** as Zoom host. This was well attended, and members toured the in-progress nursery grounds and buildings before the meeting with CEO **Mike Clifford**, **Alyssa Hagen** and Mike's daughter **Karissa** as our hosts. Refreshments were offered. A warm welcome introduction by Mike showcased his career path into this latest venture and the growth plans for Trillium Farm, which is scheduled to open in November.

Speaker: Lisa Taylor: **Karen Adams** introduced our speaker, **Lisa Taylor** on “**It’s Not Over Yet! Putting Your Garden to Bed: Edible Garden Walk and Talk**”. Lisa has been a past RGC speaker and was welcomed back. Lisa came prepared with props and stated that this topic will be inspirational to encourage gardening through the fall. Lisa asked who grows edibles, who would like to and who is more interested in flowers, mentioning that there is enough horticulture for everyone. Lisa's focus has always been with growing edibles, where she started as a master composter. As a composter, she came to edibles with the soil as a focus, not just the plants. Early fall, it's all about finishing up, cleaning up, covering up and building soil by adding compost. October is compost month. Fallen leaves are a great compost. The fall is also a time to put away and service tools. The psychology of September is a tendency to forget about the garden, but it is a busy month, so take advantage of good days to harvest and process. Night-time temps (48 degrees is the line) and rains will affect edible ripening. Harvest ahead of the cooler temps, so at least you get something. Basil discussions followed as an example of this. Ice cube tray trick..leave the cheese out for the puree, oil salt & pepper, basil. Freeze in tablespoon clumps for use. Offer free produce or take to food banks but give them the very best. Preserve produce for the year or can, freeze, pickle, dry, ferment. National Center for Home Preservation <https://nchfp.uga.edu> is a great website with video tips/recipes for harvest preservation. The first rains will bring the weed population. Take control now for all weed seeds that have emerged. Weed control begins now—rake the small weeds and spread compost (1/2” top-dress), which suffocates the weed seeds. Cardboard also works well. It's too late to plant a fall garden, which should be done in June/early July. Mid-July to mid-August is planting time for winter gardens. Lisa presented the idea to overwinter the cool season crops now, get them up to some true leaves and they will sprout earlier in the spring. Sprinkle seeds (do not mulch) and see what happens. This can be done in a container—recommended for arugula, spinach, cilantro, kale. This is also a good time to plant trees and shrubs, so roots are established. For the size of the hole for a plant, amend the soil three times the rootball size and make the hole twice as deep. There may not be a huge selection now, but some nurseries have bare root fruit trees. It is a good time for lawn rejuvenation by reseeding (spread twice as much seed, since critters may get them), maybe cover with row cover fabric and fertilizer application. Perennial divisions can be done to share, and bulbs planted. Grow onions, leeks, starts indoors with lights in November. Slide show began with building healthy soil. The more organics the less pest control. Compost: make it, use it, repeat. Purchased compost can be added with 1-2 inches each year and dig into the top 1-2 inches. Then topdress with 1/2” to 1 inch. Cedar Grove Compost is a product of what we recycle, so there may be plastics in there. Lisa recommends Issaquah's Hendrikus Organics. Look for OMRI or certified organic. Plants feed themselves by dropping leaves, etc. Sow cover crops if you're not sowing crops. All of these create biomass. Plant these in early fall, let them grow in winter and cut down in early spring and cover to let them decay 3-4 weeks before planting. Sow crimson clover (annual clover that doesn't spread) now. Fava beans, cereal grains (build structure), vetch, legumes

