

Eugene Garden Club News

April 2016

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Editors: Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar & Janet Marcisz

67 members

Eugene Garden Club

1645 High Street

Eugene, OR 97401



President's Corner

Are your knees grass stained too? Are your fingernails embarrassingly dirty? Do you feel an occasional need for some evening pain relievers? Perhaps you are experiencing physical symptoms of Garden Nerdiness.



After our March 31st gardener's night out "binge" at the clubhouse it could be said we probably are Certifiable Garden Nerd addicts! Congratulations and thank-you to the entire Plant Nerd Night Committee for out-doing themselves by planning, organizing and providing us with a solid and fun "fix" for feeding our gardening addictions.

Now, we prepare to "push" our obsession at next month's Garden Extravaganza. What addict couldn't use a *just little more*?

We'll just promise to re-examine our life and obtain intervention rehab therapy soon. Ya' with me?



. . . . Debi Luidhardt, President

Eugene Garden Club Meeting

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

11:30 a.m. Brown Bag Lunch

12:15 p.m. Meeting
Horticulture

1:00 p.m. *Growing Food, Saving Seed
& the Center of Our
Personal Universe*

By Tim Titus

Coordinator: Kathleen Gray

HOSTESSES: Sherry Cossey*, Ruth Michaelson,
Mary Bromley

GREETER: Peggy Funkhouser & Shauna Hill

INS & OUTS

OF THE EUGENE GARDEN CLUB

. . . Telephone Number

Please correct new member, Susan Mincks, telephone number, to be 541.344.8386. Typo last month. Sorry

. . . SMJ Work Party

This month we are weeding and planting geraniums at the Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House on Friday, April 22, at 10:30 a.m.

**April 19 9:30 a.m.
morning workshop
has been cancelled.**

Plant Nerd Night A Success . . .

Sharon Blade



Plant "Nerd" Night 2016 had a record crowd this year. Hope you all enjoyed it and purchased some great plants, and good advice. As ever...hats are off to Dorothy Cruickshank, who kept the night moving along, with some well chosen jokes, advice and giggles!

A big THANKYOU to all who participated. Special thanks to the Garden Club Representatives, who did a marvelous job introducing the five presenters! You are the best ever! -- Pat Kramer, Mareev Zehavi, Kathleen Gray, Marilyn Hunter and Cheryl Hawkins. These members really stepped up to the plate and made "Nerd" Night come to be the successful night it was.

Thanks to all to helped set up the clubhouse, carry in and out plants, sweep the floors, clean the tables, and put the clubhouse back in order. It takes many, many garden club members to make Nerd Night happen. Another special thanks goes to our Raffle Ticket sellers...Sherry Cossey, and new member Lucy Chambers, Lucy and Sherry....you are hired! What an exciting twosome you are...you were great. You sold the most tickets ever! Thanks to those of you who helped Ruth Fry with the sandwiches, kitchen duty and those who brought cookies for the evening.

Nerd Night Committee is always, open to suggestions that will be taken into consideration. So...another year has gone, and by the way did you know that Nerd Night started in 2001? Wow! Time flies when you are having fun....see you next year.



And there was a crowd at Plant Nerd Night!



Garden Extravaganza To Be Held

Plant Sale Workers Needed

EGC Plant Sale Chairman, Camille Noel, will have sign-up sheets at our April 19 meeting for helpers, tables, and canopies. Plan to add our name. Do pick up some flyers to distribute then as well.

The Garden Extravanza is sponsored by Willamette District Garden Clubs and Lane County Dahlia Society at the Key Bank parking lot on River Road next to BiMart on Saturday, May 7, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Set up, sale, and tear down all occur on that Saturday! Plan to arrive at 8:00 a.m. for set-up and 8:30 for bringing in your plants. Use the BiMart parking lot. We will have our usual red tags for EGC pricing, and Treasurer Jenifer Rabner will be our head cashier for the Willamette District Clubs.

