

Eugene Garden Club News

October 2014

Volume 10, Issue 2

Editors: Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar & Janet Marcisz

59 members

Eugene Garden Club

1645 High Street

Eugene, OR 97401



President's Corner

October is always an interesting month climate wise. We get some of the left over summer days with cooler nights and of course the much needed rain. Fall is starting to affect the flower blooms and the tree leaves. So much fun to watch the transition. Yep, dahlia season will be coming to a close, and I make a point of appreciating these last bold blooms of Fall. Soon it will be time to cut down, dig, divide and store. It's a big job, but well worth it for next summer's beauties. If there is a variety of dahlia you would like to grow next year let me know and I will set aside some tubers for you.

Our clubhouse garden is well and the succulents planted in the new tree area by the sidewalk look great. Thank you to Sharon Wilson, Dianne Dewey and Juanita Manley for their planting skills.

I hope everyone is enjoying participating in the many activities planned in October. Check you calendar and join in. Our own general meeting will include an added 9:30 a.m. workshop on container bulbs along with our program on heirloom vegetables. The district meeting will be held at the EGC clubhouse later that same week.

See you at the meeting on the 21st



..... Camille Noel
President

OCTOBER MEETING EUGENE GARDEN CLUB

October 21

9:30 a.m. Bulb Planting Workshop

11:30 a.m. Brown Bag Lunch

12:15 p.m. Meeting

1:00 p.m. *Selecting & Growing
Heirloom Vegetables*

By Rose Marie Nichols McGee

HOSTESSES: Jackie Getty, Sister Janet Marcisz,
Julie Knebel

GREETERS: Phoebe Staples, and Janet Calvert

MEETING DAY MORNING WORKSHOP: LAYERING BULBS IN CONTAINERS

At 9:30 a.m. before our October EGC meeting, come join Dorothy Cruickshank and Marilyn Hunter in putting some bulbs to bed for the winter in anticipation of a pot of colorful flowers in the spring! RSVP to Dorothy Cruickshank at 541.342.2577.

1. Participants are to bring a pot, sized to hold the number of daffodils and/or tulip bulbs to be planted.
2. Remember gloves and a trowel.
3. Some bulbs will be available at no cost and others will be sold at cost..
4. Potting soil to be available for purchase..
5. Topping plants such as pansies, forget-me-nots, fir boughs, ajuga, or small rocks or whatever you like, can be added.

Planting instructions available at the workshop.

When finished, take pot home and watch for **GLORIOUS WINTER TO SPRING INTEREST.**

Marilyn Hunter

GREENS SALE 2014

DECEMBER 6



The annual Eugene Garden Club Greens Sale is our biggest fundraiser for the year and is fast approaching. Sign-ups will be available at October and November meetings. The big sale day is on Saturday, December 6, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

It's time to start thinking about which shrubs or trees to wait on cutting back until late November so that the trimmings can be used in wreaths, floral designs, and more as we prepare for the sale during the week after Thanksgiving, December 1-5.

Some examples of plant material great for color and texture contrast – (evergreen varieties)

arborvitae	Oregon grape (red)
cypress	nandina (red)
boxwood	yellow holly
(plain or variegated)	holly w/ berries
salal	variegated holly
Japanese holly	cedar (with blooming tips)
eucalyptus	camellia
pine (short needles)	cryptomeria
incense Cedar	(reddish especially)
magnolia	magnolia buds
yew	euonymous
skimmia	osmanthus
pieris	aucuba
grand fir	juniper (berried)
western red cedar	blue spruce
huckleberry	chaemecyperis
boulevard cypress broom	vinca minor
sage	curly branches
artemesia	lavendar
santolina	rosemary

Also -- Anything with berries that will last: holly, nandina, rose hips, juniper.

And -- Small branches, twigs, any color but especially yellow or red or gnarly, like barberry, filbert, willow, blueberry, etc.

* * * * The cut part of boughs or branches can be up to about 1/2" thick both for wreaths and designs; 12"-18" is a good length.

Our EGC budget has \$5200 income included from our Greens Sale. That's certainly within our reach! It's a lot of work, but really a lot of fun too! Most people work multiple days during our preparations.

Janet Calvert will have signups for Greens Gathering, and Sherry Cossey will have signups for the work week at our next two meetings.

