

Garden Clippings



McMinnville Garden Club, PO Box 386, McMinnville, OR

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DECEMBER 2020

2020-21 Garden Club Board:

Betty Ballentine – President Judy Buchholz – Vice President
Charlene Drake – Treasurer Fran Henderson – Secretary



President's Corner

Theme: Rooted in Community

Betty Ballentine

Happy Holidays Gardeners,

Well, we made it to the last month of this most challenging year! I hope you all had a low-key and safe Thanksgiving! I am very thankful to have my health, a comfortable home, and most of all the love of family and friends!

I have watched some of our neighbors put up their Christmas decorations early. Normally I would think to myself “too soon”, but not this year. I understand that we are all doing what we can to keep our spirits up. This pandemic is exhausting, and we are feeling fatigued. I am relieved to hear that a vaccine, several in fact are close to being ready for distribution. There is a light at the end of the tunnel!

My hope is that the Heritage Center will re-open in 2021 and then our monthly meetings will be able to resume in the spring. The Tour and Faire Committee Chairs are starting to plan for the 2021 fundraising event. Watch for a report in the January newsletter.

Your board members have been working on a plan to see you and give you a swag bag of goodies as a drive thru event on December 21st since we are not able to have our holiday lunch meeting this year. So please make an effort to drive by and honk your horn from 10am-12pm at Discovery Meadows Park! Since December was also a time to donate to your favorite non-profit, we will be collecting donation checks that Charlene will deliver and a food drive to YCAP which I will deliver. See invitation below for more INFO....

I am looking forward to seeing you all! You are missed!

Love & Peace, Betty B.



Christmas Swag Bag Give-a-Way 12/21

Your Board members have been working hard to gather together some holiday cheer in a bag just for you! We will also have a printed copy of this year's membership directory in the bag.



Please join us at this drive-thru event.

Date – December 21st

**Place – Discovery Meadows Park in McMinnville
1300 SW Cypress Lane**

Time – 10am to 12pm

This event will also give you an opportunity to drop off a **donation** by check making your check out to one of these three charities: Juliette's House, A Family Place, or Henderson House.

In addition, we will have a collection barrel for **food donations** to YCAP.

December Birthdays:

**Sherry Blum, 16th; Cozette Caster, 17th;
Charlene Drake, 20th; Marlene Hutt, 23rd**



Scholarship Committee December 2020 Report

The Scholarship Committee (Elaine Pollak, Evelyn LaMotte, and I) awarded a total of \$5,000 in scholarships to three college students for 2020-21. All three students received our support for 2019-2020 as well.

Scholarship money is never given out automatically. If a student is awarded a scholarship, some information must be provided to me before I ask our Treasurer Charlene to send a check to the college. Our scholarships are paid out in two installments. The first half is paid in September after students submit fall registration showing full-time enrollment of at least 12 units. The second half is paid in January after students submit fall grades showing completion of 12 credit hours with at least a 2.0 GPA and submit spring registration showing enrollment of at least 12 units.

In September only Quentin Comus received the first half of his \$1,500 scholarship. The second and third students have not submitted the information required although I have sent reminders and left messages. The second student has been late before. The third student I can only guess why we haven't heard. I assume the COVID-19 crisis has something to do with it. OSU in Corvallis is only offering online and "remote delivery" instruction so far this year. If either student submits information late, we will still pay out the scholarship money. If I have any new information, I will send an update for our January newsletter.

June Benson, Chair of Scholarship Committee

Member Highlight

Judy Buchholz, MGC Vice President

When I was asked to do this article, I had to ask myself...what have I done and where have I been for the past 80 years? It all started in Buffalo, NY where I spent my first 16 years, six of them living in the small town of Holland NY. I was one of 25 students in my class. Dad had a huge vegetable garden and we raised some chickens and rabbits. In 1956, he received a promotion with Ford Motor Co. and we moved to the Chicago, Illinois area. I attended a new school my senior year and adjusted to the life changing event of our move. I enrolled in three-year nursing school in Chicago and worked in the area. I then joined the U.S. Air Force as a Lieutenant. Les, my future husband, lived next door to me in the Bachelor Officer Quarters, at Beale Air Force Base in California. We were married the following year and he served an unaccompanied tour to Korea.

Our last tour was in Washington D.C. where we had Linda, our oldest daughter. Since then, we have lived in many cities throughout Les' career with Kaiser Aluminum. Every state and city we lived in was a learning experience for our family; a new culture, friends, schools for our three children and discovering what was significant to that area to explore and enjoy.

