

The Mahonia

**The Official Newsletter Publication for
The Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.**

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Fall 2015



Member National Garden Clubs, Inc., Pacific Region

Winning Tips

What works in your Garden, Club, District?

A column for all to send something shown to be a garden-related winner. It could be a tool, how-to, recipe, etc.

Zucchini Bread

Ingredients

3 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon baking powder
3 teaspoons ground cinnamon
3 eggs

1 cup vegetable oil
2 1/4 cups white sugar
3 teaspoons vanilla extract
2 cups grated zucchini
1 cup chopped walnuts

Grease and flour two 8 x 4 inch pans. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F
Sift flour, salt, baking powder, soda, and cinnamon together in a bowl.
Beat eggs, oil, vanilla, and sugar together in a large bowl.
Add sifted ingredients to the creamed mixture, and beat well.
Stir in zucchini and nuts until well combined.
Pour batter into prepared pans.
Bake for 40 to 60 minutes, or until tester inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool in pan on rack for 20 minutes.
Remove bread from pan, and cool completely.

Original recipe yields 24 servings

Shirley Schmidt



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From the President's Desk Shirley Schmidt

OSFGC President 2015-2017

"Nurture Nature – Nurture Friendships"

Oregon's Youth Program is off to a fabulous start with our Youth Chairman Carolyn Olley. Donor contributions made the purchase of "The Frightened Frog" book possible so that each of our 14 District Directors could receive the **hand-delivered** books on Labor Day weekend!!! And to top it off, twenty additional books have been requested. Sounds like Oregon will be learning all about those endangered amphibians.

Our first Fall Board of Directors' meeting was held at the Gardens of Enchantment which is a long-standing Oregon project. Since 1971 our members have diligently worked in this scent-filled garden especially created for the blind. We honored Bob and Evelyn Mell for their MANY years of service as well as several clubs' members who donate their time to work regularly in the Garden. Because the site hosts weddings, a dorm setting was provided for us. We enjoyed this first-of-a-kind location for our meeting!



In our progress toward reaching our personal goal of 150 pounds for "Share the Bounty -- Tip the Scale," one idea that puts us a bit closer is to take advantage of the holiday sales that advertise hams and turkeys --buy one, get one free. Food banks and pantries will appreciate our donations to help our Oregon population who have food insecurity.



State Fall Board Meeting at the Gardens of Enchantment

October 4/5 2015

Hull Park

Sandy, Oregon

Thank you Clackamas District for hosting a wonderful meeting



Jane Sercombe's report:

Imagine a perfect October day in Oregon: blue skies, puffy clouds, a little breeze to ruffle the leaves and grasses, and birdsong for extra effect --- this was the setting for the State Board Meeting at Oral Hull Park in Sandy. Sixty OSFGC members from around the state gathered for meetings, meals, and the chance to explore this special community and admire the gardens planted for sight, fragrance, touch, taste and sound.

President Shirley Schmidt's program "Share the Bounty, Tip the Scale" met with great success as members weighed in the fresh produce and canned goods they brought to the meeting. **230 pounds of food** were donated to the Sandy Food Bank! We will continue to do our best to help feed the hungry in Oregon.



Imagine long tables with white cloths that greeted the members. The rustic Rainbow Lodge was transformed into a business setting for the board meeting. Starts of Oregon Grape were at each place along with a luscious red apple. Black folders with fall leaves marked each place. Bertha Keith in Hermiston gave the Invocation with the help of a speaker phone.

A very moving experience was planting the Dawn Redwood. Imagine in 100 years this redwood standing strong with roots deep into the soil. A tree provides shelter for birds, oxygen for humans, soil stabilization, shade for the young, the old, and the weary. Planting a tree benefits everyone in this generation and the next. Each of the eight state officers gave remarks as shovelfuls of dirt anchored the tree. This was an added pleasure, to see this young tree become part of the living landscape.



With great pride, our President Shirley Schmidt presented Bob and Evelyn Mell a Presidential Citation for their many years of dedication to the Gardens of Enchantment. Each garden club as well was honored for the hours of work maintaining these special plantings at Oral Hull Park.



Lauri Baker and her sister Evelyn and husband Bob Mell



Show and Tell with Favorite Tools

This after dinner talk became entertainment as members held up the tools they found indispensable. Some of our members actually demonstrated their prowess in going after those pesky weeds and dividing perennial clumps. Our photo shows two “dueling directors” who gave us a mini fencing demonstration. Sally Weathers on the left from Capitol District, and Joli Root on the right, Santiam District.

Clackamas District was honored to show our state members the Sandy jewel, the Gardens of Enchantment and Hull Park.

