

Eugene Garden Club News

November 2019

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Editors: Sherry Cossey, Georgia Zahar & Janet Marcisz
75 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

Garden Ladies - . . .

The Thanking and Giving seasons are sneaking up on us. I need to start making plans for dinners and activities. This is always my favorite time of year and it is a huge blessing for me to be close to my kids and grandkids. Until 10 years ago, I was stuck working in Montana with one daughter and family living in Eugene and the other daughter and family living in Fredericksberg, VA. The winter weather and snow kept me there during the holidays. Now we all live in Eugene and it is wonderful!

My garden is looking a bit drab except for one colorful maple tree and several mums. I still have some leaves to rake, potted plants to clip and store, and the raised garden beds to clean and cover with wire fencing. I have 2 neighbor kitties who love to come in my yard and chase the birds and squirrels that I feed, and use the garden beds for their very own litter box.

The warm sunny afternoons that we are having this Fall are such a treat. It keeps our spirits up and encourages us to keep active outside. It is always a wonderful thing when we can get out in our gardens.

I wish each of you a wonderful time this Thanksgiving with friends, family, hope and blessings. Don't know about you all, but I can't wait for our big turkey dinner.

Take good care, see you on the 19th.

Pat Kramer
EGC President



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Eugene Garden Club Meeting

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

11:15 a.m. Brown Bag Lunch

**11:45 p.m. Meeting
Horticulture Sharing**

**1:00 p.m. Conifers for the
Western Garden**

*By Mark Bloom
of Bloom River Gardens*

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

GREETER: Fay Hogan

Notes for November

Bloom River Gardens is a family owned nursery in the McKenzie River Valley. They have been in business for over 40 years.

Bloom River has a mail order and online nursery business for the unique, rare, and unusual landscape plants. Mark Bloom will bring some live plants to the program and will even have some for sale.

Don't miss this exciting program!

Georgia Zahar, EGC Co-Vice President

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.*

Sunday, November 17, 1:00

Triangle Lake Area –Noble fir,
Call Janet Calvert at 541.686.2697 if you want to caravan. Instructions to site will be available.

Monday, November 18, 10:30

Trupp Property –Noble fir,
Call Sherry Cossey at 541.515.5839 if you want to caravan. Directions to site will be available.

Saturday, November 30, 9:00-

Clubhouse – Need 15 folks to cut bundle-sized greens from branches. Inside, warm, and YOU will make fluffy bundle materials. (Bring some lunch).

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

Sunday, December 1, 1:00

Monroe Area –Doug fir,
Call Janet Calvert at 541.686.2697 if you want to caravan. Instructions to site will be available.

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

Thank you to Bill and Dianne Dewey for all their work on with the improvements to our shed besides our hired Jim's Handyman Service! And the people that painted siding panels.

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.

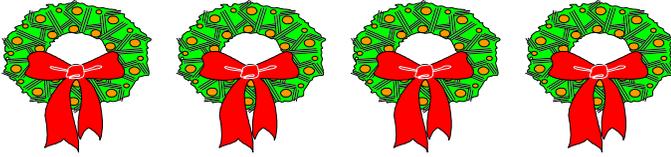
We have a few organized excursions or parties, and people bring things from home too. We like to have cuttings of like materials "packaged" together, in clear plastic bags or open boxes so that it's easier to see what is there. For the Douglas fir that's the base of our wreaths, we use heavy duty very 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 7, 9 a.m.-1 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
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,

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!

For the tabletop trees: Phyllis Hamel says we hope to make more boxwood ones this year. But we need Dwarf English Boxwood. It is shorter and more dense. That makes the shape go quicker as you are not sticking a gazillion stems into the oasis. The American Box is spindly and not dense.

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's attention to them.

Trustees Report

October was jam-packed with activity concerning the repair of or EGC shed. After choosing Jim's Handyman Service for our contracting needs, we had a Painting Party at the clubhouse 3 mornings to prime and apply 2 coats of paint on six siding panels (4 ft x 8 ft) so that they would be dry and ready for the workmen on Tuesday, October 29th. At that time Chris Rees and his buddy Travis managed in 4 days to remove and rebuild the entire north wall and re-frame the door (that they had power-washed).

The wall now has a 4 x 6 pressure treated (PT) base with 2 x 6 studs and a 4 x 4 column at the corner. The outside has 2 x 8 (PT) board vertically at the bottom with Z flashing connecting the T1-11 siding panels above. The south wall was not removed but had new cedar fascia and the 2 x 8 PT board, Z flashing and T1-11 siding applied similarly as the north side. Both had rectangular air vents installed. The long east wall had new cedar fascia (primed and painted 2 coats) installed with our gutters attached to this. .

