

Eugene Garden Club News

February 2022

Volume 17, Issue 7

Editors: Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar & Janet Marcisz
72 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 Everyone!

Here's hoping you are well. Staying connected to family and friends is important to keep us upbeat and healthy so we can continue our fun activities as well as our work.

On Saturday, March 12th, the State-wide mandate to wear masks at indoor public places will end. We will continue to follow the State guidelines. Wearing a mask or not will be a personal decision for each of us.

I hope many of you who haven't been at the clubhouse during the pandemic will try to come back for our monthly programs. All of us miss seeing our garden club friends at these gatherings.

Warm regards,



. Pat Kramer
EGC President

Inside Today

Calendar, Ins & Outs of EGC, Willamette District, SMJ Gardening, Horticulture, Birds, Elections Coming Up, Garden Extravaganza

Eugene Garden Club Meeting

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

11:30 a.m. Doors Open

12:00 p.m. General Meeting

1:00 p.m. *Feathers and Flora*

Dan Gleason

Continue to Wear our MASKS today

March EGC Program

Our March 15th program entitled "Feathers and Flora" will be presented by Dan Gleason assisted by his wife, Barbara. He will be describing the interesting association of birds and flowers as well as touching on the care of our resident hummingbirds during the cold winter weather.

Dan and Barbara co-own Wild Birds Unlimited in Eugene, a wild bird-focused store helping to bring people and nature together. Dan retired from a 30+ year faculty position in the University of Oregon Biology Department in 2004 and taught Field Ornithology each summer for a number of years thereafter. He has authored several books, written "Backyard Habitats" columns for the *Register Guard*, been an invited guest speaker for many years, is a past president of Oregon Field Ornithologists, and was involved in environmental education for over 40 years.

Though he suffers from some weakness and reduced visual abilities due to treatment for AML leukemia in 2019, he is happy to share his knowledge with us. Due to his being immuno-compromised, we all need to be wearing masks for his safety.

Dianne Dewey, Co-Vice President

Willamette District

Our Willamette District Meeting will be sponsored by Junction City Garden Club on Saturday, March 25, with doors open at 9:30 a.m. and meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Gainesborough Village, 2555 Lansdown Road, Eugene 97404.

District Director Sharon Wilson reminds us that all club members are invited.

SMJ House Gardening

The 2nd Tuesdays, EGC members help maintain the plantings at the Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House at 9:45 a.m.

We can always use more people; and March 8th is our next work day. We need your help! Just bring your gloves, some clippers, trowels and buckets. There's plenty of parking space!

FAC to Meet

The Flower Arranging Class meets again on the 3rd Thursday of the month, March 17, at 1:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.

The assignment this month is to make a Tray Table. Information in our Handbook is on page 72.

New Officers for EGC

Election of new officers for next season will be taking place this spring. Those who have expressed their interest in being involved with the leadership of our club will be published soon. We may still be looking for a Recording Secretary.

Our Board did decide to return to a procedure we used for many years with our vice president and planning for programs. The elected VP will have a "committee" of folks interested in helping that will meet together this June-July after elections, discuss ideas and divide up responsibilities for each month.

INS & OUTS

OF THE EUGENE GARDEN CLUB

....Alley Area Information

After a couple of incidents recently where a camper was parked for some time in back of our clubhouse, new signs are posted in back and we are asking folks to notice vehicles that don't belong there.

If you observe an unauthorized vehicle parked in our back lot **over an extended period of time**, call one of these people below who have authority to call a toll truck right away.

Janet Calvert (541.686.2697)

Peggy Funkhouser (541.688.2749)

Pat Kramer (541.688.1256)

Jennifer Rabner (541.556.8117)

.....No Plant Nerd Night

EGC's yearly "Plant Nerd Night" at the clubhouse, will not be held this year due to the COVID issues.

.....No May Flower Show

Our EGC Board decided to cancel planned flower show until next season.

.....New Member

Indrani Hawkins learned about our Eugene Garden Club as she is a member of a group of one of our renters.

Her listed Hobbies include florist, wreath maker, herb remedies, drumming, gigong. And Gardening Interests are an Avid Gardener and herbs and flowers for preserving.

Do welcome her at our next meeting! (And any other new members that you may not have met yet!)



Wood Duck

Aix sponsa

The wood Duck is a common duck of quiet, shallow backwater ponds. These beautiful ducks are often seen in the Delta Ponds in north Eugene.

They like to nest in old woodpecker holes or in nest boxes. They are often seen flying with a loud squealing call and enters the nest cavity from full flight. She will lay eggs in a neighboring female nest (something called egg dumping) resulting in some clutches in excess of 20 eggs. The young stay only in the nest cavity 24 hours after hatching, then jump from up to 30 feet to the ground or water to follow their mother, never returning to the nest.

Wood Ducks are a small brown dabbling duck with a bright white eye ring. A blue patch on their wings is often hidden. The male is highly ornamented with a green head and crest patterned with white and black, a rusty chest, white belly and red eyes.

If you ever have the chance to see one, you will be amazed at their beauty.

Georgia Zahar, Birds & Wildlife Chairman

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Horticulture

Since we are having the plant sale this year, it is time to get started on growing plants for the sale. If you have access to a warm place and neon lights, you can get started with cuttings of geraniums and even tomatoes or other garden vegetables and herbs. **Remember to use potting soil and clean off any garden soil of plants used from the garden in order to not pass on soil born disease and soil pests.** Put Dahlias in pots and get those started early too. Place lights about two inches above your plants for the best light. Transfer them outside as soon as possible during daylight hours to get the strongest plants.

