

Garden Clippings



JANUARY 2020

McMinnville Garden Club, PO Box 386, McMinnville, OR

Email: macgardenclub@gmail.com

Website: <http://mcminnvillegardenclub.org>

Next meeting: January 20, 2020

Heritage Center 11275 SW Dunham Lane 9:30 Social 10-12 Meeting

If you need time on the agenda, please let President Caitlin know a week in advance of the meeting.

2019-20 Garden Club Board:

Caitlin Wright – President **Judy Buchholz – Vice President**

Charlene Drake – Treasurer **Dian Berg – Secretary**



Trash Facts

Join us as we listen to **Ramsey Phillips**. “**Ramsey McPhillips** has been advocating for Zero Waste since the very first Earth Day in 1970 when he gave his first lecture on ‘how to Compost.’ He was 11 and sadly only his older brother attended the lecture. But he’s never given up and after receiving an Environmental Studies degree from Bowdoin College he established a career as a globe-trotting Hortivangelist (garden therapist) and farmer. Ramsey is the founding President of Zero Waste McMinnville and is working primarily to divert all of McMinnville’s compostable waste shed back into fertile soil”. (Quote from Zero Waste website) Zero Waste McMinnville, has a goal to make McMinnville the first city in Oregon to divert 90 percent of waste from landfill by 2024. Let’s find out how we can do our part to help reach this important goal.

REMEMBER to bring your coffee mug.....

Upcoming Events:

February 17 **Club Meeting**

February 21 Junking arts and crafts trip to Dallas. Meet at Baker Creek parking lot at 9:30. Bring recyclable bags for your treasures!

March 19 Arts and Crafts... Recycled Bird Baths. 10 am at Patty S.

"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home."

- Edith Sitwell

NEW Cosmic Apples~

Tuesday, December 24, 2019

An Apple Galaxy Close to You: Cosmic Crisp

Posted by: Alison O'Connor, CSU Extension in Larimer County

I think you can find out a lot about a person by looking at their phone's news feed. For me, you'd learn that I read a lot of stories about baking, golf, Taylor Swift, college football, and backyard chickens. Recently I've been inundated with news stories about the hottest apple on the market: Cosmic Crisp.



Cosmic Crisp apples

A couple years ago, my dad sent my brother and me a story about this apple that was going to take over the world. Or at least a portion of the apple market. It was Cosmic Crisp, an introduction from Washington State University and has parents of Honeycrisp and Enterprise--and was first hybridized in 1997. One great attribute to Cosmic Crisp is that it doesn't brown (oxidize) when exposed to air and is more resistant to bruising. Shelf life is several months.

My family loves apples--it was a staple in our gardens from my great grandparents to my dad. It was always a treat to buy a fresh apple in the horticulture building at the Minnesota State Fair. We're also really proud of being Minnesotan and having Honeycrisp, SweeTango, and Zestar as University of Minnesota introductions.



Honeycrisp apples

Cosmic Crisp is a "game changer" and a "once in a generation event". High praise for a fruit. It's also been developed to replace Red Delicious--that mealy, bland apple that you see in school cafeterias. Now THAT is a big deal. My reliable news feed said it would also be hard find the apples this year, because they had a limited supply.

When I was in Oregon a couple weeks ago, I was at Safeway picking up a few things. And there it was. A bin of Cosmic Crisp. I actually yelled out loud. Then I did what any normal human would do--take a selfie by the apples.



First sighting of Cosmic Crisp!

I was super excited. Cosmic Crisp! The apple to replace Red Delicious! The apple that has Honeycrisp in its genes! Juicy, sweet, crisp! I couldn't wait to try it.



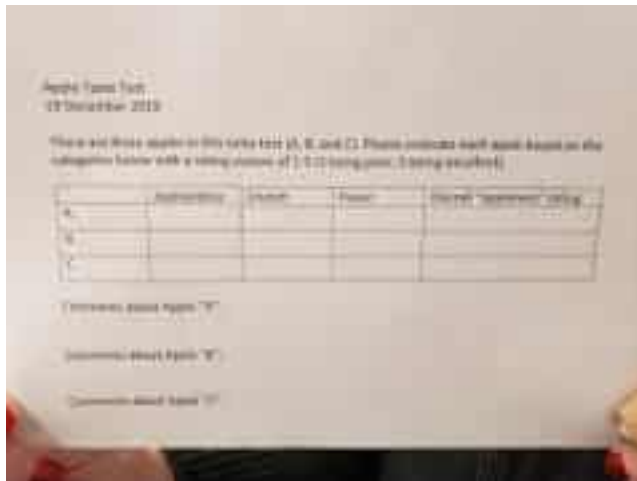
First bite with Mom Stoven, hubby Gil, and me

And my first reaction was...underwhelmed. Maybe I was too excited. Maybe I was expecting more. Don't get me wrong--it's a good apple. But after years of anticipation, I was more "meh" than "WOW". But that's just me. My apple taste preference differs from yours. So I decided that a research taste test was necessary--with my co-workers at the Larimer County Extension Office. They were eager to help.



