

Butterflies, bees and bowling balls

The garden of Lorraine and Rod Jones is on this year's Mukiteo Quilt & Garden Tour

By ANDREA BROWN

Herald Writer

MUKITEO — His and hers.

There is a clear division of labor of love at the household of Lorraine and Rod Jones.

He gardens. She quilts.

"Once in a while I tell him I think that plant would look better over there," Lorraine said. "He either takes it or leaves it. It's like him with my quilts."

She and Rod have been married 45 years.

See for yourself the magic of their matrimony. Her quilts will hang in his garden at their home, one of seven stops on the Mukiteo Quilt & Garden Tour, July 18 and 19.

The joint event by Mukiteo Way Garden Club and the Mukiteo Lighthouse Quilters combines sewing and garden arts. There will be about 100 quilts in seven gardens in and near Mukiteo on the tour, which is held every other year.

Ticket sales are capped at 1,000. "It's a plenty good



Bees visit the many flowers at the Jones home.

number," said tour spokeswoman Jean Skerlong. "We don't want anyone's garden trampled."

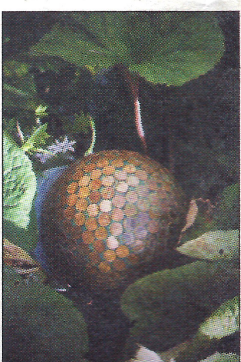
Skerlong said garden themes include a foodie garden, Asian influence, native plants, glass artist, miniature gardens and colorful backyard retreat.

Then there's the Jones' place.

If you go

Mukiteo Quilt & Garden

Tour: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 18 and noon to 4 p.m. July 19. Rain or shine. Seven gardens on tour by Mukiteo Way Garden Club and the Mukiteo Light-house Quilters. There will be 100 colorful quilts on display in residential gardens in and near Mukiteo. Tickets are \$15 advance or \$18 on event day. For more information, go to www.mukiteogardenandquilttour.org. Buy tickets and enter raffles at Rosehill Community Center, 304 Lincoln Ave., Mukiteo.



"The Ball of Doom" is a bowling ball with pennies glued to it.

embellish what his green thumb and nature can't.

The allium, a flowering ornamental onion, has a purple flower until it goes to seed. "Then I have this brown ugly ball," he said. "I have two choices. I can either cut it off and get rid of it. Or I can take a can of orange spray paint and paint them. This is cheating like crazy."

Maybe so, but it works.

"Look at it. It pops right out," he said. "It will stay that way until the fall. It doesn't hurt the plant. It's done. The plant doesn't care. Who'd of ever thunk?"

A colorful jungle with bees, butterflies and bowling balls.

Oh, where to begin ...

Let's start with Rod's "ball of doom."

"You get a bowling ball at the Goodwill for five bucks and then you put five bucks worth of pennies on it with Goop and then

weatherproof it," he said. "For \$10 you get a ball of doom."

On the tour, see if you can find Rod's festooned bowling balls and painted wonders in his acre yard.

Hint: Look for bursts of orange flowers.

Rod uses spray paint to