

# Eugene Garden Club News

November 2018

Volume 14, Issue 3

Editors: Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar & Janet Marcisz  
71 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 to all of you . . .

It is good to get back at Garden Club!

While I hope that all of you have your yards cleaned up for winter, I am almost there.

It's time to plant cover crops in our vegetable gardens. I have tried red clover before. I hear that Fava beans are another good cover crop. Also, you can lime the garden to sweeten the soil.

Well time to get back at it! See you all at our meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month.

..... Sharon Wilson  
EGC President



## Eugene Garden Club Meeting

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

**10:00 a.m. Hands-on Workshop:  
"Fall Tool Clean-up"**  
*by Jackie Getty*

**11:30 a.m. Brown Bag Lunch**

**12:00 p.m. Meeting**

**1:00 p.m. Native Trees & Shrubs**  
*By Lauren Grand  
OSU Extension Faculty*

**HOSTESSES:** Marilyn Hunter-lead, Dorothy Cruickshank, Sister Janet Marcisz

**GREETER:** Sally Townsend



## Notes on November Meeting

1. **Morning Workshop** -- Plan to bring your favorite gardening clippers, loppers and shovels to the 10 a.m. tool care workshop on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Jackie Getty says she will do a demonstration on caring for our tools and there will be an opportunity to work on our own tools. She also says to bring any questions or advice with you and your tools.

2. **Afternoon program** -- Lauren Grand of the Lane County Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Program will present a program for us about native trees and shrubs. Her areas of expertise are small woodland management, fire ecology, amphibian conservation management. She will be happy to answer any questions that we have as well

## 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.*

### **Friday, November 16, 9:00-1:00**

**Marcola Area** – Cutting larger limbs, whole trees, salal and other neat stuff. Level area, not muddy, Noble fir, Douglas fir and more. Trees available. Go directly to site 94320 Old Marcola Road (June Munsell's home) or make arrangements with other members to carpool to site. Call Janet Calvert at 541.686.2697 if you want to caravan. Instructions to site have been sent.

### **Saturday, November 24, 9:00-1:00**

**Clubhouse** – Need 15 folks to cut bundle-sized greens from branches. Inside, warm, and YOU will make fluffy bundle materials.

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

### **Some day in November**

**On Our Own** – Go by a nearby Christmas tree seller's lot and ask if they would donate their trimmings for us and bring them to the garden club.

Thank you to Greg Zahar for bringing the trailer for our refuse during Greens Sale preparations!

*A garden is a love song, a duet between a human being and Mother Nature.*

-- Jeff Cox

*Gardening is an exercise in optimism. Sometimes it is a triumph of hope over experience*

-- Marina Schinz

*When gardeners garden, it is not just plants that grow, but the gardeners themselves.*

-- Ken Druse

## 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, 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. Johnson Brothers is not doing the marked down poinsettias fundraiser any more so we will only have a few for decoration and not to sell to the public.

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.





## 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
eucalyptus	blooming)
pine (short needles)	cryptomeria
incense Cedar	(reddish especially)
magnolia	magnolia buds
yew	euonymous
skimmia	osmanthus
pieris	aucuba
grand fir	juniper (berried)
western red cedar	blue spruce
huckleberry	chaemecyperis
camellia	vinca minor
boulevard cypress	broom
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 branches 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!

## Workers Needed

In preparation for our annual Greens Sale, our biggest fundraiser of the year, on Saturday, December 1, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., we work together every day the week before, Monday-Friday, November 26-30. 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  
TABLE ARRANGEMENTS  
SWAGS, CONE BASKETS  
YULE LOGS, DOOR BLESSINGS  
DECORATING THE CLUBHOUSE  
*SIGN UP TUESDAY or call Sherry 541.515.5839*

We make 150 beautiful wreaths, 36 holiday floral arrangements, 10 swags, 20 little decorated Christmas trees, and more,

Dorothy Cruickshank will pick up a few poinsettias to set around for red color décor, but we will not be selling to the public. After the sale, those of us who wish to buy at the full price, may do so. Speak with Dorothy about that.

Signups will be available again next week at the November meeting. You can come to help as many days as you can fit in your life!

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

## Veggie Group to Happen Again

For the third year, the Eugene Garden Club is offering a vegetable gardening discussion group for home gardeners. Experienced? Come share your knowledge. New to veggie gardening or have challenges? Come learn from experienced gardeners. During the four sessions, get your questions answered, share resources, trade seeds, etc. No charge.

