

# Eugene Garden Club News

November-December 2013

Volume 9, Issue 3

Editors: Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar & Janet Marcisz

56 members

Eugene Garden Club

1645 High Street

Eugene, OR 97401



## President's Corner

It's a perfect time of the year for a walk in the park or just a drive down the street! The colors are so breathtaking! It's beautiful to watch the transitions Fall brings us. It's a time to put the summer bloomers away and ready our gardens for the winter months to come. Thanks to my big boy grandson's help, I am digging, dividing, wrapping and storing tubers from about 350 dahlia plants. Yeah, that's gonna be a lot of tubers! Let me know if you're interested in dahlias for Spring planting. I will winterize them, but love to share in the Spring. Hmm, I'm seeing a few things to pot up now for the plant sale this Spring also.

Soon I'll be heading to my little boy grandson's house to celebrate Thanksgiving and get and give my much needed slobbery kisses and squeezes! My wonderful grandsons were born on the same day, 21 years apart! I am so lucky to have such an awesome family, and this time of year is a nice reminder of all the things we have to be thankful for. A great big "Thank You" to all my EGC friends for your kindness and support!

Very soon after Thanksgiving we will be turning the pages of the calendar and be well into the preparations for all the winter fundraising and celebrations! Yep, the Greens Sale is December 7th, with all the greens gathering and wreath-making that goes along with those preparations. Check out the sign up sheets for times and activities you'd like to be involved with. It is a lot of fun and will definitely get you in the Holiday spirit!

Don't forget to bring a couple bucks for our boutique sale at the meeting on the 19th. We'll be busy making some crafts to share after our lunch and meeting. See you all there!



Camille Noel, EGC President

## Eugene Garden Club Meeting

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

11:30 a.m. Brown Bag Lunch

12:15 p.m. Meeting

1:00 p.m. Holiday Craft Workshop

*Pat Kramer, Coordinator*

**HOSTESSES:** Ruth Michaelson, Arlene Taylor  
Sally Townsend, Dianne Dewey,  
Ann Rollins

**GREETER:** Sharon Blade

## MAKE HOLIDAY CRAFTS

At our November meeting EGC members will be making items to sell at our December 7<sup>th</sup> Greens Sale – such as tree decorations, candle wreaths, pinecone trees, containers, and ribbons to enhance the wreaths and table decorations we have for our sale. Most of these items will be using dried seeds and pods. Look around your yard and neighborhood for items you can bring.

See article on page 4 of this newsletter about specific examples and equipment. Come and enjoy working together. Pat Kramer, Georgia Zahar, Ann Rollins, Ruth Michaelson and Dorothy Cruickshank, are the committee.

*Ruth Michaelson*

## GREENS SALE

Sign up at meeting for helping with  
GATHERING GREENS  
CREATING WREATHS, etc. to sell  
See articles inside this newsletter.

## GREENS SALE PREP

**Wait!** -- Don't prune your evergreen shrubs and trees until Thanksgiving time. We need those basic and unusual greens to make our famously full and artistic wreaths and table arrangements. And don't forget your neighbors and friends' yards. See the suggested list on page 3. *If you need help bringing greens to clubhouse, call Janet Calvert, 541.686.2697.*

**New!** -- This year we plan to cut LOTS of Douglas fir boughs at the **EGC Clubhouse** on Saturday, November 30, 10:00 a.m. followed by dump soup and more. Bring your sharp clippers, gloves and warm clothes, and food to share. We could use 20 people there! (In working with the City concerning our naughty sidewalk Sweet Gum trees, we arranged to pick up fir boughs from a large fir that they are cutting soon! Date TBA. AND Sperry's Tree Service is going to let us pick up boughs from a tree they are cutting in the Laurelwood area that we can pick up on the 19<sup>th</sup> after our EGC meeting. We could use a few folks to help.)

**\*\*\*\*SIGN UP TUESDAY or call Janet Calvert.**

On Sunday, we will hike through Edana Paz's property collecting all kinds of interesting plant material. We will meet at the clubhouse at 11 a.m. to car pool and recommend warm clothing: 1) rain gear helps as we walk through the bushes even if not raining and 2) latex gloves under our garden gloves keep the hands warmer.

**\*\*\*\*SIGN UP TUESDAY or call Janet Calvert.**

Dorothy Cruickshank will also head up a group to collect plant material from the Northwest Garden Nursery on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 11 a.m.

**\*\*\*\*SIGN UP TUESDAY or call Dorothy Cruickshank, 541.342.2577.**



## WHAT'S A GREENS SALE ?

For any of you who are new members or relatively new, here's a brief rundown on how our big event, the Greens Sale, works.

In November members collect all kinds of plant materials to use for making wreaths, table arrangements, swags, yule logs, door blessings, small decorated trees made from noble fir, pine cone baskets and more.

