

Eugene Garden Club News

January 2015

Volume 10, Issue 4

Editors: Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar & Janet Marcisz
60 members

Eugene Garden Club
1645 High Street



President's Corner

Happy New Year to all my garden friends. I hope you enjoyed building some fond memories this past month. I certainly did.

Not sure what Jack Frost has in store for us this winter, but it is a restful break from gardening. Spring never seems to come soon enough though for me, and I look forward to peeking into the sleeping tuber boxes and composting for the new season of exciting blooms and veggies.

Our upcoming programs will be keeping us informed and enthused about our spring gardening. This month we have a photo workshop before lunch and an injury prevention presentation at 1:00 p.m. Read on in this newsletter for details.

Our February program parallels my renewed efforts to encourage a cleaner less toxic home and garden environment. Stephanie's presentation is "Bee Troubles-What Can You Do?". Let's see if we can all lead the way in making our world less toxic for our families, friends and all the critters who share it with us.

Here's to a healthy and rewarding 2015!



. Camille Noel
EGC President

Eugene Garden Club Meeting Tuesday, January 20, 2015

10:30 a.m. *Taking Great Photos
in your Garden*
By Don Lown

11:30 a.m. Brown Bag Lunch

12:15 p.m. Meeting

1:00 p.m. *Prevention of Injury
in the Garden*
By Jeff Giulietti

HOSTESSES: Phyllis Hamel*, Ruth Michaelson,
Peggy Funkhouser

Preventing Injury in the Garden

Next Tuesday, January 20 the Eugene Garden Club will welcome Jeff Giulietti as our speaker at 1:00 p.m. following our regular meeting. Jeff is a certified Orthopedic Specialist and is co-owner and founder of Eugene Physical Therapy with 2 local clinics.

Gardening like any activity, requires a certain amount of physical abilities to accomplish the tasks that make a person with a green thumb successful in the garden. Jeff's lecture will focus on the common injuries and musculoskeletal problems associated with gardening and how to start helping ourselves today. He'll share tips on injury prevention and also address audience questions.

Ann Rollins, January Program Coordinator

January Meeting Includes Morning Activity!

Bring your camera next Tuesday and come at 10:30 a.m. when Photographer, Don Lown, will give us advice about our digital cameras, getting good pictures, what all those settings on our cameras are for, and more. Don is a retired science teacher, an avid bird watcher and nature photographer, enjoys woodworking, stone sculpture, mineral collecting, preparing fossils and much more. He is a member of the Emerald Photographic Society, Nature Photographers of the Pacific Northwest and PhotoZone Gallery.

Greens Sale Eventful This Year

Congratulations ladies and gentleman on a very successful 2014 Holiday Greens Sale! Forty club members and six husbands, helped in one manner or another from cutting and procuring materials to making and producing the products, to bringing cookies or publicizing, setting up, decorating, serving, selling, cleaning up or feeding the troops!



Janet Calvert coordinated the “Gathering of the Greens” with Douglas fir, noble fir, variegated holly, nice plant materials from Edana Paz’s property and also the O’Byrnes NW Garden Nursery. Greg Zahar brought his trailer for our “trash” receptacle behind the clubhouse and we are really thankful. He dumped it half way through the week after cutting many many branches of collected fir and then again after the sale was over. We actually wound up with a few bags of fir left over as new deliveries of fir branches took our time to prepare for use, and slowed down our wreath production.

During the production week, December 1 – 5, 9:00 – 3:00 daily, we made 110 wreaths, 33 holiday arrangements (which included 2 large porch planter/arrangements), 20 little decorated Christmas trees, 3 pinecone baskets, 10 yule logs, 12 door blessings (a couple may have been swags), 4 wooden candle holders, 6 little wooden plaques, 1 tabletop topiary, 96 poinsettias from Johnson Brothers Nursery, and decorated a Christmas tree and the rest of the clubhouse very beautifully. We had about 90 bows ready for \$3 before the sale. We sold all 110 wreaths before 1:00 p.m. on the day of the sale! And also all other items except 1 pinecone basket by the evening after the sale. (Two different groups used our building Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon.)

Georgia Zahar organized the Floral Design portion of our sale with a lot of help from Marj Petrusha, and Phyllis Hamel was in charge of the “little trees”.

We grossed about \$4750 and had expenditures around \$1000 for a net of \$3975 which compares with last year’s \$3975 out of \$5100. THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TIME, ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM FOR THIS FUN EVENT!

