



Garden Clippings

McMinnville Garden Club, PO Box 386, McMinnville, OR

Email: macgardenclub@gmail.com

Website: <http://mcminnvillegardenclub.org>

November 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

Hello garden club friends!

Fall is my favorite time of year; cool nights and long walks looking at the beautiful leaf colors that blanket our town! Hard to believe Thanksgiving is around the corner. No doubt the holiday will be a vastly different experience this year for all of us. Still, we have much to be thankful for. Health, a warm home, good food, and our friends and family. Perhaps this year with the pandemic, we will find ourselves connecting over the phone or video-chat with family rather than sitting around the dining table. I would like to be optimistic and believe our scientists will present a safe vaccine in the new year so that we will be able to resume our meetings in the Spring.

Again, I would like to thank our member Cozette Caster for her work designing and building **Ronnie Rakette** for the Downtown Scarecrow contest. Hope you all got to go downtown and see our entry outside of Mac Pharmacy.

I have included an article about **Penny Pines** this month. (For those of you who are newer, Penny Pines is a program that OSFGC, Inc. started supporting about 11 years ago at the State Garden Club level. Monies collected by passing the can at meetings in the past have been used to reforest areas in Oregon.) Because of the recent wildfires in our forests, the state and district garden clubs would like our help raising money to help replant these damaged areas. Please help if you can.

November is national gratitude month. Practicing daily gratitude connects us to ourselves as well as the world around us. It lowers our stress levels and improves our overall health. So take a quiet moment for yourself every day!

More info to come about a little surprise from your board in December; we will give you the details in the December newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. Our next board meeting will be on November 9th at 2pm. Let me know if you would like to attend.



Happy Birthday

November Birthdays:



Dian Berg
Joan Buccino

Marlene Petersen
Gail Pucci

Mike Stewart
Caitlin Wright

Last Call for DUES

November is our cutoff for our Directory Publication this year. This process has been made more challenging since we haven't been able to meet in person. SOOOOOOOO..if you haven't paid your dues by **Nov. 4**, your information will be dropped from the directory and you will discontinue getting our monthly newsletters.

Club dues are \$25 per person or \$40 for a couple.

Payment can be sent to the following address.

McMinnville Garden club, PO Box 386, McMinnville, OR 97128

Charlene Drake (ed.cl.drake@gmail.com) Treasurer

Directory

This year's directory will be emailed to members by mid-November in a PDF format. It may be that some of you will have issues printing this out as it is in booklet format. When I have tried at home, the pages end up upside down every other page BUT I still use it. If you have problems and need the club to provide a print copy, please let me know by emailing me patty.sorensen.....at.....gmail.com (This is written out weird to eliminate phishing ...type it in regular as in me@you.net)

Requested copies will be printed professionally and made available at my front porch as members ask for them. The three members without email will have copies dropped off at their houses since they all live quite close me.

Penny Pines for Oregon



With all the recent fires in our forests, there is now a tremendous need for reforestation! As a garden club, we have a way to help. Go to the OSFGC website and lookup Penny Pines. If each club in the state buys one acre costing \$68, our state would begin the process of recovery. I would like to encourage all of our members to **either** send a donation check to our Treasurer, Charlene Drake, **or**

download the form on the state website... <http://oregongardenclubs.org>...and send in a private donation in the name of McMinnville Garden Club. The challenge from Pioneer District is to get 100 acres ordered by December 31, 2020.

How to donate to the Penny Pines Reforestation/Forest Education Program

Make checks payable to OSFGC.
Mail check and a copy of the form to:
OSFGC Treasurer Margaret Taylor
P.O. Box 81
Hood River, OR. 97031-0003

Or simply send your donation to Charlene Drake: P.O. Box 386 McMinnville OR. 97128. Make check out to McMinnville Garden Club and on the memo line add “ For Penny Pines”. We will send in the collected monies along with the form.

Questions—contact Betty Ballentine macgardenclub@gmail.com

Want to read ore about the history of Penny Pines? Check out:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/sbnf/home/?cid=STELPRDB5289898#:~:text=In%201941%2C%20California's%20first%20Penny,National%20Forest%20in%20northern%20California> .

Results of the October Inquiry/Vote On Awarding Fall 2021/Spring 2022 Scholarships.

Emails sent out to the members on October 14th. Results with 29 out of 60 members replying were as follows:

Zero dollars to award – 8 members.

\$3000 dollars to award – 21 members.

\$6000 dollars to award – 0 members.

The scholarship committee will be given a budget of up to \$3000 for 2021.

McMinnville Garden Club Financial Summary

For 3rd Quarter (July thru September)

Betty asked our Treasurer Charlene Drake to provide you, the member, with quarterly financial reports. If you have questions, please contact her.

Cleared Checks for Fees or bills paid

Oregon Domestic Nonprofit corporation fee	\$50.00
Member bill for mailing supplies	\$22.00
Oregon Department of Justice Charitable Activities Report	\$20.00
Your Space Storage for 1 year	\$520.00
OSFGC dues for 50 members	\$155.00
Pioneer District membership dues for 50 members	\$125.00
Member bill for printer ink cartridge	\$24.99

Additional items of note

The first 20/21 scholarship payment of \$750 went out October 1st.