(continued p.5)

INS & OUTS

OF THE EUGENE GARDEN CLUB

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 2019. 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.

February Program Change

EGC's February 18 program will be Landscape Architect by Arica Duhrkoop-Galas who will do a program about plants for drought/climate change. She has a masters' degree in Landscape Architecture from the UO and works for a small landscape architecture and design firm, Strangeland and Associates, practicing the knowledge she brings to teaching plant courses at the University of Oregon.

Lucy Chambers, EGC Co-Vice President

Flower Arranging Class Meets

The November Flower Arranging Class will be the 3rd Thursday, November 21, at 1:30 p.m.

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

Horticulture in November

For horticulture at the November meeting, I would like members to bring something from their yard that they particularly enjoy during this time of year.

I hope you all were out enjoying the nice sunny weather we've been having and getting some of the things done to get the garden looking great for winter. This is a good time of year for planting trees, shrubs and many perennials. You can still plant bulbs and garlic too. Keep baiting for slugs and snails as they are still active. Dormant season pruning can be done from mid-November until the end of February when the temperatures are around 40 degrees or above. When you are raking up your leaves, don't give them all away, but spread some 4-6" deep on any bare ground to protect it from soil compaction from rain during the winter and also adds some organic matter to the soil. Even better if you can run them through the lawn mower or a chipper spreader. Now is also time to cut back on fertilizer on indoor potted plants.

Jackie Getty, Horticulture Chairman



The Orchard Mason Bee

Osmia lignaria

Of the thousands of bee species around the world, about 4,000 are native to North America. Of native species only about 10 per cent live in hives while most live singly using small natural cavities and hollow stems.

Mason bees are among the earliest bees to arrive in the spring, and do not begin to stir from their cocoons until temperatures are at least 50 degrees for several days. At this time the adult chews through the cocoon and emerges hungry and ready to go to work. The males appear first and mate with the females as soon as they emerge. Males live a short while, only long enough to mate. The females live for six to eight weeks. and in that time period. their work is to lay eggs, gather pollen, and create a safe environment for eggs to develop into another mason bee the following spring.

Now it might at first seem hard to understand getting excited about mason bees, after all a single female lays only 30 to 60 eggs during its very brief life span; and this point is hard to argue until their enormous pollinating ability is put into perspective. While it takes 30,000 to 40,000 honey bees to pollinate an acre of apple trees it only takes about 250 mason bees to do the same amount of work.

Mason bees are small and colored a metallic blue-green so that they are sometimes mistaken for flies, but before going for the swatter remember that flies have only a single pair of wings while mason bees have two pairs.

When planning which plants to add to your garden for next spring, your neighborhood mason bees ask all gardeners to consider their need for early blooms. Another point in their favor - males does not sting at all and females do only if roughly handled or are caught in clothing.

Donna Michel, Birds & Wildlife Chairman

What's Happening

November

- 5 EGC Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
- 17-18 Gardening Study at The Oregon Garden
- 19 Regular EGC Meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- 21 Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.

December

- 2-6 Wreath-Making Week
- 7 Greens Sale. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- 17 Holiday Potluck, 11:30
- 19 Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.
- TBA Preschool Pearl Buck Floral Arranging

January

- 7 EGC Board Meeting, 1 p.m.
- 16 Flower Arranging Class, 1:30 p.m.
- 21 Regular EGC Meeting, 11:30
- 23 SMJ Work Party – 11:00 a.m
- 24-26 Good Earth Home, Garden & Living Show
- 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 Pat Kramer this coming meeting. And let her know for how many people.

Trustees Report

(Continued)

The old exposed roof truss tails that were rather rotten were power washed and "new wood" sistered to them for the fascia attachment. Nine circular air vents were placed along the top of this wall as well.

They produced a very practical and attractive awning over the north wall which should keep us and the cleaned and weather-sealed door happy and dry most of the time. The metal (over shingles) roof was inspected and any potentially leaking nails replaced. They used Flex Seal on the attachment area where the roof touches our clubhouse. We will need to arrange to get better flashing in the future for this area. The hole behind the electric meter was stuccoed.

The entrance area in front of the door was found to have concrete lower down. In order to have good drainage, the entire area from the handicap parking to the building was concreted. A concrete ramp was added from the pad into the shed and gravel to protect the last part of the concrete slope and soften the angle. The door sweep was attached and a dead bolt installed, as well as a classic door knob, cane gate drop bolt, and grab bar onto the door. Broken glass in the door was replaced and a hard wire grid on the inside behind the glass added to dissuade intruders. The hand rails and various other boards were primed and painted as needed. All old railroad ties and construction debris were removed by our workmen and 5 car park bumpers were spiked in. We will paint a yellow safety stripe on the step in front of the entrance to the shed

Dianne Dewey, 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.

