

Eugene Garden Club News

April 2018

Volume 13, Issue 7

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

Eugene Garden Club

1645 High Street, Eugene, OR 97401

Member of National Garden Club, Pacific Region,
Garden Clubs, Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs



President's Corner

Hello again.

Hope all of you are ready for April's meeting. See Debi Luidhardt's column on this page. Be sure to bring some money and one or two containers to plant sedums in.

We have two club members going to Pacific Region Convention in Alaska this week. I hope they take lots of pictures. Sherry Cossey & Lucy Chambers will be at Chena Hot Springs 56 miles north of Fairbanks. Also two ladies from Oakridge are going.

We had a snowy day in Oakridge for the District General meeting but a very nice talk from Jeff Choate on Pesticides for the Home Gardener. If you would like a copy of his talk give Lucy Chambers an email and she will bring copies to the April meeting.

See you at the meeting. Enjoy lots of gardening this month.



..... Sharon Wilson
EGC President

Look for in this Issue

Veggie Group
Garden Extravaganza
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Calendar

Eugene Garden Club Meeting Tuesday, April 17, 2018

11:30 a.m. Brown Bag Lunch

12:00 p.m. Meeting

1:00 p.m. *"Re-purposed Planters"*

By Becky Sell from Sedum Chicks

HOSTESSES: Mary Bromley*, Janet Calvert,
Sandy Bond

GREETER: Bev Hackleman

Hands on Program

This month we welcome Becky Sell of Sedum Chicks for a hands-on workshop creating hardy sedum planters. Plan to bring your own clever planter(s) that drain well and can survive the outdoor environment. Some ideas are "junkyard items" like old boots or shoes, colanders or pots, coffee or tea pots, hypertufa, small buckets, etc. Think outside the box and be creative. A planter that will hold soil and have good drainage is what is most important.

Becky will guide us in selection and planting and will teach us how to care for our new little creations. She will bring lots of her 4-inch sedum starts for purchase for \$3.50 each. Cash is appreciated.

Debi Luidhardt, Co-Vicepresident

Veggie Group Meets

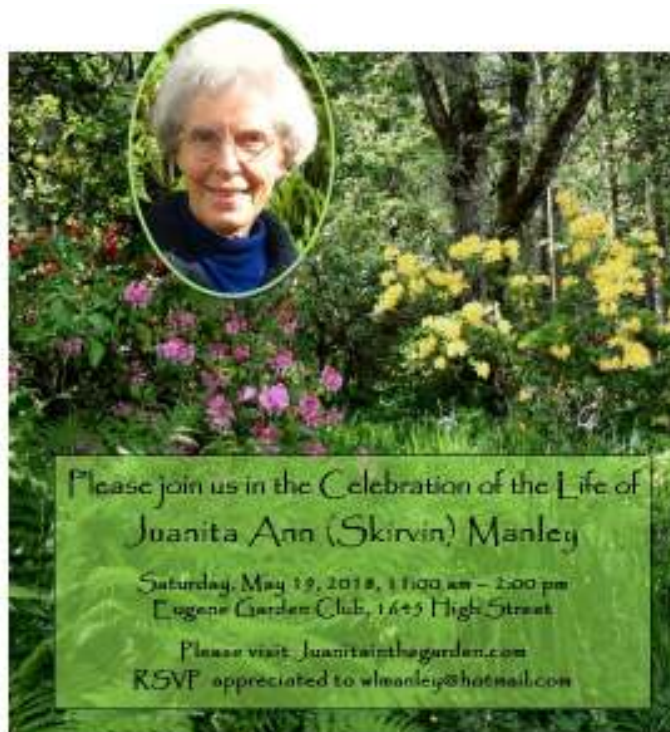
Wednesday, April 11, from 1:00-3:00 p.m.. at the EGC Clubhouse, all are welcome to attend the Veggie Group when we will be discussing a variety of watering practices. There's not one best way, but you might learn about a new way.

Also, we'll talk about a variety of vegetables and their specific growing needs.

There is always time for Q & A. Door prizes and give aways are a part of the program.