Special thanks to Sherry Cossey--Chairman, Janet Calvert, Georgia Zahar, Sharon Blade, Jennifer Rabner, Marj Petrusha, Sharon Wilson, Dorothy Cruickshank, Phyllis Hamel, Ruth Fry, Ruth Michaelson, Jerry Blade, Bill Dewey, Greg Zahar, Len Calvert, Rick Rabner, Greg Zahar, Marj’s husband, and many many more members!



Clockwise from Left: Maybe our 1st wreath for the year; Ann Rollins & Ruth Fry cut boughs and load bags at the clubhouse the weekend of Thanksgiving; club members enjoyed the Emmaus Lutheran Church Bell Choir at our Holiday potluck—member Glenda Andersen introduces a selection; Dianne & Bill Dewey, Jennifer Rabner, & Juanita Manley finish eating during the potluck, seated in front of the few wreaths left after the Greens Sale; and after the sale, members could make their own wreaths.



INS & OUTS

OF THE EUGENE GARDEN CLUB

. . . Clubhouse Cleaning

The annual thorough cleaning of our clubhouse is scheduled for Tuesday, [January 27, 9:00 a.m.](#) Bring your favorite cleaning tools and come to help spiff up all corners of our clubhouse.

. . . New Members

Please add this information to your Directory:

Cheryle Hawkins
364 Hawthorne Avenue
Eugene 97404
541.461.8004; 541.954.9694
icehawk@q.com

Sally Leete
38910 Pauls Road
P.O. Box 1237
Marcola 97454-1237

. . . Correction

Last month's newsletter had new member Norma Helliwell's last name misspelled.

The Bushtit

One of the most amazing birds to watch in the winter months is the bushtit. My husband & I make our own suet cakes throughout the year and put them out when the weather turns to winter. The bushtits love the suet feeders. They come in flocks of at least twenty and take their turn at the feeder. They don't stay long, but they are a joy to watch and they will return several times a day.

Greg and I render and chicken fat. down, we put the loaf pan and freeze suet can also be



Bushtits are about dull gray bird with They have a black eyes & legs, The female will have yellow eyes.

our own pork, beef After rendering it fat into a very small the blocks. Cakes of purchased.

4½ inches in size; a slightly brown cap. relatively long tail, and a tiny black bill.

A bushtit couple will build a pendulous nest and have 1 – 2 broods a year. They do not migrate from season to season.

Groups will roost together, huddling tightly to keep warm and save energy.

Enjoy these lively and tiny birds!

*Georgia Zahar, Birds & Wildlife Chair
Information gathered from Wikipedia*

Oregon Sponsors 72nd Pacific Region Convention

From the mountains, to the valleys, to the waters . . .

The Annual Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs 2015 Convention will be held at the Hilton Eugene, April 20-22. Sherry Cossey is chairing a committee of about 14 folks from Junction City, Oakridge, and mostly Eugene Garden Clubs. The planning for this major event began early in 2013 and is coming to fruition soon! All the information about speakers, schedules, entertainment, and registration can be found on the websites for EGC, OSFGC, and the Pacific Region. Jennifer Rabner was instrumental with Sherry in getting that together.

Our district's club presidents are asking members to help in many various ways such as contributing baskets for Silent Auction or raffle drawings, items for table favors and/or tote bags, assisting with registration, bringing items for Continental Breakfasts in our suite that Ruth Michaelson is organizing, offering to transport people to Cascade Raptor Center or UO Jordan Schnitzer Art Museum which Camille Noel is coordinating, or helping Sister Janet Marcisz with tour for spouses & guests, and bringing rhody trusses for luncheon tables.

Monday banquet features Kay Huston as Jane Franklin Mecom (Benjamin's sister), Tuesday lunch – David Droppers a program on butterflies of the Pacific Region, Tuesday banquet – Char Mutschler Design Program, Wednesday luncheon – Harold Greer on Rhododendrons followed by tour of Hendricks' Park Rhodies and then the Museum of Natural & Cultural History, Wednesday banquet – NGC President-elect installs new Pacific Region Director, followed by program presented by the Eugene New Horizons Band. Tuesday afternoon, special workshops will be presented (1) by Scott Sunderland of Shamrock Flowers & Gifts about Natural Floral Design with Textures & Elements from the Garden and (2) Mark Bloom of Bloom River Gardens on Dealing with the Garden After Significant Weather Events.