Wherever we lived, Les always had a garden - except in New Orleans. Les was transferred there fall of 1973, when weather was mild. The rest of year was hot, there was heavy rain and there were many creatures including roaches, weevils and little frogs, and hurricanes, of course, although we only experienced warnings while there.

A big event was the Mardi Gras, a celebration ongoing for six weeks during winter when the rest of the world freezes. What fun plus a lot of seafood too, shrimp, crawfish, gumbo and king cake. The best food ever!

Our kids attended private schools then and received the best education. When Les was transferred to Spokane, we were all happy to move to the Northwest.

I continued in my nursing profession as a Labor and Delivery RN. It's amazing the changes in this area since 1960. Women then were given general anesthesia, saw their babies and husbands only a few hours later and stayed a week in the hospital. Many garden club members may remember this. Today, women are awake, hold their babies right away, families are present to witness the event and mothers are home within 24 hours.

Without a doubt, I absolutely loved being a labor and delivery nurse throughout the country for almost 50 years. I enjoyed high-risk nursing and flew with the transport team in Spokane for two years. Being in helicopters, flying thru snowstorms and sometimes delivering a premature baby on board, were more adventures than I counted on.

When both of us retired, we decided to relocate to an area closer to the ocean. After 27 years in Spokane, we wanted a place with a milder climate. Our son, Mark was moving to Portland with our three youngest grandchildren. Our daughter still lives in Spokane and our other son lives in NC. We are the proud grandparents of nine grandchildren from ages 26 to 13.

My sister Debbie lives in Dallas and through her, we found McMinnville, with a cute quilt shop (I am now a retired quilter). Our new house is perfect, a single story with small yard and just right for roses. Les removed shrubs and added dahlias, zinnias & others. Les really became my mentor. He joined the Garden Club and I joined later. There is a wealth of

information from the speakers; but also, from our members who are so educated. Many are active in the community and there are so many beautiful gardens within our membership. I love being a member and have enjoyed planning programs, speakers and getting ideas from all of you. I hope we can resume where we left off next year. Meanwhile be safe and I look forward in seeing all of you in the future.

Feature Columnist, Janis Stoven

Winterize Your Garden

Linda Kuhlmann-Harris

I love the different seasons we have here in the Northwest but am a little sad when it is time to prepare my flowerbeds for the colder winter weather. The lovely cascade of Begonias that I've enjoyed all spring and summer now need to be trimmed for storage. I bring the tubers inside in pots with a little soil and let them dry out until spring.

Regarding mulching, we have three old oak trees that like to keep most of their leaves all winter. The few that drop in the fall I place around flower beds and in pots to give a sort of 'blanket' to keep the roots warm. I do this on some peonies that I got from my mother years ago, as well as our roses and a lovely Fuchsia named 'Otto.'

My husband tends our roses. He said they need to be pruned by about one-third of their height in mid-November to avoid damage from winds and snow. Then, around January, he does another pruning down to about one foot tall to encourage strong stems for the spring shoots.

Container plants can be changed out with cold-tolerant plants, such as pansies, to add a color accent in the gray winter world. Once the rains in Oregon begin and the ground freezes, keep an eye on them to see if they need to be watered by hand.

My Bonsai Bougainvillea and Hibiscus are heavily pruned so that they will fit in their storage area in our garage. Someday, I wish to have a house with a solarium so I can enjoy them under glass windows.

Winterizing a pond or water feature is another area of expertise that I am just learning. Our new home has a wonderful three-tiered fountain, which we drain, clean and cover. That seems easy compared to some koi ponds that other gardeners have. Our local nurseries can help, and I recently found a nursery called Hughes Water Garden. (It has a Tualatin address, but is not far from the Costco area in Wilsonville – www.hugheswatergardens.com)



I feed the birds all seasons, but during the winter, I put out a suet basket and add hot water to the birdbath throughout the winter for them. I'm now looking at one of those little heaters to de-ice the birdbath – some are even solar powered. We also have a few humming birds that winter over here, so I add a little extra sugar to the water to keep it from freezing during the day and bring it in at night when the temperature drops below the thirties.

I've also learned from experience to store my clay pots indoors or in the garden shed to prevent them from cracking during the winter months.

Once everything is taken care of in my garden, I can relax and enjoy watching the birds. Already, in some of my beds, I'm seeing tulip heads trying to come up in spite of the cold as a sign of hope for spring. Happy Holidays!