Apple research taste test

I bought three kinds of apples: Cosmic Crisp, Honeycrisp, and Red Delicious. They were cut and labeled with "A", "B", and "C", so it was a blind taste test (people didn't know what apple they were eating, nor did they know the varieties in the study). Participants had a score sheet and rated the apples based on appearance, crunch, flavor, and overall applesness. Rating was on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being excellent. I also asked the testers to write individual comments about each of the apples.



Apple tasting score sheet

The results were interesting! In appearance, Honeycrisp took first place. People liked the look of the apple, calling it "beautiful" and a "great color". Crunch was awarded to Cosmic Crisp, noting the apple had a "powerful, crisp flavor with a firm texture". Flavor was a tie between Cosmic Crisp and Honeycrisp. Finally, overall applesness went to Cosmic Crisp, and one person commented, "it had the ideal apple flavor of tangy and crisp"; another said, "full taste that was tart and sweet".



"A": Cosmic Crisp
"B": Red Delicious
"C": Honeycrisp

For what it's worth, Red Delicious scored at the bottom of all categories. Poor Red Delicious. Its highest ranking was for appearance, as it's your classic red apple, but taste was "watery" and "bland". One participant stated that it was her children's favorite apple, so it has a following.



Red Delicious--looks better than it tastes

Following the taste test, I revealed the apple varieties and shared some background information about the apples. I also talked about price. Cosmic Crisp was \$2.99/pound; Red Delicious was 2 for \$1; and Honeycrisp was on sale for \$1.99/pound. While it wasn't in the research, people did comment that price is a factor in their apple purchases.

Then I asked everyone to pick the apple they would most prefer to eat. It was a 50-50 split of Cosmic Crisp and Honeycrisp. And that's when it came down to personal preference--some liked more sweet, some tart. The good news is that there's an apple for everyone.

When I came to work today, my co-worker was enjoying an apple at her desk for breakfast. It was a Cosmic Crisp ☺ You can find them in Colorado at King Soopers and Sprouts. I'm sure Safeway and Whole Foods has some too. Try one for yourself and let me know what you think!

Posted by [CSU Hort Agents](#) at 10:32 AM
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Labels: [Alison O'Connor](#), [apple taste testing](#), [Cosmic Crisp](#), [Honeycrisp](#), [Red Delicious](#), [University of Minnesota apples](#)



Arts and Crafts Recycled Birdbaths

On Feb. 21 join us as we once again invade the shops in Dallas in search of treasures to create our one-of-a-kind birdbaths. The actual creations will be on March 19. For more info contact Patty S.



NEW Sprout

Meet Susan Gorrie

I am a retired RN and my husband retired as a software engineer. My husband and I moved to McMinnville this past July after living in Lynden, Washington, a small farm community near the Canadian border for three years. We had lived in the Portland area for many years prior to our brief stay in Lynden. We discovered we had become “Oregonians,” so we moved back.

I was certified as a Washington County Master Gardener in the past. When not living in a condo or townhouse we’ve had a garden, usually with a pond of some sort. Although my own parents were “garden challenged” my grandmother always had a garden with a fishpond that I enjoyed while growing up. She started my love of gardening which was then nurtured by my ex mother-in-law. Both of these women had green thumbs and always found time to grow flowers and vegetables.

When looking at houses in McMinnville, the house on Greenbriar Place caught my eye. It had a large fishpond, established garden area and a separate studio. I enjoy painting, using pastels and oils, and the studio was perfect! We love McMinnville and I am looking forward to being a part of the McMinnville Garden Club.

New Sprout Coordinator: Janis Stoven

Oregon Cities Quiz

Several members asked for copies of the fun puzzle we worked on at the December meeting. It is located online at <https://www.pdxmonthly.com/articles/2019/2/12/how-many-oregon-towns-can-you-guess-from-this-old-quiz>

ENJOY

GIGI

One of our members has moved out of the area. We will miss her smiles and positive attitude LOTS. She'd love to hear from you anytime.

Vivian Peterson, Jennings McCall Apartments, 2300 Masonic Way
Apt #223, Forest Grove OR 97116

email: vivian36...at....icloud.com (Note: change back to @ symbol for her email. This was done to keep it from being copied by bots.)

815 713 8882

Websites to Explore

Patty Sorensen

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

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

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

Yamhill County Master Gardeners

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/yamhill/yamhill-county-master-gardener-association>

Zinio Garden Magazines

(This is how I get all of my gardening magazines now. It allows me to not have so many print magazines around AND I can easily go back and reread them for years on my phone, laptop or computer)

<https://www.zinio.com/search?keyword=garden>

For those who have LOTS of energy.....

January Household Chores

<https://www.housebeautiful.com/uk/lifestyle/cleaning/a3035/household-jobs-each-day-january/>

Protecting Plants in Winter

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/plant-problems/environmental/protecting-plants-winter.htm>