We have a few organized excursions or parties, and people bring things from home too. We like to have cuttings of like materials "packaged" together, in clear plastic bags or open boxes so that it's easier to see what is there. For the Douglas fir that's the base of our wreaths, we use heavy duty very large black plastic bags. – 28 or more of them!

We store our materials in the shed outside the back of the clubhouse and bring in some supplies each day in the early morning to use throughout the day as we work the week before the sale. We eat lunch together and people sign up to bring soup to feed us – 15-25 people daily.

People sign up for working on all the various products that we offer as well as other jobs. We also purchase poinsettias from Johnson Bros. Nursery and sell them at a very reasonable price. Those are delivered on Thursday, and we need to take those we purchase by Friday morning so that the others can be placed in the rooms for the sale.

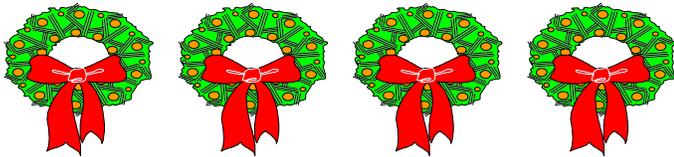
Worker lists are posted on the bulletin board in the back room as are the sheets to sign up for items each of us purchases. Sometime before the end of the sale, cash or checks made out to Eugene Garden Club, are turned in to Chairman Sherry Cossey, and she signs people off as paid.

## **Eugene Garden Club Boutique - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Holiday Sale**

**The EGC Boutique will be open at the November meeting. We have some lovely items that would make the perfect gift for that special person. The prices are right, so shop till you drop!**

**The Boutique opens at 11:15 and closes at the start of our program. Thanks to all of you who brought great things for the sale. This will be a fundraising winner for our club. The Boutique Committee applauds your help and interest in the event!**

*Phyllis Hamel*



## Plant Material for Wreaths

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 tips blooming) |
| eucalyptus   | cryptomeria                |
| pine (short needles)   | (reddish especially)       |
| incense Cedar  | magnolia buds              |
| magnolia   | euonymous                  |
| yew  | osmanthus                  |
| skimmia  | aucuba                     |
| peris  | juniper (berried)          |
| grand fir  | blue spruce                |
| western red cedar  | chaemecyperis              |
| huckleberry  | vinca minor                |
| camellia   | broom                      |
| boulevard cypress  |                            |
| Small branches, twigs, any color but especially yellow or red or gnarly (barberry, filbert, willow, blueberry, etc.) |                            |
| sage   | curly branches             |
| artemesia  | lavender                   |
| santolina  | rosemary                   |
| anything with berries that will last: holly, nandina, rose hips, juniper, etc.                                       |                            |

\* \* \* The cut-part of boughs or branches can be up to ½”-thick branch both for wreaths and designs; and 12”-15” is a good length.

\* \* \* Contrasts in COLORS, PATTERNS, TEXTURES, SIZES are elements that make our products wonderful!

### ***Printed Words Available or Not***

In the back room at the clubhouse there are 3 boxes full of old *Horticulture* magazines that were donated to EGC. Please take as many as you would like next week. We will probably not keep whatever is left.

**No Eugene Garden Club News in December.**

## Workers Needed

In preparation for our annual Greens Sale, our biggest fundraiser of the year, on Saturday, December 7, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., we work together every day the week before, Monday-Friday, December 2 - 6. Bring your clippers and gloves if you are going to be working with the greens.

Chairman Sherry Cossey says that we especially need a few more people signed up to help make

WREATHS  
LITTLE TREES  
GARLANDING

TABLE ARRANGEMENTS  
SWAGS, PINECONE BASKETS  
DECORATING THE CLUBHOUSE  
YULE LOGS, DOOR BLESSINGS

***SIGN UP TUESDAY or call Sherry 541.515.5839***

We make 150 beautiful wreaths, 30 holiday floral arrangements, 10 swags, 12 little decorated Christmas trees, 12 decorated pinecone baskets, and more, and also sell poinsettias that we order from Johnson Brothers. Plan to buy your poinsettias at the Sale and tell your neighbors as well.

Signups will be available again next week at the November meeting

Little ornaments are needed to decorate the little Christmas trees. If you have any extras you could contribute, just bring them and call Sherry Cossey's attention to them.



### ***ECG MEETS IN DECEMBER***

The EGC Meeting next month on December 17, at 11:30 a.m. will be a Holiday Potluck. Bring a dish or dessert to share. Friends and family are welcome.

Camille will have a sign up at the November meeting for tables of 6 or 4. Your table can be formal or casual. Creator's choice.

Continued from page 1 . . .

## **Details for Holiday Crafts – November EGC Meeting**

### 1. Examples of Dried Plant Materials:

SEEDS of all types – fruit pits (peach, apricot, etc.), acorns are great, especially the caps

PODS – you see on trees from very small to larger – magnolia, sweet gum

CONES – from very tiny to large ones, trees and shrubs (look at your Mugho Pines)

DRIED FLOWERS

NUTS – shells of walnuts, pistachio, filberts, etc. Shells can be whole or partial. There are lots of other types you may have on some of your dried up plants.

