September, 2026 Garden Clippings

McMinnville Garden Club
PO Box 386, McMinnville, OR
Email: ritacanales555@gmail.com
Facebook: @ McMinnville Garden Club
& @ Serenity Garden

9:30 Social, 10am Business Meeting, 11am Committee Signups 12-Close

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

Dates to Remember 2026

Sept 8: Open Gate at Linda Hansen's lovely gardens: Tues, from 10 am to Noon
Sept 11: *9:30 Serenity Garden Final Cleanup Session

Sept 14: Executive Board meeting, 1pm at Dorotheas's home.
Sept 17: Field Trip, 9:30am. 2 special gardens and then lunch at a nearby restaurant. *See article below for more details.*
Sept 21: Our monthly Garden Club meeting at the First Presbyterian Church
9:30-10:00 Social, 10:00 business meeting, *followed by a Walkabout the Room", a time to sign up for one or more of our Committees.* Yes, *We need YOU: It takes everyone doing their small and/or large part to keep our club vibrant and our Garden Fair & Tour a success.*
Sept 25: *9:30 Serenity Ribbon Cutting Community Celebration
(**see Community Beautician Events article down below for more info.*)
Sept 25: Cutoff date to for submitting information to go in the October newsletter.

One more date to remember . . . from Dorothea
Sept 12 from 9 am to 3 pm **Hostas & Ferns & Perennials, Oh My!**

The Salem Hardy Plant Society is again holding their world famous Fall Plant Sale at Sebright Gardens on Saturday, Sept 12 from 9 AM to 3 PM. Many vendors of plant material and garden art will be offering their wares. September is absolutely the best time to plant: the temperatures here are fairly mild and the soil is warm and friable so the plants can grow new roots and be ready to take off in spring.
Sebright is located at 7185 Lakeside Drive in North Salem. If you have never been there, you must visit this beautiful nursey.

President's Corner

Rita

Welcome back! The summer is almost over and our meetings will begin September 21. I am looking forward to seeing many of you.
The past few months many of the club members have been meeting up at Open Gates. They have all been wonderful gardens, each unique. I wish I had been able to go to all of them. They were inspirational. Shelly and I are hoping that Open Gates can be extended through the fall and start up again in the spring, so many have fantastic fall and spring gardens.
Our first meeting we will be asking for the club members to step up and volunteer for the various committees. It will be like we did last year with signup posters of the committees. You can walk around, chat with everyone and decide what you would like to do with your Garden Club friends. Listed are all the Committees so you can decide where you would like to volunteer.
Some of the committees do not have a chair. They are highlighted in orange. You can pair up with another club member; you do not have to do it alone! Being a leader does not have to be a difficult job, others are always willing to help.
I have not listed all the committee chairs for the Garden Tour and Faire, there are quite a few. There will be signup sheets for them as well. Thank you all for a successful 2025-2026, now here's to a new club year. 2026-2027. With your help, it too will be successful.

Rita

Committee Choices to Consider:

Arts and Crafts: Colleen
Chamber of Commerce: Tina
Conservation and Sustainability: Beth and Adele
Facebook: Shelly
Field Trips: Elaine
Garden Tour Director ??
(Bonnie will be your mentor)
Garden Faire: Ruth and Lisa (Vendors)
Garden Faire: ?? Downtown Setup
Garden Selection: Beth
Historian: Charlene
Hospitality: Sandra and Kathie
Library Plants: Elaine
Membership: Lisa
Newsletter: Christine
Nominations Chair: ??
Open Gates: Shelly
Parliamentarian: Betty
Post Office:??
Publicity: Shelly
Raffle: Lisa
Rakettes: ??
Scarecrow: Sharalie
Scholarships: June
Serenity Garden: Barb
Sunshine: Ann
Third Street Cleanup: Peter
Tour Volunteer Coordinator: *??*
(Christine will mentor.)
Website Liaison: Patty
Yard of the Month: ??
(Christine will mentor.)

Community Beautification Events:

Serenity Garden Completion:

Patty Sorenson

We are so proud to announce the completion of this remarkable garden club project almost 8 years after the dream began. THANK YOU to all who have supported this complicated journey. We hope many will feel the love this garden embraces them with.



This art piece was created and recently installed by Mason Rivera Sculpture Garden, in order to be ready for our September 25th celebration.

MARK your calendars:
September 11 at 9:30 am. We will meet there to do a final cleanup of the area. The more who show, the less time it will take. THEN we can go out for a snack together to share stories about the McMinnville and our surrounding communities! Bring tools, gloves, and wear your aprons! For the completion of our goal for this garden to enhance and beautify.