Budget Savings of note due to the COVID shutdown*

The club donation of \$400.00 to Yamhill County for 4H Awards has been rolled over to next year's fair

No meeting room expenses (\$180 per month from March thru June and September)

No Hospitality expenses since March (\$100.00 budgeted for 20/21)

No Speaker Fees since March (\$400.00 budgeted for 20/21)

2020 OSFGC Convention canceled eliminating President expenses (\$500.00 budgeted for last year)

Paid Membership

for Fiscal year 20/21 (since May of 2020) is 62 members plus 2 lifetime memberships (includes 3 couple membership)

Current Club bank balance is above \$10,000

Current Tour and Faire bank balance is above \$600 with no expenses for this quarter

Current Club savings account balance is above \$11,000

Member Highlight: Betty Ballentine, president, McMinnville Garden Club (2020-2022)

I was born and raised on a small dairy farm in New York; one of 8 children. Most of my aunts and uncles also had farms. I loved helping clean the barn and working with my mother in our vegetable garden. When I became school age, we moved into town. My mother always had a big kitchen garden where she grew enough food to preserve it in the fall. She canned tomatoes and made all kinds of jam. I spent many happy childhood hours picking huckleberries and wild strawberries! She also grew beautiful hydrangea, lilacs, and roses.

I married young and had two children. We also adopted a nephew; at that time my husband was in the Air Force for 8 years. After serving in the military, we moved to Arizona. I attended nursing school and graduated in 1982. I worked as a registered nurse in critical care, surgery, and nephrology. My husband died from an accident at age 55 and my life changed. My children were grown, and I had to adjust to living on my own for the first time.

Then along came my sweet and kind friend of 25 years; he too had become a widower. We spent a lot of time together and in 2004, we married. I retired from nursing after 29 years; John retired the following year as a chemical engineer. In 2008, we moved to McMinnville. We have always loved the Pacific Northwest and the climate. To garden here in the Willamette Valley is a dream come true; it is so enjoyable! I love the change of seasons and being so close to our beautiful coast.

The garden club was the first non-profit I joined, two months after our move. I enjoy everyone in the club; I have learned so much. My second passion is being on the Core Team at the Community Garden. It's a wonderful group of hard-working gardeners and their mission speaks to my heart, growing fresh organic produce for those at nutritional risk in Yamhill County. This year we raised and donated more than 14,000 pounds for YCAP, our local food bank. Besides gardening, I am involved with Coastwatch and monitor mile #255 on the central coast. I also monitor bluebird nesting boxes in Dundee for Prescott Bluebird Recovery Program. As

your president I look forward to being able to hold monthly meetings as soon as it is safe to do so; I miss my garden club friends! Please feel free to call, text, or email me.

Feature Coordinator, Janis Stoven

It's Bulb Season!

Linda Kuhlmann-Harris

I recently received a shipment from Breck's of daffodil and tulip bulbs.

So, now is the time to plant them for next spring's blooms.

McMinnville is in zone 8a or 8b, according to the Plantmaps.com site. I used to think we were a Zone 7, but our weather is changing as this area is warming up. As most of you know, bulbs should be planted at least six weeks before the first frost to give the bulbs' roots a chance to establish, but they can be planted anywhere between September and November.



Interestingly, I saw a note that first-year bulbs could be placed in containers and then in the next fall, plant them in the garden. Containers are also an easy way of creating colorful schemes all over your yard or patio or to have some early blooms in your home. I'm going to try this with my Angelique Tulips I ordered! Container soil should contain equal amounts of loam, coarse sand and organic matter, like peat moss. Fertilize with high phosphorous and potassium; then plant bulbs in the container so that they are touching each other, with tips level with the soil surface, approximately 1" below the container's rim. Water thoroughly.



Outside, I like to group my bulbs to give a more splash of color instead of placing in a straight line, but that's my preference. Either way, dig up a trench or circular bed area as desired. In regards to how deep to plant them, a rule of thumb is to plant them twice as deep as each bulb's height.

Here's a picture of a bulb-planting chart I took from my copy of the Sunset Western Garden Book. In the 'bulb' category, there are "True Bulbs," as well as tubers, corms, and rhizomes. You can search some wonderful sites online with information about the planting and care of each of these.

It is recommended to work in a bit of fertilizer high in phosphorous and potassium before placing the bulbs in the bed, then cover with soil and fully water.

We have a lot of squirrels and some deer in our area, so I found some helpful tools to keep these pests away from my bulbs.



One such gadget was a Bulb Basket. This is a good way to 'group' your bulbs and keep squirrels from digging them up before they can get established. Another trick I'm going to try is a layer of wired mesh big enough for the foliage to grow through, but small enough to keep squirrels away.



Deer are another story – they love tulips and other flowering plants! My husband uses Bobbex Deer Repellent spray concentrate, which doesn't wash off in rain and

seems to work for all of our plants outside of our backyard fence. It is all natural, safe for humans, animals, insects and aquatic life. And, he reapplies it whenever we start to see signs of deer noshing on our plants.

In the spring, I like to take pictures of each of my flowerbeds, so I remember where my bulbs are. Fertilize your bulbs with nitrogen and then, re-fertilize again after blooms have faded to replenish the lost nutrients. It is important to leave the foliage until they yellow and can easily be pulled off. If they are cut, the bulb may lose next year's blooms or reduce in quality or quantity. I have seen some gardeners fold daffodil and tulip stems and tie them with string so they don't look so unsightly until the foliage can be removed. Plant Rings can also be used to keep aging foliage upright. Every fall, established bulbs can use some organic matter, as well as more phosphorous and potassium fertilizer. This can be either scratched into the soil over the bulbs or dig a trench or hole 8" deep around the bulbs to get the fertilizer closer to their roots, then fill in with fresh soil. Enjoy!



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/>

What Weed Is It? <https://awaytogarden.com/what-weed-is-it-putting-names-to-pesky-plants/>

Oregon Flora Project <https://oregonflora.org/>

Bee Friendly Garden Cleanup <https://awaytogarden.com/bee-friendly-garden-care-with-heather-holm/>