(fixes nitrogen) all can be used as cover crops. These seeds can be found at Bellevue Nursery, Molbaks, or order through Peaceful Valley Farm Supply, Territorial Seeds, Walt's Organic. Rake, store deciduous leaves for composting, covering empty beds, worm bins, leaf mold making. Mulch time. First remove weeds, mulch like with like materials, get it wet and keep moist, and weigh down with burlap or row cover. Free wood chip drops are available in bulk deliveries. Straw can be used to cover beds. Burlap is a good cover. Sheet mulch is a technique that kills weeds or grass that you want to kill and improves soil. Use thick sheet, thick mulch, plenty of mulch and time. Great idea about laying down carpet under a kid's pool with holes for strawberries. When mulching, leave a mulch-free zone right around the stem or trunk of the plants to avoid diseases. Don't over-tidy, as nature is messy and it is beneficial to many creatures. Leave some dead seedheads throughout winter. Lisa's favorite seed houses: Adaptive Seeds, Deep Harvest Seeds, Kitizawa Seeds, Seed Savers Exchange, Territorial Seeds, and Uprising Seeds. Favorite Garden & Farm Supplies: Stubers (which is out of business) and Peaceful Valley Farm & Garden Supply. Lisa also provided a garden hotline: 206-633-0224 or www.gardenhotline.org/question. She also recommends garden journals, seed saving and tool storage now. Another tip for rake handles was to sand the wood down and apply linseed or mineral oil. Lisa answered a few questions regarding coffee grounds, downed limbs as plant protection, etc. For further questions, Lisa can be reached at www.gardenwithlisa.com. Lisa was thanked and a break followed.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Karen Adams began the business meeting stating that the recorded meeting links will be sent out to all. Any additions/corrections to the June 2022 Meeting Minutes were requested. Seeing none, it was moved to approve by **Karen Adams** and seconded by **Patrice Rossano** with majority approval vote.

Old Business: A review of all the fun at our year-end Summer Luncheon and thanks to **Dianne Stime & Lori Fleuchaus** and the committee (**Cassie and James Wegner, Carol Stanley, Kate Maloney and April Creasey**) for a wonderful club gathering at **John Lockwood's** beautiful Asian garden. The heat was no barrier, as fans were setup outside for our comfort and delicious catered food. Well done all and special thanks to hosts John and Cindy.

New Business:

Tonight was the first night for **Sue Chenault** and **Natalie Stien** as Emeritus Members, who were in attendance. Also, our badges have a new look this year—they're color-coded—a green border for the first year, yellow for other years, and blue for Emeritus Members. **Natalie Stien** presented the overdue 20-year anniversary bag (due to COVID) to **Marilyn Pulk**. These are color-coded embroidered bags given to members with 5, 10, 15, 20 years, etc. and a special black bag to Board members. The lavender bag for 20 years has several pockets and a nice way to advertise our garden club.

Plant Sale: **Charles Zandell** presented our Plant Sale as a fundraising option for this meeting and turned it over to **Stan Giant**, who began a presentation on our past fundraising which usually amounts to a plant sale—the Mother's Day weekend. The expectation is that each member donates at least 25 plants. Historically, we've raised about \$200/member at these sales. We also collect \$40 member dues. These funds allow us to operate (speakers, defray costs for workshops, field trips, Winterfest and Summer Luncheon, Zoom, website, Horticulture plants, garden book review) and provide a scholarship amount to a Lk. WA Technical College horticulture student. Stan investigated several other garden clubs that don't have a plant sale for funding (Bear Creek and Trilogy Garden Clubs). Bear Creek begins the year with an upfront member charge for their 8 speakers and facility, which is about \$90/year. Then they can use that for operations. Trilogy Garden Club is a "pay as you go" funding and will charge between \$5/10 per person at the door. However, they're never sure how many will show up to fund the speaker. They have no bank account to rely on. Both clubs do not have the extras of workshops/field trips and if they do arrange something they charge members for that activity. Currently, Stan recommends that we vote to approve a plant sale for this year. After no questions came from members, Stan was thanked for his research and Karen asked for a vote on whether to hold a plant sale fundraiser this year. Charles strongly supports a plant sale approach, recalling that when he and John Lockwood ran the sale, they felt it was a strong team-building and comradery event, as well as a benefit that got our name out in the community.