MOSS and LICHENS -- that are dry and interesting in shape.

### 2. Equipment that will be useful:

THIN RIBBONS – no wider than ½ “

GLUE GUNS and glue sticks for the guns  
Small PRUNING SHEARS

Needle-nosed PLIERS or WIRE CUTTERS

TWEEZERS work well to place small items

RUBBER GLOVES to protect your hands

NEWSPAPERS to protect table tops and facilitate clean up.

LABEL your equipment!

Come and enjoy working together ! !

*Pat Kramer, Georgia Zahar, Ann Rollins,  
Dorothy Cruickshank, Ruth Michaelson*

## **EGC Assists Pearl Buck**

Dorothy Cruickshank reports that a small army of EGC members will again assist a large army of Pearl Buck pre-school children creating Holiday “Centerpieces” for their parents on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m. That’s in the week after our big Sale. You will need to bring your clippers and your smiles.

She will have sign up sheets at our meeting next week, or you can call her at 541.342.2577.

**It is a good time to divide many perennials and pot them up now for our annual Plant Sale in May. Plants have several more months to grow than when potting in spring.**

## **Putting the SMJ Garden to Bed And Preparing for Spring**

Those of you who were not able to come to the Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House Work Party Tuesday will be happy to learn that the grounds are looking great and will be even better in the spring!

Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar, Sister Janet Marcisz, and Debi Luidhardt worked 6 hours (that’s 1½ hr x 4 people) and prepared all the peonies and dahlias for winter, deadheaded dozens of geraniums, finished taking off all the daylily leaves, and planted 44 cute little Tarda tulips—in 9 spots, 11 gorgeous Tahiti daffodils—in 4 spots, and about a dozen hyacinths. And stayed dry!

And the SMJ House gave EGC several tickets for the “Very Victorian Holiday Party and Silent Auction” to be held there on Thursday, December 12, at 5:30 p.m. If you would like one or more, contact Sherry Cossey. She can get more if needed. They truly do appreciate what the garden club does to keep the outside of this historic home looking beautiful.



*Debi Luidhardt said that her friend from Seattle exclaimed one day while they drove by the house, “there’s my Grandma Johnson’s house. She was Eva Johnson! The J of SMJ. It is a small world, isn’t it?”*

## **Flower Arranging Class Meets**

The November meeting for the folks participating in the monthly Flower Arranging Class will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, November 21, at 9:30 a.m.

The assignment is an either/or or both:

--an All-Foliage Design

--a table centerpiece, to practice making designs that are not too tall. Candles or accessories can be used

*During Greens Sale Work Week, Georgia Zahar works on floral design. You may be able to see all those little trees in the upper left and the pinecone baskets in the upper right.*





Plan to buy your **POINSETTIAS** for the holidays at the Greens Sale. We will have a few hundred from Johnson Bros.



## What's Happening

### November

- 6 EGC Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- 12 SMJ Work Party, 11:00 a.m.
- 19 Regular EGC Meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- 19 Pick up fir boughs in Laurelwood area
- 21 Flower Arranging Class, 9:30 a.m.
- TBA Pick up fir boughs from City cutting
- 30 Cutting fir bows at clubhouse

### December

- 1 Greens Gathering at Edana Paz's  
and at NW Garden Nursery
- 2-6 Wreath Making Week 9 - 3
- 7 Greens Sale. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- 10 Holiday arrangements with Pearl Buck children
- 17 Holiday Potluck  
HOSTESSES: *Phyllis Hamel\**, *Georgia Zahar*,  
*Jean Damon*, *Peggy Funkhouser*  
Music by Jubilee Bell Ensemble

### January

- 7 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m
- 21 Regular EGC Meeting
- 24-26 Good Earth Home, Garden & Living Show
- TBA Clubhouse Cleaning Party

**Thank you to Bill Dewey for adding Asphalt  
In a Bag to our uneven sidewalk in front of the clubhouse  
to make the bumpy sidewalk a little safer!**



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

## **In the Garden – in November**

**Dig and store geraniums, tuberous begonias, dahlias, and gladioli. (Never store dahlia tubers on a cement floor over winter, but in a cardboard box with newspaper to insulate against freezing. Also turn clumps upside down so moisture drains out of cut stalks.)**

**It's not too late to plant spring bulbs, but don't delay!**

**Renew mulch around perennial flower beds after removing weeds.**

**Take cuttings of rhododendrons and camellias now.**

**Mulch small fruit trees to protect from winter freezes.**

**Spread lime on lawns.**

**Clean and oil tools and equipment before storing for winter.**

**Place mulch of manure over dormant vegetable garden area. A 3-4" layer of leaves spread over the garden plot prevents soil compaction by rain.**

