

Eugene Garden Club News

March 2016

Volume 11, Issue 6

Editors: Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar & Janet Marcisz

67 members

Eugene Garden Club

1645 High Street

Eugene, OR 97401



President's Corner

Spring is springing! Certainly we've all noticed little slug-bitten buds emerging, tender tree blossoms dripping, mosses competing for territory, fern fronds unfurling and those weeds, oh those weeds, emerging overnight.

This is my favorite time of year. I'm eager to get outside and turn some dirt. I'm a born and raised Ohio farm girl and in the spring I experience an insatiable need to turn some dirt! On Tuesday, March 15th, my used and abused garden shovel will be attending our 9:30 AM workshop to get a much needed tune-up. Then on March 31st I'll be feeding my addiction at Plant Nerd Night. Watch out! The dirt will be flyin' then!

For those who share a competitive edge, consider participating in the District sponsored "March Madness" Flower Show on March 18th & 19th. It will be an opportunity to show off gardening and artistic talents. Check the EGC website for helpful guidelines.

Spring is sprung so let's turn dirt!



. Debi Luidhardt
EGC President

We have myriads of large
black pots, gallons &
larger in the shed.
Please take!

Eugene Garden Club Meeting

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

- 9:30 a.m. Workshop: *How to clean & sharpen garden tools*
Keri Sadler
- 11:00 a.m. Photography Contest
- 11:30 a.m. Brown Bag Lunch
- 12:15 p.m. Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. *Climate Change and Gardening in the Willamette Valley*
By Kathy Dello
Coordinator: Ann Rollins

HOSTESSES: Sharon Wilson*, Jennifer Rabner

GREETERS: Phoebe Staples & Georgia Zahar

Climate Changes

Meet our March EGC meeting speaker: Kathie Dello is the Associate Director of OCCRI and Deputy Director of the Oregon Climate Service (OCS) which serves as the State Climate Office for Oregon. She works on climate impacts analysis, climate adaptation, state agency engagement, and public outreach for OCCRI and the [Climate Impacts Research Consortium \(CIRC\)](#). She coordinated Oregon's first climate assessment report, which is required under the legislation that created OCCRI.

Kathy has a BS in Atmospheric Science and an MA in Geography from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany. She has completed most of her coursework toward a PhD in Environmental Sciences at Oregon State University.

Photography Contest Held

Bring your entries for the **State Photography Contest** to this month's EGC meeting by 11 a.m. The six categories are 1. Landscapes/Seascapes, 2. Gardens, 3. Floral, 4. Birds-Butterflies-Insects, and 5. Pets. All categories are available in both black-and-white and color divisions.

Winners at the District level will be taken to State Convention in June in Hood River. The criteria for photographs has been listed in the past 2 newsletters and also the state newsletter, *The Mahonia*, and on the OSFGC website.

Flower Show To Be Held



"March Madness" is nearly on us! The Willamette District Flower Show, chaired by Ruth Michaelson and Fran Tierce takes place Friday-Saturday, March 18-19. Set up is on Thursday, 1:00 p.m. and the show will be open Friday, 1:00-4:00 and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

All entries for the show will be due Friday morning, 7:00-9:30 a.m. Horticulture classes, Division I, include almost any fresh plant material or plants from your yard or home. If you do not know the botanical name, there will be "pros" available to assist with that. Floral arrangements for Division II were to be pre-entered with Georgia Zahar, by March 7. Division III includes the Educational Exhibits, *Raising Chickens*, *Composting*, and *Drought Tolerant Plants* and also the Artistic Crafts. All exhibits must contain some plant material.

If you need a schedule for the show, contact Ruth Michaelson. Entry tags will be available at the EGC meeting so that you could fill out your horticulture tags before the entry day if you like.

Horticulture classes are Evergreen Trees & Shrubs, Blooming Trees & Shrubs, Blooming Perennials, Bulbs, Rhizomes & Corms, and Indoor Container Plants. Design classes include dried material for traditional line design, creative design using a ball, and using 2 containers. Others are fresh material incorporating hoops (creative), using all foliage (traditional), and reflective (creative). There are also 3 designer's choice classes, one using water and one using dominance of cylindrical

Willamette District News

... Spring General Meeting

Willamette District Director Sharon Wilson reports the Spring General Meeting will be at the Eugene Garden Club Friday, March 18, hosted by Cottage Grove Garden Club. OSFGC President Shirley Schmidt will be our guest at lunch.

There will be morning coffee and refreshments at 9:30 a.m. and 10:00 meeting followed by a potluck. All members are invited to attend. The program is the *"March Madness"* flower show. The Photography Contest for the District happens that day as well.

Potting Party

The Saturday, May 7, Garden Extravaganza (Plant Sale) is not too far off and there is still time to plant up starts or seeds for that event. Our Willamette District sale is at the River Road Key Bank parking lot in front of Bi-Mart in conjunction with the Lane County Dahlia society.

EGC will have a potting party at Janet Calvert's home on Friday, April 9, 10:00-noon. Her address is 1062 Woodside, off of Cal Young Road near Coburg Road, (541.686.2697).

Bring your plants to divide or plant, and have their names. Soil and pots will be available that day. We are encouraged to plant bigger pots than the very small ones in most cases. Vegetables sell very well too.

Janet has a greenhouse to keep the products that we produce that day until the plant sale. Of course you may pot up plants at your own home as well. If you could profit from the greenhouse, bring your plants to Janet's home.