Editorial

Patty Sorensen

Hasn't this been an incredible journey? I must admit it is easier to be confined to our house now than it was when the pandemic began in March. Rick and I have figured out how to get our necessities and fill our time with safe activities.

I'm sure that many of us spent a lot more time in our gardens this year! I did tons of projects, growing plants from seeds and moving things about. FUN! Now that our plants are heading into their hibernation period, I will miss those chores and the exercise. BUT since I love being outside, I'll just have to increase my walks wearing a mask when appropriate. One of my favorite things is to walk in the SNOW.....

It has been remarkable watching creative solutions roll out to help us all deal with the pandemic limitations we are facing. The Public Library will deliver library books to us, we connect with relatives and others via phone apps, many meetings are now online. The list goes on and on.

I do continue to be concerned about our locally owned businesses surviving another 6 months. If I can buy something locally and safely, I am consciously doing so. Third Street books is now my first choice rather than Amazon. I've been buying art from local artisans and Incahoots was the place for this year's greens purchase. We are also trying to support local nonchain restaurants using their takeout options. Below from the McMinnville Downtown Association is a list of downtown restaurants who are currently doing takeout. There are other locally owned spots around town too. I hope you will consider supporting the local spirit in our town. Stay healthy and keep working on happy!

OPEN FOR (TO-GO) BUSINESS

CURBSIDE/DELIVERY AVAILABLE ONLINE ORDERING AVAILABLE

3RD STREET PIZZA COMPANY	MON-TH 3:00-8:00, FRI-SUN 11:00-8:00
THE BITTER MONK	WED-FRI 3:00-7:00, SAT 1:00-7:00
BLUE MOON LOUNGE	M-TH 8:00-8:00, FRI 8:00-9:00, SAT 7:00-8:00, SUN 7:00-7:00
GOLDEN VALLEY BREWERY	7 DAYS PER WEEK 12:00-8:00
LOCAL FLOW HEALTH BAR	TUES-FRI 8:00-3:00, SAT 9:00-4:00
MCMENAMINS HOTEL OREGON	7 DAYS PER WEEK 8:00AM-11:30PM
PURA VIDA COCINA	MON-SAT 11:00-7:00
R. STUART & CO. WINERY	TUES-SAT 12:00-6:00
RED HILLS KITCHEN	TH/FRI 5:00-8:00, SAT 8:00-8:00, SUN 8:00-2:00
TERRA VINA TASTING ROOM	SAT 12:00-5:00, SUN 11:00-2:00
UNION BLOCK COFFEE	MON-FRI, 7:00-5:30
WILDWOOD CAFE	M-TH 8:00-8:00, FRI 8:00-9:00, SAT 7:00-8:00, SUN 7:00-7:00
WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS	MON-SAT 11:00-6:00, SUN 12:00-6:00

HOURS/DELIVERY MAY VARY
PLEASE CHECK WITH INDIVIDUAL BUSINESSES
McMinnville Downtown Association

Penny Pines Donations Needed

Lynn Chiotti

<https://portlandoregonian-or.newsmemory.com/?token=DTVea1JiOyfBLp9dXmyQ6dQMwtt2Q1PW>

The above link from today's Oregonian, will give everyone a perspective of just what recovery involves including losses of equipment, wages, etc. Oregon has six National Forests Biomes. They are Mt. Hood, Willamette, Siuslaw, Fremont-Winema, Umpqua, and Rogue-Siskiyou.

This will be an ongoing project, as it takes three years to produce enough seedlings to plant. Because of the speed at which the forests were destroyed, the seed harvest was not possible this year. Such a harvest would have provided the proper seedlings. Once seedlings are available then the replanting can begin. Please help.

Websites to Explore

Patty Sorensen

Pacific Region National Garden Club's Website

<https://pacificregiongardenclubs.org/>

Pioneer District Website <http://oregongardenclubspioneer.97048.info/home.aspx>

McMinnville Community Garden <http://www.mcminnvillecg.org>

Oregon State Garden Club's Website <http://oregongardenclubs.org>

Yamhill County Master Gardeners <https://ycmga.org/>

How to Make Your Own Suet Cakes for Birds

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/449797081525892301/>

PS....lard is available at WinCo

Houseplants that Require Little Light <https://pin.it/6LTg4rd> (Pinterest)

Feeling Thankful in 2020

http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/HortAgentBlog/~3/hLrySgcAZjs/feeling-thankful-in-2020.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email

