November, 2026 Garden Clippings

McMinnville Garden Club
PO Box 386, McMinnville, OR
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9:30 Social, 10am Business Meeting, 11am Speaker 12-Close

2025-26 Garden Club Board:
Rita Canales – President, Dorothea Lee – Vice President
Linda Hansen & Lisa Binner – Treasurers, Betty Ballentine– Secretary

Dates to Remember 2026-2027

Nov. 2: Arts & Crafts event-*details below*

Nov. 9: ~Executive Board meeting, 1 pm at Rita's
~Annual Rakettes rake decoration will take place in Colleen's shop oat 9am.

Nov 16 : Our monthly Garden Club meeting at the First Presbyterian Church
9:30-10:00 Social, 10:00 Meeting, 11:00 Speaker 12:00 Closing

Nov 16 : Speaker: Opossums

Nov. 19: **EARLY Cutoff Date** For submitting information to be included in December's Newsletter. (*Your editor will be on medical leave; therefore, your information is needed early. Late submissions will appear in the January, 2028 issue*.)

Nov. 27: Rakettes will join the annual Christmas tree lighting parade. *Details below*

Dec. 14: Our club Christmas Luncheon and Garden Club meeting. NOTE: this was rescheduled from the usual 3rd Monday of the month.

April 4-7: Pacific Region Convention-Portland

June 6 : McMinnville Garden Club 26th Annual Tour & Faire.
Please mark it in your calendar now: we need everyone's help on that day.

President's Corner

Rita C

We are still looking for **two people to co-chair the 2027 Garden Tour**, and I know we have members who are more than capable of taking on this rewarding role. If you've ever considered a leadership position but hesitated because you weren't sure you were ready, you are not alone. Many of us who have served as chairs,

presidents, or in other leadership roles have had doubts along the way. I know I have! My strength is organizing things, not necessarily standing up in front of a group. Stepping outside our comfort zones can be challenging, but it's also how we grow and discover what we're capable of.

Perhaps you're a newer member who feels you don't know the club well enough. Taking on this role is a wonderful way to get involved, meet people and learn more about our club. Or maybe you're a longtime member who has been happy to support from the sidelines. Perhaps this is your time to step forward. You don't have to know everything or feel completely ready to make a difference. You just need a willingness to get involved and a partner to share the responsibilities with.

Our Garden Tour is an important club tradition, and we need you help to make the 2027 tour a success. Please consider saying yes. **You are needed, and you may be more ready than you think.**

Garden Tour Co-Chairs Responsibilities and the Future of Our Club

The responsibilities of the Garden Tour co-chairs include:

- Securing leaders for the sub-committees (approximately 95% of the positions are already filled).
- Communicating with subcommittee coordinators and helping everything stays on track.
- Providing progress updates at the club meetings and through the newsletter.
- Being available on the day of the Tour to step in and help wherever needed.

With most of the subcommittee leadership already in place, the co-chairs will have a foundation to build on and a team to support them.

The Financial Reality

For our Garden Club to continue operating, we need a minimum of $6,280 annually to cover our nondiscretionary budgeted expenses. This does not include discretionary spending for donations, special projects, and other activities that enhance our club.

Currently, our $25 annual membership dues generate approximately $2,300. To cover our non-discretionary expenses through dues alone, we would need to increase annual dues to $75 per member.

The Garden Tour plays an important role in supporting our club and its activities. Without volunteers willing to lead this effort, we will need to face some decisions about the club's future and how it will be funded.

A Final Appeal

I want to be honest with you. I have asked repeatedly for volunteers to take on the Garden Tour co- chair positions, and the lack of response has been discouraging. Continuing to ask without finding anyone willing to step forward has become exhausting, and the uncertainty is taking a toll. **At our next meeting, I will make one final appeal for two members to serve as co-chairs for the 2027 Garden Tour**. If no one is willing to take on these roles by January, we will cancel the tour.

I care deeply about this club and want to see it continue to thrive, but its future cannot rest on the shoulders of just a few people. We need members who are willing to share the responsibility and help carry our club forward.

The decision is now in your hands. We need two people to step up. Will you be one of them?

Thank you!

