

Eugene Garden Club News

April 2015

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Editors: Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar & Janet Marcisz

61 members

Eugene Garden Club
1645 High Street
Eugene, OR 97401



President's Corner

Thank you to all who helped make Nerd Night such a fun success again this year. The nurseries had wonderful spring items to share and gave interesting introductions to their specialties and favorites. The whole place was just humming with all the festivities. I hope everyone got something beautiful or yummy for that special spot in your garden!

We've enjoyed some great educational programs last month. One on Clematis from Joy Creek Nursery and one on vegetable gardening in the Willamette Valley at our District meeting. It's really getting me in the mood for spring gardening.

We have our own plant sales coming at the Key Bank on May 9th and the 16th. We'll need lots of help. There will be sign up sheets at our meeting. Our meeting this month has been moved up to April 14th as our Convention will be during that following week. Check out all the info on that which Sherry has organized and enjoy participating in all or some of the big event!

I am really looking forward to our bus trip which will replace our May meeting next month. Take a look at the adventure planned and join us.

See you at our general meeting on the April 14th.



. . . Camille Noel, President

Eugene Garden Club Meeting Tuesday, April 14, 2015

11:30 a.m. Brown Bag Lunch

12:15 p.m. Meeting
Horticulture

1:00 p.m. *Hypertufa: What it is &
Why you want it!*

HOSTESSES: Janet Calvert*, Ruth Fry,
Gigi Gremmel

GREETER: Julie Knebel & Chris DeRoss

You Could Make Hypertufa Troughs

Sharon Wilson will give attendees lots of information about making Hypertufa Troughs at next week's EGC on April 14. Martha Stewart loves them. So does Maurice horn, whom we heard last month from Joy Creek Nursery. He focuses his classes on portability and portable gardens. These portable "gardens" can be made of just 3 accessible, inexpensive materials: perlite, cement, and peat moss. If you can make mud pies, you can make a sophisticated hypertufa planter. There will be some examples brought by members who made theirs.

**Work Parties –
Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House
Planting & more – 10:30 a.m.
Fri. April 10, Sat. April 11**

Plant Nerd Night A Success . . .

Sharon Blade

Plant "Nerd" Night was fun, entertaining and another successful year. There was something new, the building heat was never turned on..that was a first, and the stage handrails kept "MC" Dorothy....upright. She did a wonderful job, keeping the program fun, entertaining and zipping along. What would Nerd Night be without her!



We hope you all enjoyed working on the evenings festivities...and thank you all who set up and especially those who committed to cleaning up. There were too many helpers to list, but you know who you are, and you are all appreciated! A special thanks to Camille Noel, Cheryl Hawkins (new member), Debi Luidhardt, Sharon Wilson, Marilyn Hunter, Shari Hewitt, Shauna Hill, Dianne Dewey and Peggy Funkhouser. These members stepped up to the plate and did a fine job of being representatives for our Garden Club. Thanks to the cookie contributors, and Ruth and her helpers for setting up the table and making sandwiches for us and our Guests. Also, thanks to Jennifer Rabner, Phoebe Staples, Arlene Taylor and Sherry Cossey for selling raffle tickets, who made our fundraising a success.

The committee members have met and agreed to make some changes for next year, but any comments or suggestions is always open for consideration. Thank you.

Sharon Blade, Dorothy Cruickshank and Ruth Fry



Plant Sale Workers Needed

Sign-up sheets for garden club helpers at the **May 9 Garden Extravaganza** will be out at our April 14 club meeting. Plan to put your name in a spot.

The sale is put on by the Willamette District Garden Clubs and the Lane County Dahlia Society at the Key Bank on River Road next to BiMart.

Set up, sale, and tear down all occur on Saturday. Pricing must be done previous to Saturday! We will use our usual red tags, and Treasurer Jennifer Rabner will be our head cashier for the Willamette District Clubs.

Our April 9 potting party, diggings from the old courthouse last fall, and all of our individual plant divisions, starts, and seedlings provide us with product for the public to purchase and proudly take home to plant! Our club also plans to bring some floral arrangements to sell this year.

If you can provide tables or chairs, please let Chairman Sharon Wilson know.

Eugene Garden Club To Travel North Again in May

The regular May meeting for EGC is planned to be a bus trip to the Salem area on Tuesday, May 19th with 3 big highlights:

1. Deep Woods Estates
2. Adelman's Peony Gardens
3. Sebright Garden & Nursery
(wonderful display gardens as well as plants to purchase)



Bus will load at 7:45 a.m. at the Shopko on Coburg Road and leave at 8:00 a.m. Return time is by 5:00 p.m. Bring a brown bag lunch. Hostesses Sherry Cossey & Georgia Zahar will have some goodies to share as well as bottled water for folks.

We still have room for more people to SIGN UP for the trip by paying their \$30 to Treasurer, Jennifer Rabner. Ann Rollins is in charge of the bus and Jackie Getty made arrangements for our garden visits. Please invite your friends and family.

This will be a trip not to miss!



