



Garden Clippings *September 2018*

McMinnville Garden Club, PO Box 386, McMinnville, OR

Email: macgardenclub@gmail.com

Website: <http://mcminnvillegardenclub.org>



Next meeting: September 17, 2018

*****Heritage Center*****

11275 SW Dunham Lane

If you need time on the agenda, please let [President Caitlyn](#) know a week in advance of the meeting.

Upcoming Events:

Sept. 10 Board Meeting

Sept. 17 Club meeting at Heritage Center 9:30-12

Sept. 21 Plate flowers arts and crafts at Patty's 10-12

Sept. 22/23 OSFGC Fall Garden Fair at the Oregon Garden

Oct. 15 Club meeting at Heritage Center 9:30-12

Oct. 19 Pioneer District Luncheon—St. Helens \$ to be announced at Sept. mtg.

Oct. 29 Hypertufa arts and crafts at Patty's 10-12

Nov. 13 Salem arts and crafts junking trip/lunch Leave Baker Creek Church 9:30***

Nov. 19 Club meeting at Heritage Center 9:30-12

Dec. 3 Wreath making arts and crafts at Rosemary's. 10-2

Dec. 17 Club meeting at Heritage Center 9:30-12

*****Please contact Ann Silverthorne about Field Trips*****

Edible Flowers Presentation: Spice Up Your Garden **September 17**

The September program on how to “Spice Up Your Garden” will delve into the fascinating world of culinary herbs and edible flowers. Bethany will discuss using culinary herbs in the landscape for their complimentary colors and textures to add interest in the garden as well as to transform meals into a work of culinary art. The program will include information on edible flowers (from the common to the exotic), describing their individual tastes, colors, and health benefits. Tips for drying and preserving herbs will be shared. Visually stimulating examples of

herbal decorations from easy to complex will send attendees home with visions of calendula butterflies in their heads. *Bethany Glanville, The Thyme Garden*



2018/2019 Board:

Caitlin Wright – President Jan Clay – Vice President
Charlene Drake – Treasurer Dian Berg – Secretary

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE – Caitlin Wright

Hello Garden Club members,

I'd like to take a quick moment to introduce myself. Some of you may know me through the 2018 Garden Tour and Faire Committee or have seen me at meetings with my 4-year-old ringleted daughter, Juniper. For those of you who I have not had the pleasure of meeting yet, I look forward to getting to know you this coming year! I joined the McMinnville Garden Club in February 2017 and have loved being a part of this wonderful community. I was immediately impressed by the size and enthusiasm of the membership, the dedication of all of the officers, and committee members. Each and every one of you, working together and uniting through a passion for gardening and community impact, is what truly makes our club a special. I am so glad to be a part of the McMinnville Garden Club, and so was very honored to be asked to be instated as the club's President for the 2018-2020 term! This will be my first time as acting officer or as a board member of any organization, so this experience has been and will continue to be a learning experience for me. I appreciate your patience and will happily accept any input or advice you may have for me. I will do my best to represent the club with the continued caliber of our past president, Elaine Pollock, though I know that those will be big shoes to fill!! She has done such a wonderful job representing our club, and I am so impressed by everything that she, and all of our board and committee members do each day to make our club what it is today. You guys are amazing, and I can't thank you enough for your time, dedication, and support! After reflecting on what makes our club so unique, I decided that a fitting theme for my presidential term will be "Cultivating a Community of Caretakers". I wish all of you the very best enjoyment of these final weeks of summer and look forward to seeing each of you at our first meeting of the year in September!!!



Arts and Crafts Plate Flowers, Friday, Sept. 21

Bring your plates, bowls, etc. to Patty's (1666 NW Medinah Drive) starting at 10. We will glue pieces together our "flowers" and enjoy our creativity. You can buy your 4-foot rebar (stem) from Lowes for just under \$4. If you want to spray it green, bring it as we will have green spray paint available. Cost is \$1 for glue.

As usual, treats are always welcome. Coffee, tea will be onsite.

OSFGC's Fall Garden Fair at the Oregon Garden, Sept. 22/23

****Let's think about organizing carpool to this fabulous event. ****

Our own State organization (the Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.) is planning a mega event at The Oregon Garden in Silverton on September 22nd and 23rd. There will be informational booths on a variety of topics, plant and garden art vendors, a judged flower show, floriculture and horticulture exhibits from around Oregon, drawings for a variety of fun stuff and workshops and presentations on each of the two days.

Saturday – September 22nd

11:00 "Growing and Preserving Herbs" with Shelley Joyce, Grow and Show Garden Club

12:30 "Plants for Pollinators" with Dave Doolittle, Petal Heads Nursery

2:00 "DIY Whimsical Garden Crafts" with Patty Sorensen, McMinnville Garden Club

3:30 "Bees and Other Pollinators" with Nicole Sanchez, Oregon State University Horticulture Department and Klamath Falls Garden Club

Sunday – September 23rd

11:00 "Fall Container Planting" with Sally Thompson, OSFGC Container Gardening Chair

12:30 "Sunflowers: Secrets of a Native Sister" with Nicole Sanchez, Oregon State University Horticulture Department and Klamath Falls Garden Club

2:00 "Tool Care and Sharpening" with Carl Heinke, Oregon State University Master Gardener and Salem Area Garden Club; and

"Pruning Techniques" with Trish Paige, Odell Garden Club

3:30 "Hot New Plants for 2019" with Dave Doolittle, Petal Heads Nursery

Please help spread the buzz all across Oregon and together we will gather at The Oregon Garden on September 22 and 23 for our fantastic Fall Garden Fair.