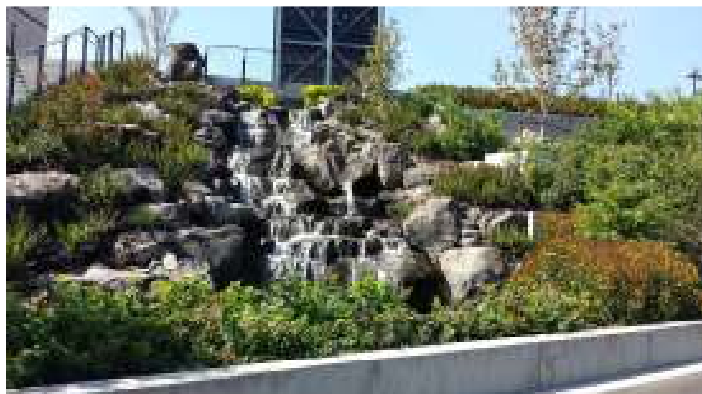
EGC VISITS ZEN NORTH

Eugene Garden Club members and friends were treated to a guided tour through Zen North at Autzen Stadium in September that Janet Calvert organized. Larry Gilbert, who was the principal landscape architect for the huge project, showed us all the ins and outs throughout the north side of the Autzen facility. We may have seen all 39 VERY large trees along with about 400 others, shrubs, ground covers and more. The idea for this new forested Zen North came from Tinker Hatfield several years ago.



The area emphasizes native plants – dogwood, maple, hemlock, Oregon grape, sword ferns, Sequoias, redwoods, yews, pines and other conifers, river birch and more.

The soil has garden and kitchen compost, and there are 3 miles of drip irrigation throughout. The two large waterfall attractions each re-circulate 1000 gallons of water per minute. Some of the rock work is as big as a Volkswagen! One Coast Redwood weighed nearly 20,000 lbs and had a 6'x8' root ball. There are catch basins with "water" plants for managing storm water. Large benches are made from parts of trunks of coast redwood salvaged from storm damage or road construction.



INS & OUTS

OF THE EUGENE GARDEN CLUB

. . . NEW MEMBERS

Kathleen Gray (in Directory)

Dana Downie (in Directory)

Natalie Reeves

84761 Murdock Road

Eugene, 97405

NATLYJC@gmail.com

541.686.1614-H 541.953.9662-C

. . . DIRECTORIES

If you haven't picked your EGC Directory up yet, they are in the closet in the front room at the clubhouse. Please get one.

Change Peggy Funkhouser's email to read

Funkhouserp06@gmail.com.

Juanita Manley's new email is correct in our Directory, but be sure that you change it in your email programs. Juanitainthegarden@hotmail.com.

Sharon Blade will make address labels for us to add new members into our Directories. They are also in that closet.

. . . PLANT FAIR

NOW is the time to think about dividing our plants. Pot some up for the Plant Fair in 2015. Be sure to use clean pots and sterile soil. Then let Mother Nature take care of new babies until spring! If someone would volunteer to host a potting party in the next 6 weeks, our club could provide soil, and members could come to pot up plant divisions.

Flower Arranging Class

Thursday, October 16,

9:30 a.m.

Haunted House is the theme.

Use of Creative Style encouraged

\$5.00 fee one-time per year

Sherry & Georgia

Instruction and Assistance

Willamette District

Regular Meeting

Hosted by Springfield Garden Club
Friday October 24, 2014
At Eugene Garden Club Clubhouse

9:30 -- Coffee & Country Store

10:00 – Meeting

12:00 – Potluck Lunch

(Bring your own table service)

Program: OSFGC Guests

President Peggy Olin

Parliamentarian Nancy Ebsen

Insurance Chairman Marcia Kay Whitelock

Door Prizes & Raffle

(each club brings a Raffle item such as a basket or a plant.)



Sharon Wilson

Willamette District Director

If you have never been to a District Meeting, this is a great opportunity to meet people from our other clubs and share ideas.

DISTRICT MEETING HAS COUNTRY STORE . . .

If you have any new or gently used Autumn theme items that you would like to donate to the making of EGC's raffle basket to be sold at the Willamette District General Meeting, please contact Georgia Zahar, Willamette District Assistant Director, at 541.686.8397.

AND PUMPKIN CARVING-DECORATING

Following the District Program on the 24th, anybody who would like to participate in decorating their pumpkins or gourds will go to the back room and have fun. Bring whatever supplies and large "squash" you want to use. You could even work in pairs! Sharon didn't say if there will be any prizes.





