

Eugene Garden Club News

April 2013

Volume 8, Issue 7

Editors: Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar & Janet Marcisz

65 members

Eugene Garden Club

1645 High Street

Eugene, OR 97401



President's Corner

We "Plant Nerds" truly had a fun and educational evening. It was such a success with well over 115 members and guests enjoying the program and many happily imagining their new purchases adorning that "perfect" spot in their gardens! With such gorgeous recent weather these new plantings will have a fine start. Now we can think about the Oregon Plant Fair on May 11th and what botanically interesting items we MUST still have! Don't forget to decide how you'd like to help on May 10 or 11 and then please put your name on the sign up sheets at our next meeting.

Chairs of committees: Please remember to be writing up or updating the job description of your committee for the folder. If you do not have a folder, we will provide one at the April 16th meeting.

Speaking of this meeting, please be there for the presentation and discussion of the changes being proposed for our Constitution and Bylaws. This is important for you and our club!

Enjoy this beautiful spring!



. . . Dianne Dewey, Co-President

EGC SPONSORS SAW-WHET OWL

Cascade Raptor Center sent us a new photo of our Northern Saw-Whet Owl, Tiresias, that EGC sponsors there. Jennifer framed it and it is on display in the front room at the clubhouse. Check it out.

Some of us are going to visit the Cascade Raptor Center on Tuesday, the 16th, following the presentation of the Bylaws. Come with us. It'll take about an hour or so. We'll carpool.

Eugene Garden Club Meeting

Tuesday, April 16, 2013

11:30 a.m. Brown Bag Lunch

12:15 p.m. Meeting
Horticulture
Bylaws
Cascade Raptor Center ?

HOSTESSES: Holly Miller*, Pat Kramer,
Linda Wittorf, Colette Charig

GREETER: Carolyn Boyle

Elections & Bylaw Changes Coming Up for EGC

Our EGC Bylaws dictate that a Nominating Committee ("two members from the Board of Directors and one from the membership-at-large")... "shall present at our April meeting one or more names for each office, providing also that additional nominations may be made from the floor at this meeting." The election of officers "shall be by ballot at the May meeting" and "installation of officers and trustees will be at the June meeting." (If you wish to nominate someone other than those listed on the slate of officers below, please do ask them first if they would serve if elected.) Thank you Janet Calvert, Dorothy C. and Phoebe S.

President: *Camille Noel*

Vice-President: *Pat Kramer*

Recording Secretary: *Ann Rollins*

Treasurer: *Jennifer Rabner*

Corresponding Secretary: *Dianne Dewey & Jean Damon*

Trustee: *Marilyn Hunter*

Our Constitution and Bylaws are in much need of updating and a committee of Jennifer Rabner, Phyllis Hamel, Dianne Dewey, Juanita Manley, Debi Luidhardt, and Sherry Cossey began meeting monthly last fall to do a lot of cleaning up and then deciding on the proper method to present the suggested changes. One noticeable change will be a \$5 raise in our yearly dues.

The presentation will involve Jennifer "walking" us through the suggested changes with rationale when needed and any questions answered as best we can. You may each have a paper copy and also view it on the big screen as well.

Plant Nerd Night A Success . . .

Sharon Blade

Plant “Nerd” Night was a wonderful, fun, and well attended evening. The count was over 100 people. The Nursery people really enjoyed coming and some even wanted to return next year. The Nerd Night Committee is especially proud of the 5 members who worked with the Nurseries to make the night a smooth running, successful event. They are: Janet Calvert, Lois Hopper, Debi Luidhardt, Catherine Taylor, and Pat Kramer. You girls “Rock”. We are also proud of Dorothy Cruickshank



humming and in good humor...Thanks Dorothy! Also, a thank you goes to Ann Rollins, who brought a “worm bin” for the raffle. A special thanks to Ruth Fry who worked hard with Debi Luidhardt’s

help to make delicious sandwiches and brought extra goodies for us to munch on. Also thanks goes to Sharon Wilson, who filled in everywhere, as we had some unexpected absences.

Thanks to all of the Garden Club Members, who helped set up. There were approximately 23 members, you all know who you are, you came, you participated, you worked at making the night a success. Also thanks for purchasing, plants and raffle tickets. The end result was over \$550.00 clear. It takes a garden club to make “Nerd” Night fun and successful.

The committee is open to any suggestions, ideas and comments. Please let us know. Thanks again.

Sharon Blade, Dorothy Cruickshank & Ruth Fry

HORTICULTURE FOR APRIL MEETING

Bring a sample of something blooming.

Share a gardening tip.

What is your favorite weeding tool?

Suggestions for next year’s club programs?

Juanita Manley, Horticulture Chairman



Oregon Plant Fair 2013

Eugene Garden Club members have been potting up hundreds of plants in preparation for the annual Oregon Plant Fair at Alton Baker Park on Saturday, May 11, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The next potting party is 1:00 p.m. this Wednesday, April 10, at Dorothy Cruickshank’s home.

Our Willamette District teams with the Avid Gardeners, another local garden group, to put on the annual sale which provides our community with lower cost plants from our clubs as well as bringing in over \$1000 for our the Eugene Garden Club.