At this next to the last meeting, we need to plan our garden tour. Please be prepared to tell us if your garden is willing to be visited and when.

Carol Prud'homme, Facilitator



Hello friends,

We hope you can gather with us to celebrate Juanita's Life.

Wendy and Kevin Manley



Garden Extravaganza To Be Held

Plant Sale Workers Needed

EGC Plant Sale Chairman, Camille Noel, will have sign-up sheets at our April 17 meeting for helpers, tables, and canopies. Plan to add your name. Pick up some flyers to distribute to groups and friends.

The Garden Extravaganza is sponsored by Willamette District Garden Clubs and Lane County Dahlia Society at the Key Bank parking lot on River Road next to BiMart on Saturday, May 12, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Set up, sale, and tear down all occur on that Saturday! Plan to arrive at 8:00 a.m. for set-up and 8:30 for bringing in your plants. Bring your own plants. Use the BiMart parking lot. A small committee will price the plants as they arrive with the red EGC tags. Treasurer Jenifer Rabner will be our head cashier for the Willamette District Clubs.

Lane Forest Products donated a yard of planting mix that Janet Calvert picked up. There are pots and soil in the garbage cans behind the clubhouse.

Call Janet if you need pots and/or soil.
541.686.2697, jankcalvert@comcast.net.



Good looking plants attract the most attention and sell first! Please have your plants' common and botanical names as well as preferred growing conditions marked on the white tags (use #2 pencil.) Tags are available at the garden club meeting next week.

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.

Remember to bring no more than 5 pots of the same plant. We want good selection for the buyers.

INS & OUTS

OF THE EUGENE GARDEN CLUB

. . . New EGC Member

Please add our newest members to your EGC Directory.

Cecelia Perry &
Gayland Hokanson
522 Covey Lane
Eugene, OR 97401
541.246.5780
Gayland_hokanson@msn.com

Our 11 & 12th new members this year! ! !

. . . School Garden Project

EGC Board voted to make a donation to the School Garden Project which we will talk about at our April meeting. Two folks were invited to our April board meeting to share their mission and activities of the group which is involved with 19 schools in the Eugene-Springfield area, mostly elementary schools.

The program is educational and teaches about gardening within the STEM (science -technology – engineering – mathematics) program. They welcome volunteers to help with their lessons.

. . . SMJ Work Party

This month we are weeding and planting 48 geraniums at the Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House on Thursday, April 26, at 11:00 a.m.

It's time to edge the lawn. We don't mow, but we do edge when it starts looking bad.

May 5 is the Rotary Club clean up morning. We may participate in that as well.

One thing Leah Murray mentioned doing this year is possibly building kitchen garden boxes for herbs in the middle of the turnaround on the west side. She thinks they can get four 8' x 2' boxes in that space. So we will be planting herbs in the future some time as well.



Wild Burro

Equus asinus

Wild horses are often in the spotlight, but the burros of the West are just as fascinating and deserving of our attention and respect. Burros are a link to America's past and are protected under federal law as living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West. If you have ever seen one in the wild, it is exciting!

Burros have long ears, short manes and reach a height of up to 5 feet. Some are black to brown color to gray.

The Wild Burrow was first introduced to the Desert Southwest in the 1500's.

Here are a few facts about these hardy animals:

They aren't stubborn at all. Have you heard the saying 'Stubborn as a mule'? This saying likely came to be because burros have a strong sense of self preservation and rarely participate in activities that are not in their best interest or that they may feel in danger.

They stand their ground and assess dangerous situations. Burros are highly intelligent animals. They can run almost as quickly as a horse when faced with potential danger, burros tend to assess a situation before fleeing, unlike wild horses burros can defend themselves with powerful kicks from their front and hind legs and stand their ground.

They have the ability to thrive in harsh environments. The unforgiving desert landscape is a familiar one to burros. Since the 1800's they have accompanied explorers and pioneers on their trek throughout the West. By the Gold Rush years, burros were used primarily in the Southwest as pack animals for prospectors. They worked tirelessly to carry supplies, ore, water and machinery to mining camps and became indispensable to the workers. At the end of the mining boom many of them escaped or were turned loose and went with their innate ability to survive in harsh conditions, wild herds eventually formed and flourished. Burros are highly adapted to arid, desert environments. They can tolerate a water loss of thirty percent of their body weight and replenish it in only five minutes of drinking water.