Alyssa Hagen mentioned that Trillium has offered to host the plant sale as the home of the Redmond Garden Club. Stan and she discussed as a public outreach at the same time offering vendors, or coffee or wine cart, music, Master Gardener, activities for kids to draw customers into the site. Since Alyssa does the Trillium marketing, she can boost our advertising efforts as well. Karen mentioned that with Trillium's liaison and gracious offer and creating more of a family destination, there is a huge potential for increased traffic and a different experience than in the past. It is also a boon to Redmond and community service activities. Other ideas such as 10-minute garden lectures or garden artists are other possibilities for our educational mission. **Wendi Meier** made the comment that if we increase our membership back up to 50 or get wait-lists with this approach, this seems like the best community awareness to grow membership and make the club even greater. Karen also mentioned that we are looking into joining the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs, as another growth mechanism. This plant sale site can also help with community awareness. Moving around each year was a challenge to customers and instead of a quick plant stop, it will become a destination. There's a huge potential for the club to grow, even beyond 50 members. **Kate Maloney** asked about how long this arrangement would be with Trillium. **Alyssa Hagen** answered that the monthly meetings can happen through June and it will be re-evaluated if we are making a ton of money and Mike's business has a dip on that weekend, but for right now, Trillium is building up their events' buildings and business. A call for a vote on a May plant sale was requested. **Mary Vermeulen** had a question about members buying from members prior to public sales. Charles offered some background. In the past, customers complained that members were buying plants before they had an opportunity, so this was changed to members could buy right alongside customers in the first hour. Mary is suggesting that we buy plants from the posted Plant List between members. **Sue Sage** stated that this happened on the Friday before Plant Sale. Karen motioned that we have a plant sale next year, seconded by **Marilyn Pulk**. Majority approval with two nays. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: **April Creasey** presented the proposed 2022-23 Budget and paper copies were passed out. April and former Treasurer **Stan Giant** went over last year's budget as a guide and then the Board met on Aug. 29th to review/approve April's proposed budget. She discussed each line item (23) and the proposed funding, as well as RGC Revenue sources (Dues, Plant Sale) and other new proposals (Amazon Smile and Fred Meyer Community Rewards). Most categories were approved. Some changes included Business & Liability Insurance (\$350-400), WA Annual Report Nonprofit Corp (\$20), WA Non-profit Status Registration (\$40) and Website change from Shopify to GoDaddy (from \$400 to \$99). April distributed information about how to sign up for AmazonSmile and Fred Meyer Community Rewards programs, which can add to our revenue. April will incorporate those changes into the final Budget and circulate to members via the Bramble. Revenue equals \$5,840 and our expenses are \$6,674. April asked for any questions and was thanked by **Iben Dransfield** for her Budget and nonprofit research/development. **Karen Adams** moved to accept the 2022-23 Proposed Budget as amended and **Charles Zandell** seconded. Unanimous approval.

Field Trips: **Iben Dransfield** discussed an upcoming field trip to the private Lim Garden in Cottage Lk. and had signup sheets available. She sent out an email with details and if there are any questions, please let her know. Also, the Bramble has information. Form your own carpools.

Workshops: Lori Fleuchaus wasn't available, but Karen presented Workshops. She described the first Concrete Leaves at **Suzy Meader's** house on October 1st. Suzy is a long-time member who has chosen the Inactive status. There are signup sheets available or let Lori know. She will send out a reminder email. Bring your own large leaves (gunnera, banana, rhubarb, etc) or smaller hostas to use as molds. We will try to make some for the Plant Sale too. Suzy also has some plastic molds. **Sue Chenault** talked about the Wreath Workshop at her barn.

Horticulture: April substituted for Dianne Stime for discussion of September's Horticulture presentation. First up was *Rudbeckia fulgida* "Goldstrum", which was a plant that won Perennial Plant Association's plant of the year award. This full sun lover has bright yellow flowers and attracts butterflies. Deer-resistant and insect repellent. Won by **Tamara Bell**. Next was a colorful shrub, *Eunonymus fortunei* "Emerald'n Gold". It's low-growing and forms a dense, bushy mat of glossy, dark green leaves edged with gold and tinged pink in fall and winter. Small greenish flowers bloom in early summer and attract

butterflies. Tolerates full sun to shade and likes moist, well-drained soil. Won by **Nicole Wilson**. Finally, juniperus squamota “Blue Star” is a dense dwarf evergreen with short blue-gray foliage and a white line on top of the needles. In winter it changes color to a purplish heather-blue. Slow-growing ground cover that makes a great rock garden addition. Loves full sun like all junipers. Won by **Karen Adams**. Raffle item provided by **Karen Adams** (glass tower) was won by **Marilyn Pulk**.

Other Business: **Patrice Rossano** discussed the King Co. Iris Society plant sale at Wells-Medina on Saturday, the 17th from 10 AM to 2 PM. This year the Iris convention was in Seattle and there are some soon-to-be-marketed Siberian Irises which are priced higher (\$15-\$50) and then there are the classic bearded, Japanese, spuria, Pacific Coast and others at lower prices. Patrice will send out an available list and if you’re interested, she can buy them an hour after the general public. Charles mentioned that next month’s speaker will be on Rain Gardens. The last time we had a rain garden speaker, we had a medical emergency and the speaker’s time was canceled. We’re hoping nothing like that happens this time.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.