

So much to tell and so little space. Get out your calendars and your pens, today's column contains many gardening events you won't want to miss.

First of all a correction, Ann Lovejoy will not speak about her new book "The Book of Sage" (Chronicle \$20) at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show. She'll be introducing us to her other new book "Ann Lovejoy's Organic Garden School" (Rodale Press \$35). At the show Ann will present talks on "Sustainable Garden Design" on Wednesday February 7 at 7 p.m. and on "Natural Garden Care" on Saturday February 10 at 2:30 p.m. Visit her both days at the Seattle Post-Intelligencer booth to answer questions before her talk or find her on Wednesday at the Flora and Fauna booth, and on Saturday at the University Bookstore booth. She'll be signing her books and answering questions.

You can also purchase both books locally at Armchair Books, Eagle Harbor Books or Liberty Bay Books and she'll autograph them at the Garden Show. Ann is always happy to talk about gardening and share her gift with us. If you don't already subscribe to her newsletter you're missing out on great gardening tips, recipes and a calendar of classes offered each month. The newsletter is a bargain at \$15 per year (12 issues). Send checks to 9010 Miller Road, Bainbridge Island 98110 or call 206-842-0108 to request a complimentary issue.

It's very short notice but you might want to scrape up \$95 and head out to Bainbridge Island for a Plant Amnesty winter pruning workshop on January 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. You'll be entertained, enlightened and energized by a "great overview of pruning principles." This is definite hands-on practice. You'll spend a full day pruning, pruning and pruning. You'll work on fruit trees, garden trees and shrubs. A gourmet lunch is included. My master gardener friend Linda Waltie said the pruning workshop is one of the best classes she ever took and worth every penny of the cost. Call 206-842-9813 to register for this class or for future pruning workshops.

Another great pruning guru is master gardener Don MacDonald. Each year Don conducts classes on pruning through North Kitsap Parks and Rec. Don donates his fees to the Raab Park Youth Garden. He won't take you outside to prune but will definitely give you care-tips about trees and shrubs. Class is Tuesday February 27 from 7-9 p.m. at the NK Recreation Center at 19540 Front Street. The fee is an affordable \$10. You can register in person or fill out a registration form and FAX or mail it in. Call 779-9898 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and they'll mail or Fax a form to you if you didn't receive their flyer in your mailbox.

Also at NK Parks and Rec you can take a class from me on "Northwest Landscaping and Stress Free Gardening" offered Wednesday February 7 or Wednesday February 21 from 7-9 p.m. at NK High School on Hostmark in Poulsbo. It's a very user-friendly gardening class to help you grow this year's garden. We'll discuss how to plan and plant vegetables, annuals and perennials and you'll learn tips and techniques for designing and growing northwest-landscaped garden. It's a helpful course to satisfy your gardening needs. The fee is \$27 and includes a wealth of take home materials.

Want to help pick the symbolic tree for the nation? Visit www.arborday.org between January 1 and midnight April 26, 2001 to cast your vote. The site has a forest of information about trees. The winning tree will be announced on National Arbor Day this year. You can also join the Arbor Day Foundation with a \$10 check mailed to 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410. Membership benefits include: 10 free trees (6-12 inches tall suitable for our area), a year's subscription to "Arbor Day" the Foundation's bimonthly publication, a free wall calendar featuring photographs of the world's rain forests, a copy of "The Tree Book" a guide to tree care and conservation, plus savings on purchases of bulbs, plants and trees.

Last but not least be sure to put Saturday, March 3, on your calendar for the Soroptimist International of North Kitsap Annual Garden Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at North Kitsap High School. It's a great gardening event you won't want to miss. President Pat VanDiest says they still have space available for vendors. Prospective vendors can call Pat at 360-697-2154 for details.

You can email comments to Peg at gardenmentor@yahoo.com or in care of this newspaper.