Our April 9 potting party was held at Janet Calvert's home and plants are in her new greenhouse. You can still pot up your cuttings, divisions, and more at home for our sale.

Call Janet if you need planting mix or pots and if you can help haul plants on May 7.
541.686.2697, jankcalvert@comcast.net.



Good looking plants attract the most attention and sell first! It is wonderful if you have your plants' common and botanical names as well as preferred growing conditions to mark on the white tags (use #2 pencil.) Tags are available at the garden club meeting next week.

It's a great idea to have a picture of the plant when it is at its peak to help buyers know what they are purchasing. Use seed catalogs or go online to find color photos. Customers like to know what color the flowers are going to be too.



District Flower Show March Madness Is Held

Garden Club members from Eugene, Junction City, and Cottage Grove garden clubs came together at the EGC clubhouse to organize, set up, and enter a flower show held Friday-Saturday, March 18-19, for the public.

Ruth Michaelson and Fran Tierce co-chaired the show with help from Sharon Wilson, Jennifer Rabner, Georgia Zahar, Sherry Cossey, Mary Bromley, Ann Rollins, Camille Noel, Jackie Getty, Juanita Manley, Blanche Chase, Rae Lyons, Marj Petrusha, and Dixie Stromme. Many many thanks to these ladies.



NGC Top Awards were given in

Division I - Horticulture

- Sharon Wilson, Award of Horticulture Excellence
- Sharon Wilson, Arboreal Award for Blooming Trees and Shrubs, her *Mahonia aquifolium*
- Juanita Manley, Arboreal Award for Evergreen Trees and Shrubs, her *Sciadopitys verticillata*
- Dorothy Cruickshank, Award of Merit for Bulbs, Rhizomes & Corms, her red *Tulipa*
- Ruth Fry, Grower's Choice Award, for Indoor Container Plants, her Orchid



Pictured above left to right are designs that received an Arboreal Award and the Award of Horticulture Excellence (Sharon Wilson), Arboreal Award (Juanita Manley), Award of Merit (Dorothy Cruickshank) and Growers Choice Award (Ruth Fry)..

Division II - Design

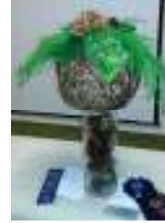
- Marj Petrusha, Award of Design Excellence
- Marj Petrusha, Tricolor Award, all-fresh design
- Sharon Wilson, Designer's Choice Award
- Sherry Cossey, Award of Distinction, all-dried design
- Cheryle Hawkins, District Director's Award

(Flower Show continued)

Division III – Special Exhibits

Ann Rollins, Educational Award, for Drought Tolerant Plants

Georgia Zahar received the Artistic Craft Award for her "Lay-Up Shot", a ball decorated with plant material.



March Madness included 147 horticulture entries from 16 people, 30 design entries from 15 people, 2 educational exhibits from 2 people, and 7 artistic craft entries from 6 people! Forty blue ribbons were awarded to 15 different people in the Horticulture Division. Several classes were divided, especially in the daffodils and any other blooming perennials. Sherry Cossey, Juanita Manley, Dorothy Cruickshank, and Sister Janet Marcisz all entered from 10 – 42 entries.

Nine blue ribbons in the Design Division went to Marj Petrusha, Ruth Michaelson, Sherry Cossey, Camille Noel, Fran Tierce, and Sharon Wilson.

OSFGC Shirley Schmidt was one of our judges and enjoyed the Willamette District Potluck lunch with us.



Pictured above left to right are designs that received the Tricolor Award and Award of Design Excellence (Marj Petrusha), Award of Distinction (Sherry Cossey), and Designer's Choice Award (Sharon Wilson).



April in the Garden

Juanita Manley

I hope everyone enjoyed our recent District Flower Show. There were lots of entries in both Design and Horticulture divisions. If you might be interested in entering a flower show National Garden Club has published a book, Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging. It tells how to choose, prepare and present exhibits for shows. I will bring my copy to our meeting.