For more details, contact Gaye Stewart or :

<https://oregongardenclubs.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Fall-Fair-2018.pdf>

Jottings from 2019 Garden Tour Co-Chairs – Ann Widen, Jan Stoven

Ann Widen and I, Jan Stoven, are co-chairs of the 2019 Garden Tour and Faire. We are both new, having joined this year, but have been meeting this summer with knowledgeable members who have played key-roles in the success of past tours. We recently met with the Garden Selection Committee. They shared photos and an overview of the five 2019 gardens (plus a back-up garden). Of the five gardens, one is newer, two are updated, and two are mature. All are located within McMinnville.

Ann, I and others feel children twelve and under should not be charged admission. If an adult is interested in gardening, most likely the child will be guided to learn about gardening. We need to support and encourage "the younger generation" to learn to about gardens. We are aware of STEM in current education practices and the **S** component is **SCIENCE**. The fields of horticulture, botany, entomology, landscape architecture, arborist all touch all family gardens.

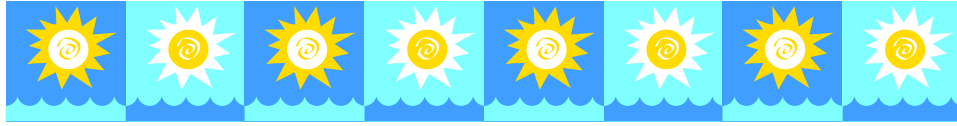
When I drove my children in my car (no matter their age) I shared names of trees, stopped at gardens, greenhouses, conservatories and arboretums with Jeff and Alison. Of course, they whined and protested some, but they came with me and must have listened. Today, Jeff, a graduate of Oregon State University is a horticulturist with a nation-wide, highly respected nursery here in Oregon. Alison, Ph.D., Ornamental Horticulture, is an extension agent with Colorado State University and teaches at the university. Her masters and doctorate degrees focused on tree research. They've both shared; even though I "dragged them to gardens and conservatories" it was through this they became interested in horticulture.

Let's hope we have children visit our gardens this year, we greet them with a smile and say welcome. Suggest they look for something special in that garden and when they leave, ask if they found it. Encourage them and hope someday they too, will become a member of this garden club. Otherwise, who will join in coming years?

Ann and I are looking forward in meeting and getting to know you. And, we hope you eagerly volunteer to assist with the 2019 tour and faire. We need you and thank you!

See you in September, Jan Stoven





Dallas Trip

In July several garden club members enjoyed a day of junking in Dallas and a fun visit to three



gardens. The community garden next to Mike and Gaye Stewart's was remarkable and their special touch was seen everywhere. Their yard was in bloom with lots of purple.....imagine that...and the fish pond was so incredible! Purple verbena was one of the highlight plants in the front yard. WOW!



Ruth Corsi's yard was full of impeccably well-chosen plants. Several of us enjoyed taking home some starts from some of her unusual ones. There were unique and common plants mixed together with care. The plant in front that caught our eyes was the Spigelia marilandica or Indian Pink. And the butterflies and hummingbirds love it.

What fun we all had. Thanks to our Dallas members!

Understanding Fertilizer Numbers

Cindy Flake

Recall that the three bold numbers, normally on the front of a fertilizer label denote the per cent by weight of three macro (big) nutrients N (nitrogen), P (phosphorus), and K (potassium). They are always listed in N-P-K order with lesser nutrients, listed elsewhere on the label, under Guaranteed Analysis. This is what must be in the mix, by law.

So, why would I want any of these numbers to be lower, higher, or a zero? To answer this, you need to know what each nutrient does for the plant and what your goals for the plant are.

Nitrogen (N) is essential for growth and the formation of chlorophyll, and other compounds. It increases protein content in grains and dry matter content and quality in leafy vegetables.

Phosphorus (P) is used in collecting and converting sunlight into energy, plus storing and transferring energy. It stimulates the production and maturation of flowers, fruits, and seeds.

Potassium (K) increases root growth, maintains the plant's water balance, and improves drought tolerance. It enhances overall plant quality, as it assists all of the plant enzymes.

These three nutrients support so many functions that the plant often uses these in larger quantities than the other nutrients.

Why are there so many fertilizer choices? Generally, when the fertilizer balance of N-P-K changes, the plant response changes. For example, for my grass lawn, I apply a fertilizer such as 22-2-10, which has more N than P and K, supporting green growth.

When I want to increase flower blooms, I use fertilizer that has less N but more P, which stimulates flower production, such as 10-30-20 fertilizer.

