

Eugene Garden Club News

January 2023

Eugene Garden Club

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68 members

Member of National Garden Club, Pacific Region,
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President's Corner

Happy New Year!

2023 for a better me and a better we!

Hope your Holidays were full (once again) of whatever traditions are near and dear to you and your families. As we venture out more and try to get back to normal, we are experiencing bumps along the way – 2022 was not as smooth for many of us as we had hoped. So, to reiterate – here's to a better 23 for me and for we. The coming year looks to offer us more opportunity to bring back many of our EGC Family's traditions. We already reintroduced the Green Sale last month and are looking forward to gathering everyone to enjoy our District Plant Extravaganza once again, maybe Nerd Night, making hanging baskets at McKenzie River Nursery, hosting at the Lane County Fair,

priming the gardens at SMJ house and so much

more. Please pay attention to our newsletter and

the website for updates (and any changes) in

meeting programs and activities. It's going to be

fun!

Speaking of the Green Sale – Thanks to all who participated in helping to reintroduce it to the Eugene Community. We literally worked through rain and snow to pull it off but lucked out on Sale Day with Sunshine.

Stay healthy and happy for a better we in '23.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

. *Ann Brandt, EGC President*

Eugene Garden Club Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

11:30 a.m. Doors Open

12:00 p.m. General Meeting

PROGRAM :

Benefits of Trees,
Exploring Eugene's Urban Canopy

Eugene Parks & Open Space
Cory Shields & Michaela Blackham

Greens Sale 2022

The annual Greens sale was held December 3. After a two-year hiatus due to COVID the sale was a success! While our income was not up to pre-COVID levels, it was almost there with sales at \$4102.30 and expenses of \$546.50 finishing with a net income of \$3555.80.

Members started working on the sale items the week of November 28th. We had very good participation, and in wreath making we even had several members who had never made one before trying their hand at it! With about 95 wreaths produced, there were only 2 that didn't sell; and only one of the table décor items was left when we went home that Saturday!

Jennifer Rabner, Treasurer

HORTICULTURE

Jackie Getty, Horticulture Chairman

It is time to start thinking about our gardens and maybe starting to plant some more drought tolerant ornamentals in our gardens. In the last Master Gardener Newsletter Gail Langellotto made some good recommendations for some perennials that meet this requirement. These do need water their first season and if they start looking stressed in later seasons. [These recommendations follow below.](#)

- **Bishop's hat** (*Epimedium*): Typically, it's difficult to find an exciting plant for dry shade situations, but this evergreen perennial fits the bill. The plants come in various sizes from very short ground covers to 2-foot mounds. Heart-shaped leaves set off the dainty flowers that look like tiny, upside-down bishops' hats, hence the name. Hardy to Zone 5.
- **Catmint** (*Nepeta*): A plant consistently rated in the top three for attracting bees, catmint is just as beloved by people. And why not? This free-blooming beauty cranks out lavender-blue flowers on upright, 2-foot stems from spring until fall. Hardy to Zone 4.
- **Hellebore** (*Helleborus*): A good candidate for the difficult situation of dry shade, though this evergreen perennial will also enjoy some morning sun. Starts blooming very early in spring before other perennials have even thought about showing their flowers. The blooms traditionally were greenish-white, but now come in purple, rose, yellow, some lined, spotted or speckled with darker colors. Most recently doubles have hit the market. Hardy to Zone 6.
- **Hummingbird mint** (*Agastache*): Flowers climb up spires that average anywhere from 18 inches to 3 feet and appear throughout the summer right through to the first frost. Deer are usually uninterested in the fragrant foliage, but pollinators and hummingbirds can't resist the flowers that come in an impressive array of colors, including lavender, pink, rose, orange and white. Hardy to Zone 5.
- **Oregano 'Kent Beauty'** (*Origanum*): A great choice for cascading over a wall or in a pot, this ornamental oregano takes full, hot sun with aplomb. White blooms tinged with purple look like rose-and-cream hop flowers on a silvery blue plant that only gets 6 inches tall. Hardy to Zone 4.

- **Penstemon hybrids:** Draw hummingbirds and the admiration of visitors with the showy, long-blooming flowers of this semi-evergreen perennial that grows to 2 to 4 feet tall. Hummingbirds and bees cannot pass up the spikes of blooms in shades of purple, red and pink, often with white throats. Needs very good drainage. Most hardy to Zone 7.
- **Pineapple sage** (*Salvia elegans*): Pineapple sage comes by its name honestly with unmistakably scented foliage. A handy plant for the pure red flowers that bloom in late summer and fall when many other perennials have finished. It also provides some added sustenance for hummingbirds. Grows 3 to 4 feet tall. Hardy to Zone 8.
- **Sea holly** (*Eryngium amethystinum*): If you're looking for drama in the garden, try this perennial with spiky, thistle-like, ice blue flowers that stand up to about 2 feet. Deer tend to stay away from sea holly, which pairs well with small ornamental grasses. Great as a cut flower. Hardy to Zone 3.
- **Sedum** (*Sedum* 'Autumn Joy'): A stalwart, fall-blooming perennial with dense, dome-shaped clusters of flowers that start out pink, darken to rose and then to russet red. Succulent foliage grows about 2 feet tall and wide. Attracts bees and butterflies. Don't amend the soil or the plant can get floppy. Hardy to Zone 4.
- **Yarrow** (*Achillea millefolium*): Disc-shaped white flowers from June to September are like runways for bees and butterflies that land on a regular basis. Soft, ferny foliage grows 2 feet tall and wide. Hybrids are available most commonly in yellow and pink. Hardy to Zone



What's Happening

January

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|--------------|---|
| 3 | EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m. |
| 10 | SMJ House Work Party, 9:45 a.m. |
| 17 | EGC Regular Meeting, 12:00 |
| | (Horticultural sharing) |
| 20-22 | Good Earth Home Garden & Living Show |

Lane County Fairgrounds

February

- 7 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 14 SMJ House Work Party, 9:45 a.m.
- 15-19 Northwest Flower & Garden Festival
Convention Center, Seattle, WA
- 21 EGC Regular Meeting
(Horticultural sharing)
- 24 Willamette District Board Meeting



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In the Garden – in January

Plant deciduous fruit & shade trees. Take hardwood cuttings of deciduous ornamental shrubs & trees.

Bring cuttings inside from quince, forsythia, flowering cherry

to force bloom.

Plant peas & sweet peas if soil is well drained.

Begin planning this year's garden.

Order new roses for March 15 delivery. Remove old leaves from rose bushes and clean up rose beds. Prepare beds for planting new roses in March.

Don't forget to feed the birds who have come to depend on your supply.