When we get a nice day, get out there and pull those weeds. Winter cress is flowering and will soon go to seed and the annual grass Poa Ana as well. Others will not be far behind. Hopefully the cold weather slowed down the pests for summer.

Trees are leafing out so hopefully you have finished winter pruning. If not, go ahead and do it now and don't be too alarmed if you have sap dripping from the pruning wounds. They will heal in time.

Take inventory of where bulbs are and mark with a stake those that need to be dug after all the foliage has died back. Also note where you want to plant more bulbs in the fall and mark the places in some way.

Water under eaves where the rain has not reached. I have to remove a lot of cat excrement first! I have found that cocoa shell seem to deter cats from using soil under the eaves for their bathroom. But I didn't get that job done in the fall!

Where to start garden cleanup this spring - I always start with the smallest bed first because finishing it is so satisfying. Also, the beds that are most visible from the room you use the most in the house are a good place to begin.

The last day for a hard frost is late April. Resist the temptation to plant nursery grown plants until then.

Spring blooming shrubs should be pruned back after they finish blooming (those that bloom before the July 4th). For those blooming after the 4th of July, wait until the dormant season to prune.

Jackie Getty, Horticulture Chairman

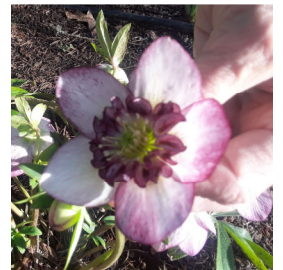
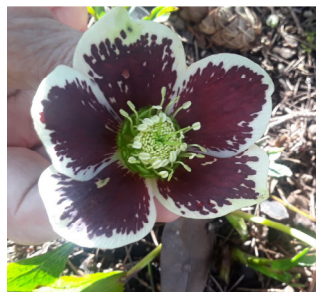
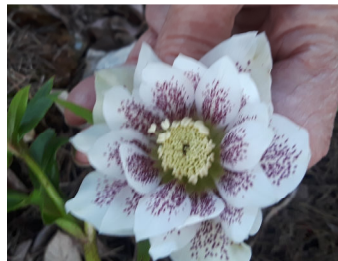
'Promise Trees' Update

The goal of this OSFGC project is finally coming to fruition. Lane County Land Department has received 200 vouchers, so the work of getting them to the 191 homeowners who have obtained a building permit has finally started. We have 4 nurseries in our vicinity who have agreed to accept the \$50 vouchers. They are:

Gray's Garden Center,
Lane Forest Glenwood Corner Store
Bloom River Nursery
Johnson Brothers.

When we shop at any of these nurseries, as garden club members we should thank them for honoring the vouchers for the burned out homeowners. The nurseries will forward the vouchers to OSFGC to be reimbursed for the cost of the purchased nursery stock up to the \$50 amount.

Eugene Garden Club is hosting a time at the clubhouse on Saturday, March 12, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. for homeowners to pick up their vouchers.



Plant Sale 2022

Hi my gardening friends -

We are now looking forward to a more normal Garden Extravaganza this year.

It is a plant and tuber sale including Willamette District Garden clubs and the Lane County Dahlia Society in early May. In the past we have been able to hold our sale the Saturday of Mother's Day weekend, which will be May 7th this year 9 - 3. Key Bank or BiMart have been allowing us to use their parking lot on River Road.

That does all need to be approved of course, but it's good to make some effort to plan ahead.

If you have some plants you can share, please begin to pot them up with store purchased soil and clean pots. EGC will not be purchasing potting soil this year.

More info will be coming as the date nears. Spring will be upon us before we know it.

Enjoy,

*Camille Noel
Plant Sale Chairman*

What's Happening

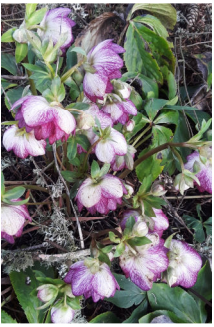


March

- 1** EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 8** SMJ Work Party
- 15** EGC Regular Meeting
- 17** Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.
- 25** Willamette District Meeting, (9:30) 10:00 a.m.

April

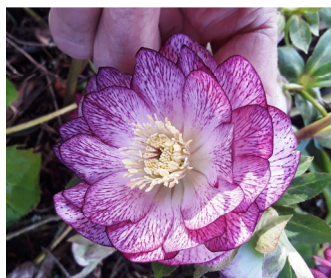
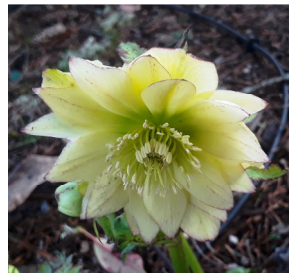
- 5** EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 12** SMJ Work Party
- 19** EGC Regular Meeting
- 21** Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.
- 25-27** Pacific Region of NGC Convention,
Las Vegas, NV



(Please correct May dates in your orange directories – SB)

May

- 3** EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 7** Garden Extravaganza, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- 10** SMJ Work Party
- 17** EGC Regular Meeting
- 19** Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.



**Eugene Garden Club
Sherry Cossey
4055 Royal Ave. Spc 20
Eugene, OR 97402**

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.