MARK & Highlight your calendars:
September 25th at 9:30am . We are holding a public ribbon cutting ceremony to turn the completed garden over to the hospital. Dignitaries from town and the hospital are joining us. Please CARPOOL, park in the lot back by the birthing center and WEAR YOUR GREEN APRONS.

Hope to see you there!

Contact Patty S. if you have questions

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OPEN GATE

Shelly Hickox

This summer's Open Gate has been a huge success. I hope everyone has enjoyed it as much as I have. Seeing so many different gardens has definitely been hugely inspiring! Thanks so much to the members below who so graciously opened their yards to us.

Here's the latest Open Gate Invite: Linda H's lovely gardens:
..... Tues, Sept. 8, from 10 am to Noon .....

Dolly McCord
Marlene Petersen
Rebecca Robins
Shelly Hickox
Sharalie Wozniak
Vivian and Roger Pence
Robin Stern
Patty Sorensen



Just a few photos from the Patty's Open Gate:







Continued: Photos from the Patty's Open Gate . . .





The Essential Open Gate Support Team

Field Trips

Elaine P.

On Thursday, September 17, we will visit two garden centers that are niche specialists in Tualatin.

- First, we will go to Hughes Water Gardens. Hughes has tranquil showcase gardens, knowledgeable staffers for guidance, and all the water garden supplies needed for those considering creating a Zen corner in their garden.
- Next, we will visit the Garden Corner. The Garden Corner specializes in garden containers and everything needed to fill them. They design many unique hanging baskets from a few inches tall to . . .

Field Trips continued . . .

the largest hanging basket in the world.

- We will have lunch at Red Robin
- We will meet at the Baker Creek Community Church parking lot on the Elm Street side to form carpools at 9 am.

Note: It is traditional for each passenger to give the driver $5.

Please let Elaine know if you want to join us. pollygarden27@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!!

Garden Tour 2026 Communiques

Bonnie W

The Garden Tour and Faire was a resounding success in spite of the very warm weather. It is due to the fact we have so many people working hard to cover all of the many details. We brought in just over $13,800. which enable us to provide scholarships and underwrite many community projects. Thank you to everyone!!!

Now we need to look forward to the year ahead...the date will be June 6, 2027 (*that is one week earlier, in the hope of avoiding the heat*). Lisa will be working on the vendor side of the Faire, and Bonnie will be out of town for a long period in the spring, so we need someone to step into the role of chairperson. It is a robust position but there are many people to turn to for assistance.

Scan down to pages 7 and 8 for A Garden Tour 2026 Photo Gallery.



Here's a Plant Swap Opportunity that offers a heck of a lot more than just plant swamping.

Italian Flat Beans With Smashed Cherry Tomatoes

Prep Time-15minutes mins,
Cook Time-25minutes mins,
Servings: 4



INGREDIENTS:
1 large onion chopped
2 cloves garlic minced
1-2 lbs flat beans blossom end trimmed off
1 tsp salt
2 tsp oregano
½ cup water
¼ cup fruit vinegar optional, *can use any vinegar*
1 pint cherry tomatoes about 14 ounces

INSTRUCTIONS

- Rinse the beans and remove the blossom end. Cut the beans into 1/3's and cut on a diagonal. Otherwise leave whole.
- Heat 2 Tbsp oil in a skillet over med-high heat and add chopped onions. Sauté until golden brown and caramelized (about 5 minutes)
- Add minced garlic and sauté 30 seconds. Add beans and mix all together in the skillet.
- Add salt, oregano, and vinegar. Add some water (or chicken broth) to allow the beans to simmer in a bit of liquid. Cover and simmer everything for 10 to 20 minutes, or until the beans are quite tender (test by taking a bite).
- Uncover and increase the heat to medium. Add cherry tomatoes to the skillet and mash lightly with a potato masher or a fork. Stir together and cover. Simmer for about 10 minutes or until beans are texture that you prefer.
- Taste and adjust with more vinegar or salt and pepper. Serve the beans slightly warm or at room temperature.
- They will keep in the fridge for 3 days. Just reheat in a saucepan and enjoy!

Nutrition: Calories: 140kcal | Carbohydrates: 17g | Protein: 4g | Fat: 7g | Saturated Fat: 1g | Sodium: 605mg | Potassium: 563mg | Fiber: 5g | Sugar: 8g | Vitamin A: 1361IU | Vitamin C: 44mg | Calcium: 74mg | Iron: 2mg
Recipe from Farmtojar.com. *(I serve over cheesy polenta for a meatless main dish.)*

Garden Tour 2026 Photo Gallery













The Pre Tour Gang of Many →

It takes a lot of volunteers to make our Garden Tour a great success!! These are only a few of those who attended the pre tour.



Continued: Garden Tour 2026 Photo Gallery . . .











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/