Vendors from up and down the Willamette Valley will have booths, both plants and garden art, with all their newest plants for the public to purchase. And of course we realize a percentage of that.

We are saving some overhead costs this year by renting the space for fewer hours, 3:00 Friday to 3:00 Saturday. So our set-up on Friday afternoon will be a couple hours later than in the past. And our members shouldn’t bring plants until after 4:00 p.m.

Sign up to help either for Friday or Saturday at our April meeting on the 16th. We need a few people to help with set up for the whole area on Friday, some to help vendors load in, and we set up the perimeter fencing.

On Saturday we need people to help in the booth with tags and cashiering, being “rovers”, helping with traffic control, the Fair’s holding area, and clean-up (at 2 p.m.)

If you have tables (we need many), wagons, carts, or a canopy that we can use, please sign up for that too.

I suppose that for most people, one of the darker joys of gardening is that once you’ve got started, it’s not at all hard to find someone who knows a little bit less than you.

--by Allen Lacy

PACIFIC REGION CONVENTION COMING SOON

The 69th annual Pacific Region Convention is being held in Santa Rosa, April 22-24. The current Director is Debbie Hinchey from Anchorage and her theme has been “Looking In and Reaching Out.” We have a renewed focus to let our public know the amount of time (and in essence money) our volunteer garden clubs contribute to our communities. The 8 Regions in NGC help to promote NGC programs and filter information down to our states, then districts and finally our clubs.

Sherry Cossey has been the Awards Chairman for the Pacific Region the past 2 years and wants to thank all the folk who helped judged the nearly 100 applicants in 40 different award categories including Club, District or State level Yearbooks, Newsletters, Individual Publications, Any Other Publications, Standard Flower Show Schedules, Small Standard Flower Show Achievement Award, Civic Beautification Projects, Garden Therapy Projects, Memorial Gardens, Youth Activities -- Boxes and boxes of papers to pore through and evaluate! Thank you so much to Georgia Zahar, Ruth Fry, Jennifer Rabner, Sharon Wilson, April Eberle, Ruth Michaelson, Debi Luihardt, Monica Henry, Camille Noel, Dianne Dewey & Phyllis Hamel. We spent about 80 hours total on the judging and learned about all kinds of interesting programs and projects that other garden clubs do in Washington, Arizona, California, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska, and Hawaii.

Stitches 'n Thyme In a Garden

EGC has an NGC Standard Flower show scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, April 29-30. Committee members will set up on Sunday the 28th, and entries will be accepted Monday morning, 7:00-9:30 a.m., followed by judging. Come and bring your friends Monday afternoon and Tuesday.

If you don't already have a flower show schedule, be sure to get one from Chairman, Jennifer Rabner, at our meeting next week. If you have questions about Horticulture, please call Phoebe Staples, 541.343.1426, or about Design classes call Juanita Manley, 541.484.1704.



The show features class titles and staging centered around quilts. We have several quilters in our club, and many will bring their projects to share as well as their plant material! We will even have a special award for People Favorite Quilt!

At our meeting next week, we will spend a little time on how to select and display horticulture. Almost ANYTHING that you have grown is acceptable in one class or another including potted plants, trees, shrubs, flowers, etc.

Designs are a little different whereas you need to try to come up with a floral arrangement that meets the qualifications of the class you are entering. Design classes include Traditional Mass, Tapestry, Water, Mono-Botanic (all plant material from the same genus or family), Mono-Chromatic, Still Life, Functional Table, Tray Table, and Exhibition Table, Type 2.

Entries in the Design Division are made in advance by contacting Sharon Wilson, 541.747.8479.

Horticulture Entries do not have to be made in advance, but you may want to pickup some entry cards from Debi Luidhardt, 541.338.8188, or at our meeting so they can be prepared in advance to save last minute scurrying.

Remember a big purpose for Flower Shows is education, both for the public and for members. They also stimulate interest in horticulture and floral design, provide an outlet for creative expression, and convey to the community the objectives of NGC.

**Gardening requires lots of water . . .
Most of it in the form of perspiration.**

By Lou Erickson

PHOTO CONTEST

Sharon Wilson announces the following winners for our Eugene Garden Club entries in the club level Photo Contest last month:

FLORAL:

Color: *Dianne Dewey
Black & White: *Ruth Fry

BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES, & INSECTS

Color: *Ruth Fry
Black & White: *Ruth Fry

LANDSCAPES

Color: Sherry Cossey
Black & White: *Ruth Fry

SEASCAPES

Color: *Delores Lewis
Black & White: *Georgia Zahar

CITYSCAPES

Color: Georgia Zahar
Black & White: *Ruth Fry

Thank you Sharon for organizing this fun event. It's a great opportunity to share another hobby that has a definite relation to our love of plants.

Our District winners (those with asterisks) photos will be taken to the State Convention in Portland, this June. Congratulations to Dianne, Ruth, Delores, & Georgia.

Flower Arranging Class

The next Flower Arranging Class will be held this Thursday, April 11, 9:30 – noon. The design to be studied will be one of the table designs from the coming Flower Show Schedule, either class 51 or 52.