EGC Chairman Camille Noel says that there will be a sign up sheet at our EGC meeting for 8:30 a.m. set up, and also for tables and canopies.



Plant Nerd Night Coming

March 31 will be EGC's yearly "Plant Nerd Night" at the clubhouse, 6-9 p.m. FREE!

Sharon Blade, Ruth Fry, and Dorothy Cruickshank have plans in place for members to sign up to help in this event when Trillium Gardens, Garlands Nursery, Petal Heads, Sedum Chicks, and Johnson Brothers Greenhouses will be on hand to talk about, display, and sell new things for our gardens in 2016.

Raffle tickets will be sold and winners drawn for the plants that each nursery donates. Doors open for the public at 6:00 and the program begins at 7:00 p.m. Invite your neighbors and friends. Distribute the flyers. Plan to attend! And buy!



Add to Our EGC Directories

Please welcome the following new folks and add their information to your Directories:

Lucy Chambers
1496 Martingale Street
Eugene, 97401
chamberslucy1015@yahoo.com
541.218.5370

Susan Mincks
3220 Crescent Avenue space 54
Eugene, 97408
541.344.8396



Notes from Master Gardeners

Sister Janet Marcisz is looking for gently used items for silent auction at the Master Gardeners Plant Sale held April 30 at the Fairgrounds. Items need not be garden related. She is also looking for ideas of goods or services that a business might donate. (541.968.1822 or jmarcisz@efn.org.)

A program at the River Road Park & Rec Center on April 15 will feature James Cassidy, an OSU soil scientist speaking on how soil works.



EGC Meets Ireland

Above and below are a few of the nearly 200 photos that Char Mutschler shared at February's EGC program. She attended the Wafa convention in south Ireland in June last year where floral designers from all over the world displayed their works or art. These four samples consist almost entirely of plant material.

The large designs filled 3 very large buildings similar to our fairgrounds buildings. The tour that Char took part in was sponsored by NGC and the group also explored a bit of southern Ireland's castles, burial mounds, and the Botanic Garden.

EGC member, Shauna Hill, has been living in Ireland temporarily for several months and enjoying the wonderful landmarks and way of life there. She should be returning to Eugene this spring.



March in the Garden

By Juanita Manley, Horticulture Chairman

March starts the busiest time in the garden.

Preparing the soil for planting is the first thing that we think of but should stay off it if it is very wet. Stirring wet soil damages the structure. Soil is starting to warm so we can start putting out the cole crops, onions, potatoes, leaf crops such as spinach and chard. Start seeds of tomatoes, egg plant, peppers inside for planting out next month.

Harvest established asparagus this month and feed. After long winter rains everything seems hungry.

I did my first lawn mowing yesterday. North lawn is struggling after no water last summer.

Check any stored bulbs or tubers for rot. Clean out any decay and allow to dry before returning to storage or planting. Get a head start on dahlia tubers by planting in a gallon can with compost or mulch. Place in a warm spot (south side of house works), but watch for frost after foliage appears.

Slugs are busy, so get out there with whatever you use to prevent plant loss.

There is a Propagation Fair, March 26, 11-4, at Whitaker Elementary School. It includes a seed exchange; bring yours to donate and bring envelopes to take seed home. There will be many kinds of roots for the size (apple for example), and you choose the cultivar (variety) and they will graft them together for you.

Meanwhile, keep on catching up with the unfinished chores . . . and do stop and enjoy those warm sunny days ahead.



Sister Janet Marcisz & Ruth Michaelson practiced designs for the flower show.

EGC Schedule Changes

Flower Arranging Class will not meet this month because of set up for the flower show on the 3rd Thursday. Members may use the backroom work area that afternoon to prepare their designs for entries in the flower show.

Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House work party will be on the 4th Friday this month, March 25, 10:30 a.m.

Can you identify below: Candytuft, Daffodil, February Daphne, Dicentra spectabilis aurea, Euphorbia, Hellobores, Pulmonaria, PJM and Taurus rhododendrons? All blooming in February in Eugene or almost ready to!



What's Happening

March

- 1 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 10-13 Lane County Home & Garden Show
- 13-14 OSFGC Board Meeting, The Oregon Garden
- 15 EGC Regular Meeting
- 17 Set up for Flower Show
- 18 Willamette District Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Westside Gardeners Host at EGC
- 18-19 "March Madness" District Flower Show
- 25 Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House, 10:30-noon
- 31 Plant "Nerd" Night, 6:00 p.m.



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.
- 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.



At our March Meeting
Once again Enter to
WIN
A FREE Guest Pass (\$8.00 value) to
Cascades Raptor Center

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

In the Garden – in March

Plant cool season crops such as peas, lettuce, cabbage, onions, kale & chard.

**Divide hostas, daylilies, mums, peonies, dahlias late in the month.
(Note: If weather is very cold, wait until April for dahlias; wait until you can see the tuber eyes well.)**

Feed rhubarb, cane berries, evergreen shrubs & trees with manure or complete fertilizer.

Plant berry crops (strawberry, raspberry, blueberry, blackberry).

Prune gooseberries & currants and feed with manure or a complete fertilizer.

Move existing rose bushes; plant new ones by the 15th; fertilize with 1 cu. alfalfa meal per bush by end of month.

Spread compost over garden and landscape areas.

Plant gladioli.