All of a sudden everything needs doing in the garden. First finish what didn't get finished last month. Keep up the weeding while weeds are small. Dead head the daffodils, tulips, pansy's and prune flowering shrubs and trees that might need a bit of coaching. And mark where you have planted daffodils so that you don't dig them when planting summer flowers.

Plant some peas –shell-snap-edible pod-flowering.

If you have dahlias to plant but soil is to wet to dig put tubers in gallon pots and cover with compost or other temporary soil. Place along the south facing part of your house for added warmth until you can put them in the ground. Remove insulation from dahlias left in the ground and **bait for slugs**.

If you have nice workable soil, hardy flower and vegetable seed can be directly seeded—with the exception of those that need warm soil, tomatoes, peppers, cukes, melons, etc.

Summer blooming perennials that are becoming crowded can be divided now. Remove old woody parts and replant healthy sections. Plant some for the May Plant Sale.

Continue adding shrubs and trees to the garden, keeping in mind that they must have water the first couple of years or until well established.

Don't forget the sunscreen and hat.



Some early blooming rhododendrons include
Taurus – left.
Holden – above,
G.W. Leak – right.



NATIONAL BAT APPRECIATION DAY . . . Unofficial National Holiday . . .

April 17

Georgia Zahar

This is the best time of the year to celebrate bats, as they are beginning to emerge from hibernation. One important reason to celebrate bats is that they are considered to be 'insectivorous' creatures because they rid **our world of many bothersome insects**. In one hour, a bat can eat 1,000 mosquitoes.



.....Some species of bats live up to 40 years.

.....Bats can see in the dark & use their extreme sense of hearing.

.....Bats are the only mammal naturally capable of true sustained flight.

.....There are over 1,200 know species of bats.

.....The U. S. is home to about 48 species of bats.

.....One of the largest bats is the *Giant Golden Crowned Flying Fox Bat* weighing up to 4 lbs. with a wingspan of 5' 7".

.....Bats are very clean animals, grooming themselves constantly.

.....Almost 40% of American bats bat species are in severe decline, with some already listed as endangered or threatened.

For more 'Bat Facts' go to National Bat Appreciation Day.com. This site was the resource for my report.

What's Happening



April

- 4-7 Pacific Region of NGC Convention, Henderson, NV
- 5 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 7 LC Dahlia Society's Tuber Auction,
Celeste Campbell Center, 7 p.m.
- 9 Potting Party, 10-12:00, at Calverts
- 16-17 Better Living Home, Garden & Lifestyle Show,
Portland EXPO Center
- 19 EGC Regular Meeting
- 21 Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.
- 22 Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House Work Party, 10:30 a.m.
- 30 Master Gardeners Spring Garden Fair & Plant Sale
Fairgrounds, Horse Barns, 9 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

May

- 3 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 7 Garden Extravaganza at Key Bank, 10:00-4:00
- 15 Wild Flower Festival, Mt. Pisgah Arboretum
- 19 Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.

June

- 7 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 13-15 OSFGC State Convention, Wilsonville
- 21 EGC Regular Meeting, Potluck

July

- 15 Willamette District Picnic, Westside G.C.
- 20-24 Lane County Fair



Dicentra with some Lavender

and Hellebores

**Eugene Garden Club
Sherry Cossey
87205 Willowdale
Eugene, OR 97402-9133**

In the Garden – in April

Plant broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, Chives, endive, leeks, peas, radishes, rhubarb, rutabagas, spinach, and turnips.

Fertilizer lawn, bait for slugs and clean up hiding places.

Do NOT cut foliage of spring-flowering bulbs.

Prune spring-blooming shrubs and trees AFTER blossoms fade.

Amend soil with organic material in preparation for spring planting.

Plant gladioli, alyssum, phlox, marigolds, and other hardy transplants.

Fertilize roses with 1 T. fish oil (5-1-1) to gallon water per each Rose bush by 22nd of the month.