CANADA GOOSE

Branta Canadensis

Canada geese are quite variable and divided into several subspecies. The dusky population is one of the subspecies. This subspecies primarily winters in the Willamette Valley. The Canada goose is a goose with a black head and neck, white patches on the face, and a brown body. Canada geese feed on vegetation and are drawn to short grass fields. They are also among the most hunted waterfowl in North America. Feeding by humans during the winter months seems to have encouraged many of the geese to stay in the region rather than migrate north to breed, and as a result are considered by many to be pests.

The Canada goose is the most widespread goose in North America. They are very protective of their nest and young. They will hiss when startled or approached. Locally you can see many of these geese in the Delta Ponds and Alton Baker Park.

*Georgia Zahar
Birds & Wildlife Chair*

AS WE HARVEST...

---Did you know that the average American eats 20lbs of onions a year?

---There are less than 1,000 onion farmers in the United States.

---Parsley gets rid of onion breath.



Twenty-five EGC members and friends traveled to the Gathering Together Farm, on 60 acres near Philomath this October 8 to see some of their many hoop houses, hear about their organic and natural practices, and ate a wonderful lunch. The pictures here represent a little of the many crops that they produce to sell in Portland, the coast, and Corvallis.



EGC CARES ABOUT YOU

Ask most garden club members why they wanted to join a garden club and they will tell you that they were interested in learning more about growing vegetables, flowers, doing landscaping or floral design. In reality, most of that information is just a click away on the computer, iPad or cell phone.

What the new technology can't do is offer the friendship and camaraderie that we experience when we become members of a group. Part of this is reaching out to members who become ill, unable to get out and attend meetings, or experience some other traumatic event. The club sends notes, cards and sometime flowers.

As corresponding secretary this year, it is my responsibility to see that this gets done. (The position used to be called "Sunshine"). This is where all of you come in. When you hear of someone who is in need of a little pick-me-up, please let me know. Thanks.

*Ruth Fry
fotofry@msn.com
541.741.1122*

SMJ HAS NEW PLAQUE

The Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House has a new plaque prominently displayed in front of the house thanking the Eugene Garden Club for our "Years of Service to the SMJ House" etched into a heavy square concrete block. It is very nice.

We have decided to have regular monthly Work Parties this year, on the 2nd Friday mornings, 10:30 a.m. We still have several areas needing some heavy weeding, and the lavenders need to be cut back. We hope to weed eat some of the heavy brush on the hillside beyond our landscaped area. Just need someone who can start the gas weedeater the first time!



Last month Kathleen Gray, Debi Luidhardt, Georgia Zahar, Sharon Wilson, and Sherry Cossey attacked the weeds, and were joined in October by Catherine Taylor. They all welcome any more of you to come and join the party. Many hands make shorter work!

What's Happening

October

- 6 OSFGC Fall Board Meeting, Klamath Falls
- 7 EGC Board Meeting
- 8 EGC Side Trip to Gathering Together Farm
- 11-13 Eugene Clay Fest, Fairgrounds
- 15 Pacific Region Planning Committee, 11:00, EGC
- 18 Worm Bin Composting, Lane County OSU Extension
10 a.m. - 12 p.m., 996 Jefferson Street, prepay
by Tuesday before, 541.344.5859
- 21 EGC Regular Meeting
- 21 Bulb Planting Workshop, 9:30 a.m.
- 24 Willamette District General Mtg., Springfield hosts
- 26 Mushroom Festival, Mt. Pisgah Arboretum



November

- 4 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 14 SMJ Work Party, 10:30 a.m.
- 18 Regular EGC Meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- 28-29-30 Greens Gathering, TBA



December

- 1-5 Wreath-Making Week
- 6 Greens Sale. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- 16 Holiday Potluck



Fall Colors Are Coming

**Thank you
Sharon Wilson
for your leadership
in caring for our
new sidewalk trees and
landscaping around
them with the help of
Juanita Manley
and
Dianne Dewey.
We appreciate you all!**

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

In the Garden – in October

Dig dahlias or mulch in well-drained soil, making sure rain won't get into cut stem. If you dig your dahlias, do so about a day or so after you cut the plant back to a stalk. (f you leave your dahlias in the ground over the winter, put a small can or baggie over the end of the cut stalk to prevent rot or freezing from rain.)

At first sign of cold weather, cut all rose bushes to 40" above ground.

Clean up annual flower beds and mulch with manure or compost.

Plant garlic for harvesting next summer.

Dig and store potatoes, harvest pumpkins and squash.

Save seeds from vegetables and flower gardens.

Mulch around roses, azaleas, rhododendrons for winter protection.

Plant ground covers and shrubs.

Fertilize lawn for last time this year.