*Georgia Zahar
Bird and Wildlife Chair*



Time to be in the Garden

Take advantage of sunny days to get ahead of the weeds before they seed and manually destroy destructive pests. I have seen Ladybugs, stink bugs, cutworms, garter snakes (good guys), slugs and snails and heard reports of adult root weevil beetles and Rhododendron/Azalea lace bugs. A preventative for weevils on rhododendrons is to paint Stikum or like product in a 2 to 3 inch band on the lower trunk of the rhodies and in the fall while the soil is 50 degrees or above use beneficial nematodes as a soil drench.

Another frost this morning reminded me that it is still too early to plant most seeds outdoors. It is a good time to divide perennials and pot up a few for the plant sale. An old pruning saw or hori hori will make dividing much easier.

Jackie Getty, Horticulture Chairman



Plant "Nerd" Night - 2018

The new format for Plant Nerd Night this year filled almost every chair that garden club owns. Everyone of you, who either worked before or the night of, is to be congratulated and thanked for making it another success. It was a great performance that Eugene Garden Club can be proud of. Not just for us, but for the community and especially the local nurseries who made this program possible. We love gardening and I think participants like Plant "Nerd" Night. I heard one audience member, say that he just can't wait to come to Nerd Night!

Dorothy Cruickshank and Kathleen Gray worked wonderful together as master of ceremony. These two really had the audience laughing. A bit of history is called for here. Nerd Night was a project taken on in 2001 by Dorothy Cruickshank and Sherry Cossey. It was Dorothy who brought the idea to the table and Sherry Cossey helped her. Sharon Blade took over Sherry's job in 2003 (I think) and I still marvel at all the help that everyone does. Also I hope you all had fun, bought some new plants, learned something new. Last but not least, had fun with other garden club members and hopefully made some new friends.

Thank you Ruth Michaelson and Pat Kramer...gals who give their all to make sandwiches and kitchen responsibilities. Thanks also to the gals who signed up to be Nerd Night representatives: Marjorie Lynch, Janet Calvert, Mary Bromley and Sharon Wilson, who filled in for Sister Janet. You are all amazing. Thank you to all who came early, to carry in plants and out. Thank you to Jennifer and Rick Rabner...they help Sharon Blade keep her plants and chairs in a row for the evening. Thank you also for all of those who helped clean up...I think I spotted Terrye Eames with the vacuum cleaner in hand. New member Laurel Crump, Arlene Taylor, and Dana Downie helping. All of the cookie sign up people...thanks for that job. Debi Luidhardt...for sign making and bow making. You all are such nice, wonderful people. I am sure that I missed some names...but please know that everyone who signed up or not, who worked to make Nerd Night happen, you are appreciated. Now...this year....I do KNOW where to put those new plants. Yea!

Sharon Blade, Co-Chairman

What's Happening

April

- 3 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 6-8 Pacific Region of NGC Convention,
Chena Hot Springs, AK (north of Fairbanks)
- 7 Grass Roots Plant Sale at their garden, Coburg Road
- 17 EGC Regular Meeting
- 11 EGC Veggie Growers Group, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- 19 Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.
- 28 Lane County Master Gardeners Plant Sale,
9 a.m.-3 p.m., Lane County Fairgrounds
Ag Building, many vendors, 100 auction items

May

- 1 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 12 Garden Extravaganza at Key Bank, 10:00-4:00
- 15 EGC Regular Meeting
- 15 Master Gardeners Seminar - "Insect Sex"
- 17 Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.

June

- 5 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 8 Plant barrels at Fairgrounds, 1:00
- 10-13 OSFGC State Convention, Wilsonville
- 19 EGC Regular Meeting, Camas County Mill



Some flowers just don't quit! Pix taken 4.4.18. Clockwise: *primrose*, *daffodils*, *Akebono flowering cherry*, *Euphorbia*, *Hellebores*, *Brunnera*

**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.