These two photographs are each an example of an Exhibition Table Type 2, where the designer displays the elements used for a functional setting in a non-functional way, as in a store window, and uses only plant material and no formal design. Silverware is typically not used in flower shows.

Save your boxes from plant purchases and bring to the garden club or to Alton Baker Park so that we can use them at the Oregon Plant Fair, May 11.

Chairmen Have Tasks

Our EGC presidents, Dianne Dewey and Phyllis Hamel, are going to try to get our committee chairmanships better understood for folks as we select what we would like to work on for the coming year. We used to have folders with “job descriptions”, but they seem to have evaporated for the most part. So Dianne and Phyllis would like all chairs to write up what they have done with their committee during the year.

They would also like to have a short statement to be used in the May newsletter about each committee. Considering that page 5 in our Directory/Yearbook has many many committees or chairmen, we don't want that description too long. Hopefully, we can keep these available from year to year.

Tidbits –

Lost at Plant Nerd Night -- a striped notebook from Guatemala. If you have any leads, please let Juanita Manley know, 541.484.1704.

--Have you pruned your late flowering shrubs yet?
--Have you planted your lilies?

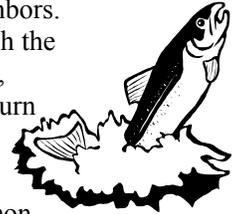
--Never work the soil when very wet or very dry (sometimes we have a choice).
--Avoid planting during hottest or sunniest part of the day – choose an overcast day (that's easy).
--Prepare soil before you plant,
--Plant new plants as soon as possible. (Don't let them put down roots out of their container!)
--Plant at the same depth as in the container.
Water them, water deep and infrequently to encourage stronger roots.
--Of course consider the mature size and cultural requirements of your new plants before choosing their locations.

BE A SALMON FRIENDLY GARDENER

- **Build healthy soil with compost**
Compost helps grow healthy plants with little water, fertilizer or pesticides. It helps soil absorb and store water, and purifies runoff.
- **Choose the right plant for the right place**
Proper plant selection will enhance habitat and reduce the need to irrigate or use chemicals. Go Native!
- **Use water wisely**
Efficient irrigation keeps water in lakes and river for salmon and prevents plant problems. Choose plants that require little or no irrigation.
- **Use natural fertilizers and pest controls**
Nurture soil and garden life that keeps plants healthy. Think twice before using herbicides. Pull weeds or 'spot spray'.
- **Direct rain water appropriately**
Enhance your garden's ability to filter pollutants and prevent excessive runoff. Plant trees! Trees catch rain and let it evaporate before it reaches the ground.

- **Protect shoreline habitat**
Preserve and enhance natural vegetation and beaches to create conditions salmon prefer.

Salmon are the ultimate in loyal neighbors. They swim thousands of miles through the ocean, past predators and fishing nets, around locks and other barriers, to return where they hatched and spawn a new generation...right in our own



backyards. Unfortunately, when salmon arrive they may find their spawning areas washed away, filled with silt from erosion, replaced by lawns or contaminated with pesticides. The ways we garden can make a real difference in providing our salmon neighbors with a healthy place to come home to.

Georgia Zahar, Birds and Wildlife Chairman

Information gathered from a Seattle Public Utilities brochure



Zenaidura macroura (Mourning Dove)

The mourning doves' (often called turtle doves) mellow, vaguely melancholy call is repeated again and again and again. I remember hearing them as a child right before a rain storm. It was a haunting sound. They build their flimsy nests of sticks, usually in an evergreen tree close to the trunk. Two eggs make a set. The parents share incubating duties, the male setting much of the day and his mate during the night. The young are fed by regurgitation, then gradually weaned to insects and the adults main food source, seeds. I always enjoy watching the doves come to our backyard feeder and eating the food on the ground that the other birds have dropped or scratched out of the feeder. A few years ago we had ten doves coming every day. A sight to see! Enjoy these cool birds.

Georgia Zahar, Birds and Wildlife Chairman

What's Happening



April

- 10 Potting Party at Dorothy Cruickshank's, 1:00 p.m.
- 11 Flower Arranging Class
- 15 Front Garden Work Party
- 16 EGC Regular Meeting
- 20 Master Gardeners' Garden Fair & Plant Sale, 9-2
- 22-24 Pacific Region 69th Convention, Santa Rosa, CA
- 29-30 Stiches 'n Thyme Flower Show, EGC, 12-6, 10-2

May

- 7 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 10 Set-up for Oregon Plant Fair – Alton Baker Park
- 11 Oregon Plant Fair – Alton Baker Park, 9 – 2
- 15 Front Garden Work Party
- 18 Lane County Dahlia Society, Parking Lot Sale at
Key Bank on River Road, 9 – 4
- 19 Mt. Pisgah Arboretum Wildflower Festival
- 21 EGC Regular Meeting
- 24-26 NGC Convention "Rainshine", Seattle, WA

June

- 4 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 8 Make centerpieces for Pearl Buck Banquet
- 11 EGC Regular Meeting, Potluck at Shauna Hill's Home
- 15 Front Garden Work Party
- 17-19 OSFGC State Convention, Portland



**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.