EUGENE GARDEN CLUB BOUTIQUE SPRING 2015

THINK SPRING
AS IN
SPRING HOUSE CLEANING.

There will be a Boutique sale at the March meeting.

At the February meeting
we will be COLLECTING
garden related items . . .
Stretch your minds for
THE UNUSAL.

Let's make the sale as successful as possible. Remember all
moneys collected go to
Eugene Garden Club
to pay for all sorts of things.

*Phyllis Hamel & Sharon Wilson
Chairmen, EGC Boutique*

It's Time to Prune!

There is a very good and well written article in the Winter 2015 *The National Gardener* which just came out last week, "Winter: A Time for Pruning Shrubs", pg.38-41, by Bruce Crawford, of Rutgers University. We are sharing a few excerpts here.

"Aside from an intuitive perspective of how best to prune the plant, it is important to quantify why we need to prune. For the home garden, the primary focus is upon the health and beauty of shrubs./ Consequently, the pruning needs typically focus upon (1) plant sanitation; (2) plant rejuvenation; (3) maintaining an attractive appearance and (4) controlling size of the plant to suit the scale of the garden. If shade trees are present, safety is another key focus. . . . January to early July is the optimum pruning period; plants occasionally respond with a flush of new growth and growth from a late summer or fall pruning" could result in frost damage or kill the entire plant. . . . "By contrast, sanitation or removal of dead or injured branches should be accomplished at any time of year. . . . Sanitation also includes the removal of crossing and rubbing branches. . . . Without foliage, winter is also the best time to prune for enhancing the beauty of a plant by judiciously thinning of branches."

"Rejuvenation pruning is best for multi-stemmed flowering shrubs and for some plants used in hedging where the hedge has simply become too large. . . . Pruning these four- to six-year-old stems back to 4-6" above the ground will result in the production of new, more floriferous stems and often provide an overall improved appearance of the plant! Plants such as *Forsythia*, *Philadelphus* (Mock Orange), *Syringa* (Lilac), *Deutzia*, *Weigelia*, and *Hydrangea macrophylla* (Large-Leaf Hydrangea) benefit greatly from this thinning."

If you do not receive this publication, any EGC folks with NGC Life Memberships have copies they could share or copy pages of for you. There is much to learn there!



Above: new member Cheryle Hawkins with EGC president Camille Noel; FAC design made by Monica Henry in honor of Eldoris Cobban who loves crescent designs. Below left: wreath featuring that spectacular yellow Chief Joseph pine.



Below: steps for getting a wreath ready: bundles made, then crimped on the ring, then sprayed and hung on back of shed to dry,





What's Happening

January

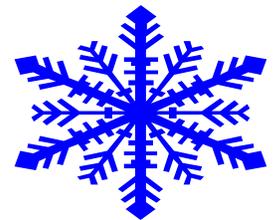
- 6 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 15 Flower Arranging Class – 9:30 a.m.
- 20 Regular EGC Meeting
- 23-25 Good Earth Home, Garden & Living Show
- 27 Clubhouse Cleaning Party

February

- 3 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 11-15 NW Flower & Garden Show,
Convention Center, Seattle
- 17 EGC Regular Meeting; Garden Club Boutique
- 19 Flower Arranging Class
- 27-Mar 1 Yard, Garden & Patio Show
Convention Center, Portland
- 27 Willamette District Board Meeting, TBA
Westside G.C. hosts

March

- 3 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 6-9 Lane County Home & Garden Show, Fairgrounds
- 9 OSFGC Board Meeting, Seaside
- 17 EGC Regular Meeting
- 21 Willamette District Meeting, EGC hosts
- 26 Plant "Nerd" Night
- 28-29 State Flower Show, Portland EXPO Ctr.
Energy Trust Better Living Show



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

In the Garden – in January

Plant deciduous fruit & shade trees. Take hardwood cuttings of deciduous ornamental shrubs & trees.

Bring cuttings inside from quince, forsythia, flowering cherry to force bloom.

Plant peas & sweet peas if soil is well drained.

Begin planning this year's garden.

Order new roses for March 15 delivery. Remove old leaves from rose bushes and clean up rose beds. Prepare beds for planting new roses in March.

Don't forget to feed the birds who have come to depend on your supply.