Forgotten, but not Lost, at State Board Meeting

Two items were left behind at the close of the meeting. One is a blue-grey fleece vest, size petite. The other is a Navy blue fleece jacket, size small, with pruners in the pocket!

Share the Bounty - Tip the Scale

President's Project

Lucy Chambers, Chair

Wow, we show a grand total of **5797.61** pounds of food donated to date. District contributions totaled 5366 lbs and contributions weighed in on Monday Oct 5th at the OSFGC BOD meeting in Sandy hosted by Clackamas District totaled 234.61 lbs. Jane Sercombe, Clackamas District Director then made arrangements to have all of that food delivered to local charities in their area.

Did you "Share the Bounty -Tip the Scale"? Have you reached your personal body weight in food donations (150 lbs)? Don't forget to bag up all that extra food and take it to your local food bank, soup kitchen or shelter and help feed those less fortunate. Over the next two years we have all been asked to "Share the Bounty - Tip the Scale". Our garden club members total approximately 2700 throughout the State. That would equal 405,000 pounds of food distributed to the one in six people who struggle with hunger in Oregon. Keep track of your pounds donated. Have your donation site weigh it for you or weigh on your personal scale, or in the store or add up the numbers listed on cans, bags and boxes or guesstimate. All numbers are good.

Please note: Many food banks do not take expired items, so check those expiration dates.

Please report your numbers to your club President, District Director or to me. I will add them to the 'on-growing' numbers and report them to our OSFGC President, Shirley Schmidt. Please call, text or email me with your numbers. Halloween is around the corner. Grab those squash and that bag of candy and deliver to your local donation facilities. Thank you,

Lucy Chambers - Chairperson

Presidents Project, "Share the Bounty - Tip the Scale"
541.218.5370, chamberslucy.1015@yahoo.com

October 5, 2015... Districts Reports,

5,366 pounds

Blue Mountain District ____0____

Pioneer District ____3000____

Capitol District ____429____

Portland District ____150____

Clackamas District ____100____

Rogue District ____60____

Klamath District ____0____

Santiam District ____130____

Mt. Hood District ____222____

Siskiyou District ____1050____

Multnomah District ____0____

Willamette District ____0____

North Coast District ____0____

Pacific District ____225____

Once again, wow.



Executive Reports

1st Vice President-Membership

Gaye Stewart 2015-2017

The Oregon summer has come and gone, but the season was bountiful! The flowers were early to bloom, prolific, and invited regular “picking” to enjoy inside our homes. Vegetable gardens were also abundant and will provide tasty meals for the coming winter.

The change of seasons from summer to fall heralds the beginning of the 2015-2017 leadership cycle. Districts and Clubs are planning for the coming year, training officers, scheduling guest presenters and setting Club goals. May I suggest that **Membership Growth** be a goal for both District and Clubs for the next two years! As the State Membership Chairman, I am alarmed by the decline in membership! Since beginning this role in July, OSFGC has lost a District with its one Club requesting withdrawal from OSFGC, and additionally several Clubs from other Oregon Districts. The reason you may ask? Generally it’s because the membership has declined, members are elderly and many are no longer driving. Our current State membership totals 2,676 as of May, 2015, according to Nita Wood, OSFGC Treasurer.

Besides setting a membership goal, here are some ideas to help you build membership:

- Visit another District or Club to see what they do to generate/draw members – talk to people!

- Call several Club presidents and ask about their membership growth ideas.

- Visit the National Garden Clubs website for materials to build membership (www.gardenclub.org)

- Review local plant societies i.e., The Hardy Plant Society of Oregon, Native Plant Society (with chapters all over Oregon) or go to plantsglore.com for a list of Plant Groups in Oregon.

- Google “Oregon Plant Societies” to research what’s there and close to your town.

- Design a brochure telling how to become a member of your Club and enjoy all the rights of membership and the fun activities in your Club. Remember “Gardening is America’s Number 1 Hobby.”

We can increase membership by inviting Plant Societies to become Affiliates. There is a special affiliate membership application fee of \$10/year or \$20/2 years.

Ok – so now you have some tools to get you started in building membership. Let’s do it!

Gaye Stewart
1st Vice President
503-510-4370



Protocol

Protocol: A system of rules that explain the correct conduct and procedures to be followed.

Protocol: Common sense, being polite, good manners. Or Etiquette: Just as it is helpful to know in which order to place the silverware on the table, it is good to know where to seat the members of the executive officers at the table.

