

Tuesday Thoughts for February 16, 2021



2-14-2021 Lots of skaters In Amsterdam Holland PICTURE JEAN-PIERRE JANS

My Dear Garden Club Friends!

My thoughts go out to all my Garden Club friends up north in the Portland area. It looks like the ice storm has wreaked havoc once again. Ice is just the worst! Snow is pretty and can become slippery, but ice storms are horrible. In Dutch it is called "ijzel". .

Here in Klamath I have never experienced an ice storm, but in Holland it happens every now and then. I remember my Dad having to walk home, because the bus just stopped and didn't go any further because it was too icy. Luckily it wasn't too far from our house.



Also one time my friends and I went to dancing class in the neighboring village. Laren, yes the same village from where we walked home in the snow. That time though we had to walk home at night with our bikes on our dancing shoes. And when I tried my bike on the last part home it just slid out from under me.

But our worst memory of an ice storm was here in Oregon.

In early January 1998 our daughter, Mirjam flew back from visiting my Mom for Christmas. She had been going to school in New Jersey but de-

ecided to come back to the U of O. So when she flew back from Holland she flew from Amsterdam, to London, to New Jersey, to Denver to Portland. And somehow she had been asleep every time they offered food. Andy and I started out from Klamath to Portland to pick her up. Andy was worried about winter storms, but we made it over the pass safely and were discussing where to eat in Portland and other fun things to do before we had to pick up Mirjam at midnight...

When Andy pointed out all these glass casings around the plants along the freeway....

Those were not glass casings of course, but ICE! We slowed down and made it to our motel.

Where there was no electricity, no heat and no phone....

We ventured out and found a payphone (remember this is before smart phones) and finally were able to call the airlines. Yes, her flight would come in. Then we tried taxi's, but no they wouldn't pick her up from the airport. So we had to drive there ourselves. We put chains on and drove very, very slowly to the airport. A 20 minute drive took more than two hours...

Normally I do not chew gum, but we went through a whole pack. Not only was it super slippery, there were semis right and left crashed and turned over.. Hundreds of them....



In the airport it was warm and cozy and in those days they still had a big fireplace going. There were people coming in from Hawaii who wore shorts and sandals!!

And yes Mirjam arrived. So we made the same scary trip back to the motel. Early the next morning Andy suggested to get out of Portland and away from the ice before we ate breakfast.

The I-5 was still covered with crashed cars and trucks!

At one point it probably was an off ramp near Salem or Lebanon Andy thought it was time to take the chains off. It was still super slippery and somehow Mirjam and I were left in the middle of the off ramp with cars coming at us that weren't in control either ... I guess we got out to push the car? Anyway we got back in the car and we kept driving very slowly. The ice had spread to Eugene where we arrived around 2 p.m. We got Mirjam settled in her dorm and finally went out for breakfast at 3 p.m. Poor Mirjam hadn't eaten since she left Amsterdam besides a granola bar that we had brought.

We took the long way home over Medford. We asked the gas attendant how the pass was and he said it was fine....

Of course it wasn't.... The worst white-out we ever experienced. When we finally were home around 11 at night we sure were relieved that we survived this adventure.

Mirjam could have flown straight to Eugene, but we were so new to Oregon we didn't even know Eugene had an airport.

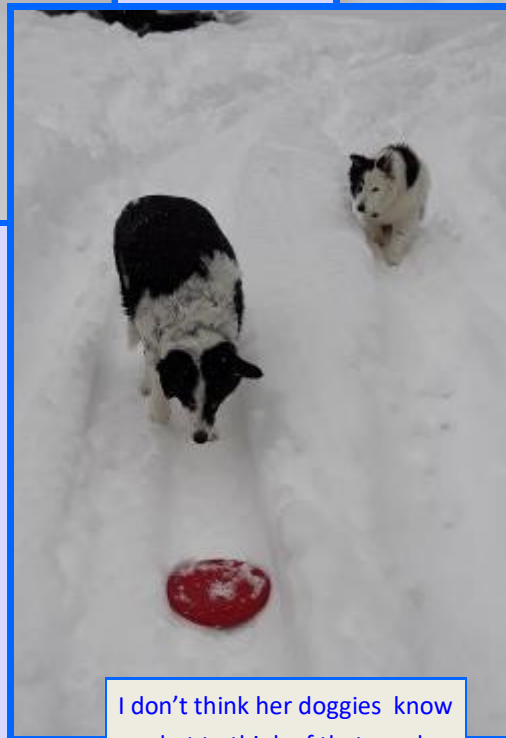
So yes I totally know what ice storms are like and I hope you are all OK!



Pictures from this weekend are from my former neighbor who moved to Portland

I know all of you must have your own storm stories. Please share them if you feel like it...

Kathy Smith from Parkdale Garden Club, Hood River District sent me these peaceful pictures from this weekends snow.



I don't think her doggies know what to think of that much snow?!

The virtual Valentine Flower show was a success, so we are going to do it again!

Even though it's hard to imagine: "Spring is right Around the Corner".

Have fun with this one!

Stay Happy and Healthy and Hopeful!

Love from Tanja!

"Spring is Right Around the Corner"

Design Type: a Featured Design

A Featured Plant Material Design -
a design with an emphasis on **one plant species**.

1. Any part/s of the plant may be used.
2. Other components are subordinate and may be used to enhance the featured plant material.
3. The focus is on the chosen species.
4. The schedule may specify the Design Style and/or plant material to be used.
5. Must use fresh or dried plant material.
6. Plant material to be used are **spring bulbs**.

*In a featured design you can use any part of the plant, yes the bulb can be used.
Tulips, daffodils, crocus, etc. as long as its grown from a bulb.*

Send me one (1) picture of a design:

Deadline: February March 12th

Picture has to have your name, Club, District.

Material used and any other comment. Email to tanjandy@gmail.com

I will forward the pictures to Georgia Zahar, president of the Willamette Judges Council without names and she and her council will judge the designs and think of a new title and appoint another Judges Council to judge the next design. I will publish the winner in the March 16 "Tuesday Thoughts".

Anyone can enter!