Flower Arranging Class members pictured above include left to right: Dana Downie, Camille Noel, Cheryle Hawkins, Norma Helliwell, Ruth Michaelson, Sandra Otsyula, Monica Henry, Gayle Wilson, Gwen Courtright, and Kathie Spinola. Gayle and Gwen are Georgia's sisters. The assignment for that day was to use an unusual container that one didn't really know how to use with floral design. Other designs from that day appear below and to the right as well.



Flower Arranging Class Meets

The next Flower Arranging Class will be held later in the month than usual, Thursday, April 30, 9:30 – noon. The design assignment is a May Day floral arrangement in a basket or in some other container. It would be nice to use rhododendrons or other flowers from your yard.



Anyone may attend, and the group normally meets the 3rd Thursday morning of the month. Sherry Cossey and Georgia "coach" the group.

POT UP PLANTS FOR SALE

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 or soon thereafter.



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.

There may be potting soil, pots, and blank tags that you can pick up left at Janet Calvert's home after the April 9 Potting Party. Please bring buckets for the soil.

Did You Know?

.....The Peony symbolizes prosperity in China, but the ancient Greeks thought it was a flower with magical properties. During the 16th century, children wore beads made of the plant and its flowers to protect them from convulsions. The roots were said to be good for the stomach and swallowing the seeds would prevent nightmares.

.....Hundreds of years ago phlox was thought to keep witches away from any locality in which it was planted!

.....Pansies, also known as "Johnny-Kiss-Me-Quick" and "Cuddle-Me-To-You" were placed on the eyelids of a sleeping girl so that she would fall in love with the first person she saw when awakened!

Thank you Janet Conley & Friends from the Multnomah District Newsletter.

Pacific Region of NGC 72nd Annual Convention



*From the Mountains . . .
To the Valleys . . .
To the Mountains . . .*

Oregon hosts the 2015 Pacific Region of NGC at the Hilton Eugene this April 20-22, and many EGC folks are working to make this a successful event along with help from Junction City and Oakridge GCs. Many clubs and districts around Oregon are also contributing items and services to give attendees extra ways to remember Oregon.

More than 80 people from Washington, Arizona, California, Oregon, Nevada, Idaho, Alaska, and Hawaii have registered at this time.

A pre-convention highlight is a Tea & Tour at the Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House on Monday, 1:00-3:00. A few EGC members will be helping out with that event. **We decided to allow local non-convention goers also for this tea; cost is \$30. Contact Jennifer Rabner or Sherry Cossey if you would like to partake.**

Besides the Business meetings, attendees will see and hear Scott Sunderland of Shamrock Flowers & Gifts, Mark Bloom of Bloom River Gardens, Char Mutschler's Floral Design program, Harold Greer of Greer Garden Nursery on rhododendrons, a speaker about Butterflies, and a 1st person visit by Ben Franklin's sister, Jane Mecom. If should still like to attend a day, contact Sherry or Jennifer, and we will get you in.

Many are touring the Hendricks Park Rhododendron Garden under the leadership of Roger Gossler, visiting the Museum of Natural & Cultural History, and others visiting Cascade Raptor Center or the Jordan Schnitzer Art Museum at the UO. There are even tours planned for spouses. Thank you to those of you who are stepping in to help transport a few folks on one of the days.

Next month we will recognize all the garden club members who have been so instrumental in planning this convention. At this printing we have 93 folks registered! Jennifer & Sherry are kicking up their heels!

INS & OUTS OF THE EUGENE GARDEN CLUB

. . . New Member

Victoria Bernuth
P.O. Box 505
Pleasant Hill, 97455
541.736.8248
victoriabernuth@gmail.com

Please welcome her at our meetings!

. . . Sad News

Longtime member Eldoris Cobban could use our encouragement after the passing of her husband March 31 after a long bout with cancer.



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



One more “Did You Know”

Sweet Potatoes belong to the Morning Glory family, and Irish Potatoes are in the Nightshade family. For many years Europeans regarded potatoes as poisonous because they looked like the deadly nightshade plant!

What's Happening



April

- 2 LC Dahlia Society's Tuber Auction,
Celeste Campbell Center, 7 p.m.
- 7 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 14 EGC Regular Meeting
- 16 Flower Arranging Class, 9:30 a.m.
- 18 Master Gardener's Spring Garden Fair & Plant Sale
EWEB River Edge Plaza, 11-5
- 20-22 Pacific Region of NGC Convention, Hilton Eugene

May

- 5 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 9 Garden Extravaganza at Key Bank, 10:00-4:00
- 16 Possible continuation of Garden Extravaganza, same
- 17 Wild Flower Festival, Mt. Pisgah Arboretum
- 19 EGC Bus Trip, 7:45 a.m.
- 21 Flower Arranging Class, 9:30 a.m.

June

- 2 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 9 EGC Regular Meeting, Potluck at Ann Rollin's Home
- 15-17 OSFGC State Convention, Wilsonville

July

- 10 Willamette District Picnic, Westside G.C.
- 22-26 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.