It is tentatively planned for once a month, February, March, April and May. Day and time will be announced later. Public is invited. Bring your friends. Carol Prud'homme will be the facilitator. Questions? Call Carol at 541.988.1383.

# INS & OUTS

## OF THE EUGENE GARDEN CLUB



**Hermit Warbler**  
*Setophaga occidentalis*

### . . . DIRECTORIES

Please add these new members information to your Member Directories:

Lee Paddock  
714 Foothill Drive  
Eugene, OR 97405  
541.343.5282  
Leepad65@gmail.com

Lorraine Wong  
3112 Olive Street  
Eugene, OR 97405  
541.685.1004

[l40wong@outlook.com](mailto:l40wong@outlook.com)

(Her email begins with a lower case "l")

### **Prepare for Garden Extravaganza**

**NOW** is the time to think about dividing many perennials. Pot some future plants up for the Garden Extravaganza in May of 2018. Plants have a lot more time to grow bigger than when potted in the spring. There is a garbage can full of potting soil outside the back door as well as many many pots.

### **Flower Arranging Class Meets**

The November Flower Arranging Class will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, November 15, at 1:30 p.m.

This month's assignment is a table centerpiece for Thanksgiving, using fresh and/or dried material.

Recently I watched an episode of the Oregon Field Guide on PBS about the Hermit Warbler. The story took place near Blue River, OR. They were observing and counting the Hermit Warblers in the area. They inspired me to do a column this month on this tiny, beautiful bird.

Hermit Warblers are common but incredibly shy birds that dwell in coniferous forests. These tiny birds grow to be 4 1/2 – 5" long.

The summer breeding range is the west coast up to Washington. They sometimes winter in Southwest California, but are migratory and will winter in Central America as far south as Panama.

Hermit Warblers nests are neat and cup shaped, constructed from stems, grass, twigs and pine needles, positioned near the top of a branch high in a conifer tree. The female lays 3 – 5 eggs, which are white and spotted heavily w/brown and lilac speckles

Hermit Warblers eat a strict diet of insects and spiders and can often be found hanging upside down from the end of conifer branches probing for food.

I for one hope I will see one of these little birds on a walk through our beautiful forests one day!

*Georgia Zahar, Birds & Wildlife Chairman*

## **November in the Garden**

Kale seems to really attract aphids this year. Pat Patterson says that her spray of a tea made of Rhubarb leaves does a very good job of killing aphids. I am trying not to get too ambitious about cutting back the tops of the perennials as Jeff said to wait until end of February before doing the heavy duty clean up. Pruning stimulates new growth which frost will kill leaving an ugly shrub. Wait until the end of February to prune roses.

Prune shrubs that bloom before the 4th of July right after they bloom and those that bloom later prune during the dormant period from the last of November until end of February. Have you noticed the lack of insects this summer? There was an article in the Guard not too long ago that said that there is concern about the antidotal experiences of gardeners and farmers of fewer insects and how it will throw the balance of nature out of whack.

*Jackie Getty, Horticulture Chairman*

# What's Happening

## November

- 6 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 15 Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.
- 20 Regular EGC Meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- 16 Greens Gathering
- 11/26-30 Wreath-Making Week

## December

- 1 Greens Sale. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- 18 Holiday Potluck, 11:30
- 20 Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.
- TBA Preschool Pearl Buck Floral Arranging

## January

- 1 EGC Board Meeting, 1 p.m.
- 15 Regular EGC Meeting, 11:30
- 17 Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.
- 18-20 Good Earth Home, Garden & Living Show
- 24 SMJ Work Party – 11:00 a.m.
- TBA Clubhouse Cleaning Party



*Photos in this issue illustrate some of the Greens Sale products from previous years.*

**Looking Ahead....** If you would like to set a table for our Holiday Potluck in December, sign up with President Sharon Wilson this coming meeting. And let her know for how many people.

## Trustees Report

A new electrical plug has been installed behind the refrigerator recently by Lohner Electric. They also reconnected some wiring for the outside lighting at the back door so the switch performs as it should.

Mark & Company has been contracted to replace the two kitchen windows with new vinyl ones that slide up to open. They should be delivered and installed by mid- to late December.

We are working on getting estimates from at least three painting contractors to paint the interior of the clubhouse. We hope to replace the drapes in the two front windows after the painting is complete. This project will probably not take place until late Spring due to dates already scheduled by outside organizations.

*Pat Kramer, Board of Trustees*

**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.**