Rita

Speaker Series:

Dorothea L



Our November speaker will be Beth Lau from the Lucky Opossum. Did you know that opossums are not rodents? In fact, they are marsupials, related to kangaroos, koalas, and wallabies. These sweet, yet misunderstood little animals are not treated well in our society. Actually, they are beneficial to us since they eat ticks, cockroaches, mice and rats.

Beth Lau operates The Lucky Opossum, a micro sanctuary for wary and wayward opossums, where they rescue and rehabilitate wild marsupials. Come find out the truth about our only native North American marsupial !!

Membership:

We're delighted to welcome three new members who joined in October

- Sadie B
- Elizabeth N
- Vicki R

Birthdays:



Wishing each of you a year filled with happiness, personal bests, & finding all your favorite plants at a great price.

Members celebrating November Birthdays:
Carolyn N, Mike S, Dian B,
Melany C, Bonnie W.

"Some of the days in November carry the whole memory of summer as a fire opal carries the color of moon rise."

– Gladys Taber



Arts & Crafts:

Colleen M

Lately I've been waking up to cooler mornings and shorter days. Our flowers are feeling this also. Our next craft will attempt to capture the last of their beauty.

Our November session:



What: Flower Pounding

Cost: $5.00

Date: Monday, November 2nd

Time: 10am-noon-ish

Where: Colleen's shop

What to bring: HAMMER. Flowers:
geranium roses viola pansy salvia dahlia alstroemeria mums. Also: think weeds! clover leaves dandelions etc...

Community Participation:

Parades: Garden Club Members had way too much fun participating with all the McMinnville Gardeners in McMinnvilles 150 Birthday Celeberation parade in October.





Sorry you missed it? No problem, our Garden Club Rakettes will be marching in the Christmas parade.

Rakettes: Melany Coyne



The annual Rakettes rake decoration will take place in Colleen's shop on Monday Nov 9th at 9am. Please bring your own supplies and a rake for decorating.

The Rakettes will join in the annual Christmas tree lighting parade on Nov 27th. The parade starts at 4:30pm- we will meet early at Golden Valley Brew Pub for a warming beverage and make our way to the staging area around 3:30/3:45ish. If weather permits we will have the classic car joining the festivities. I've requested a spot toward the front of the parade so we can be standing and walking for less time, allowing more people to join! Will confirm our staging location and order in the parade once Mac Downtown shares those details.

Please email Melany Coyne melanycoyne@gmail.com with any questions or to join the Rakettes email list.

If anyone won't be marching this year and has a pre-decorated rake they would like to loan for the parade, please let Melany know.

Looking forward to celebrating with you all!

Good Eats

Lisa A.

YAMS WITH ORANGE SAUCE

8 Servings



Preheat oven to 350 degrees
6 medium-large yams
1 cup fresh orange juice
1/3 cup brown sugar
1/3 cup white sugar
2 Tablespoons butter
2 Tablespoons cornstarch
Salt and pepper to taste
1 teaspoon grated orange peel

Bake yams in a moderate oven until tender, 45 minutes to one hour. Remove skins and slice into a greased 2-quart baking dish. Combine remaining ingredients and pour over yams. Bake 30 minutes.

Christine P.

Making Persimmon Vinegar



Have you ever thought about making your own fruit vinegars? It's really quite simple. Below is a site offering a complete recipe for making Persimmon Vinegar. Scan down to find all the necessary information you will need, fully explaining the recipe and process.

Use this link: https://www.chelseagreen.com/blog/how-to-make-persimmon-vinegar/

Photo & recipe are from the book, Sandor Karz's Fermentation Journey, *offered by Chelsea Green Publishing*.

Horticulture:

Christine P.

Got leaves, lots of leaves? Rake and compost leaves that are free of diseases and insects. These leaves can help insulate and cover plants in your garden during winter months. For more timely advice on November garden chores: fertilizing, pest control, and more from OSU Extension, use this link: https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/em-9615-november-garden-calendar



Photo credit: maxbelchenko - Adobe Stock

Websites to Explore

National Garden Club https://gardenclub.org

Serenity Garden https://mcminnvillegardenclub.org/serenitygarden/

Pioneer Website http://oregongardenclubspioneer.97048.info/home.aspx

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

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

McMinnville Community Garden https://www.mac-coop.org/communitygarden/

Pacific Region National Garden Club https://pacificregiongardenclubs.org/