

McMinnville Garden Club's Projects 1926 thru 1960

McMinnville Garden Club began when several folks created a garden interest group in the McMinnville Civic Club in 1926. In 1927 some of this group helped to incorporate the State Federation. In 1928 the group dropped from the Civic Club and created their own by-laws to incorporate the McMinnville Garden Club.

Throughout the years the club has been known for its dedication to improving the city's plantings and educating its citizens about the beauty and benefit of gardening. This is a list of some of the projects they undertook from inception to 1960. There are several years without information so this is only what I could find documented in old files. More will be highlighted in the future. Stay tuned!

1931: Monthly exhibits of flowers in prominent downtown locations; weekly flower arrangements for Chamber meetings; planted 5 shrubs and zinnias + in City Park; bird house contest at grade schools.

1932: (45 members) Bicentennial plantings along Highway 99W; donated garden books and magazines to the Public Library; grade school bird observation essay contest; Red Cross donation; donation to the milk fund for schools.

1933: Special project to provide 300 rose buds for convention.

1935: (77 members) Decorated Christmas trees for the Public Library (lasted for over 10 years but had to move to the Armory as it grew); decorated the Fireman's Blossom Dance.

1943: Started planting Pink Dogwood Trees on the Linfield campus. (Continued until 1966!)

1946: (50 members) Began the tradition of making the bouquets for the Linfield Homecoming Court.

1947: The Men's Club was started. They planted

1953: State Convention was held at Linfield; 20 trees decorated for the holidays for the public at the library; public garden workshops started.

1959: (42 members) 2,000 visitors to town to view the Christmas Tree show!; Spring Flower Show started.

1960: Men's club has planted 500 azaleas and shrubs around town.

MORE in the next newsletter! Patty Sorensen, member