When growing tomatoes, I use a balanced fertilizer, like 20-20-20, when plants are small. I switch to a fertilizer with lower N and higher P and K content when I want plants to set fruit, such as 10-30-20. Why? Nitrogen signals the plant to grow vigorously, rather than to set fruit. A higher N to P and K ratio often results in lush, green plants with few fruits.

Organic fertilizers differ from synthetic fertilizers in that they range in nutrient values and often take longer to become plant available. For example, raw bone meal may offer a range of 2-6% N and 15-27% P. These variations are a result of the age of the material, its decomposition rate, application rate and timing, exposure to natural elements (sun, rain), and other factors. Soil pH (acid or alkaline) limits or improves the availability of any given nutrient to plants.

It is also important to know that over-fertilization is just as injurious to plants as under-fertilization. Yellow (chlorosis) and brown (necrosis) leaf margins are the symptoms often seen by these polar opposite fertilization treatments. Disease and insect attack may be more prevalent due to over fertilization that causes an abundance of juicy, green growth; a pest's best friend!

Members Summer Comments...who said what?

- 1- By the time you read this I will be on a Hobbit adventure for about a week or so.
- 2- Slugs, slugs, and more slugs. Little ones, medium and large ones. The little ones are kind of cute. The big ones, well I suppose a necklace could be made of the discarded shells. Yuck. They climb up my berry bushes and even my plum tree. Can you imagine the climb up the trunk, onto the branches and clear out to the end of said branches to the

leaves (by my plums)? I've used "Sluggo" granules, but the slugs multiply so fast and the water seems to wash away the granules. Any super good ideas from my sister gardeners?

3- No trips this summer but celebrated the birth of our 11th grandchild and our 50th anniversary.

4- My mom found this quote about 25 years ago;

“By August, a flower garden...can be at its best – and at its worst. Most of one’s successes are apparent and all of one’s failures.....Katherine S. White”.

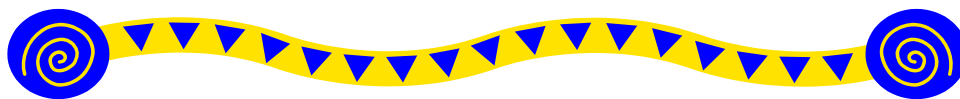
Every August we would reread it, analyze our gardens, and start a list of new ideas for next year’s garden. She passed away 8 years ago, but I have kept up this tradition. I have a book already started for ideas for 2019! (and yes, I'm always anxiously waiting for Spring!)

5- We are under siege over here, under attack by little tunneling vermin (moles!), who upended my new plantings as soon as the drip irrigation system was finished. So, I now understand that they are drawn to any irrigated ground because the water brings out the yummy worms they like. At one time, we attempted the natural approach – yes, Intimidating Yoga Poses (IYP), performed near mole mounds at regular intervals to shock and awe the Enemy. Despite the full endorsement of Sun Tzu (Art of War), this approach did not work. So, we then tried trapping them ourselves to no avail. Yep, back to the Gopher Patrol guys, who dispatched two moles in the first 48 hours. We are, however, studying their methods to see if we can DIY this in the future.

6- We had green grass but now we have tan and brown grass not my choice. Mother Nature is in complete control, but we have the largest kale plant and it is green go figure.

7- Well, hardy fuchsias did well - didn't even need misting. Verbena was happy as was phlox. Lilies did well until the last two weeks when buds dried up on green stems, not due to lack of water. Just too much heat.

8- Plant, water, visit a nursery, plant water, go shopping, buy plants, water.... hibernate due to the HEAT, play, read, time with family and friends to enjoy life and look forward to FALL.



Marilyn Coats has a number of plants in need of a new home. These include hostas, daylilies, ferns, small spiraea. If anyone is interested in digging them up and providing them homes, please email or give me a call. Marilyn Coats mjcsews2@frontier.com or 503-472-4984

Home Horticulture Certificate

Interested in learning more about gardening? Master Gardeners are offering an accelerated online course that will provide you with great instruction without the addition of volunteer time to be a certified Master Gardener. One of our former members who moved out of state did this and said she felt she learned a lot! The next course starts in January. Check it out at <https://pace.oregonstate.edu/catalog/home-horticulture-summer-intensive> For more information contact Gregory D. Aaronoff, OSU, 541-737-0763



“The trees are about to show us how lovely it is to let things go.”

Unknown

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>

Pruning Hydrangeas <https://www.finegardening.com/article/pruning-hydrangeas>

September Garden Chores in Oregon <https://anoregoncottage.com/garden-chores-september/>

Fall Trips in Oregon <https://www.sunset.com/travel/northwest/fall-trips-northwest>

Easy Indoor House Plants <http://www.midwestliving.com/garden/container/super-easy-house-plants/>

Dividing Plants <https://www.finegardening.com/article/science-behind-plant-division>

(PS If you've had plants outside be sure to wash them with an insecticidal soap or a heavy water spray before bringing them in or you'll be fighting problems for a LONG time.)