Manners are a sensitive awareness of the feelings of others. If you have that awareness, you have good manners, no matter what fork you use. Emily Post

Publicity

Publicity: the notice or attention given to someone or something by the media.

the giving out of information about a product, person, or company for advertising or promotional purposes. Or material or information used for publicity.

"Everything you do or say is public relations." – Unknown

What is your District or club doing to get the word out about Garden Clubs? Do you have a website? A Facebook page?

My District: Klamath District has a facebook page. (just look us up on facebook) It is easier than a website for our small district and for very little money you can boost your important events to a lot of people!

We also use business cards and flyers. We have someone in our club that is very good at getting articles in the paper and that helps too! Another one of our members is putting pictures in the paper of all our important events. Also I talk Garden Club to anyone and everyone who seems interested!

Is there something that you are doing that worked really well? Share it with us in the Mahonia!

Parliamentarian

Nancy Ebsen

I am back to push each district to finish their Policy and Procedures and get those Bylaws that need it, updated; to push each club to update their Bylaws if it's been more than five years. We change and our bylaws need to change with us. That includes your Standing Rules. If you have no Bylaws, you really need to get them organized. They are your protection for each member and they keep clubs and districts in order. They are your basic rules to govern your organization.

As I have said before, my goal is to get all districts and the state to complete their Policy & Procedures by the time I leave office, which will be June of 1917. Sounds like a long way off, but it goes by quickly.

I am here to help and am in the Directory.

Honoring our former State Presidents

Bruna McBride

The woman that wears many hats

Many of you know Marcia Kay Whitelock. Marcia Kay was State President 2005 -2007. Her theme was "Embrace Friendship, Gardening and Community", and her project was Promoting Education. She is currently a member of the West Point Garden Club and Sou'Wester Garden Club. She was District Director for Pioneer District 2001 - 2003.

She has served as the Oregon Garden Chairman since 2001 promoting the garden and the Fifth Grade Environmental Education Program. She is the State Chairman for the Frank Lloyd Wright designed Gordon House and sits on the Board of Trustees for Keep Oregon Green. She is the State Chairman for our Insurance program.

She was appointed as the State President's Project Chairman under Ruth Berger, Beverly Seibel, Jeanne Marie Davis and Peggy Olin.

Marcia Kay has been chairman of the Pioneer District Scholarship fund since its beginning in 2008. All clubs in Pioneer District are encouraged to add to this fund and so far over \$2,000! has been awarded to students from Washington, Yamhill or Columbia Counties to attend a 2-year or 4-year college in Oregon.

Marcia was widowed in 1998 and has two grown daughters and one grandson.



Committee Reports

Arboreal

Kathy Lombardo, chair

After looking for three years for the perfect place to plant Cave Junction's Sesquicentennial Dawn Redwood tree, Mayor Carl Jacobson and Illinois Valley Garden Club members planted one in a constantly damp low place in Jubilee Park, close to the new skateboard structure and within sight of the street and the Mayor's front porch!

I am thankful for such great members. When something needs to be done there is help.

The Smokejumper Base Museum, south of Cave Junction, is planning to plant a small tree collection at the Illinois Valley Airport, and at least this chair will be helping with that.



Ellen Ambuhl Conservation Award

Norma Curtis, Chair

As chair of the Ellen Ambuhl Conservation Award, I am asking all district directors to please search your area, talk to your clubs and see if there is a person or group who has helped conserve the treasures that we are so blessed with in Oregon and fit our Conservation Pledge. In the past we have presented an award to North Coast Land Conservancy, Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers, the Frank Lloyd Wright Designed Gordon House in Silverton, Oregon, and most recently the Kalmiopsis Audubon Society. I am sure there are many OSFGC garden club members that are not even aware of this award and will probably know of potential award recipients.

To apply for the award send me a simple book of evidence by April 15, 2016 or 2017. Recipient may be an individual member or non-member, club, district or civic group. There is a \$100 prize for the winner. If you need help preparing a book of evidence, I will share my past books of evidence as a helpful guide.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Norma Curtis, Chair, [541-386-6635](tel:541-386-6635) nlcurtis@hrecn.net

Horticulture Award

Sherry Cossey, Chair

The award has been given since 1943 for outstanding achievement in Horticulture and its allied fields. Nominations are due to me, Sherry Cossey, by April 15, 2016, and may be made by individuals, clubs, or districts.

A Book of Evidence is to be submitted which includes a letter summarizing the reasons for the nomination and signed by the person(s) presenting the material. Pictures, articles in the media written about or by the nominee, and letters of appreciation for work accomplished by the nominee may be included.

Backyard Wildlife Habitat

Joan Foley, Chair

Lets see how many of us can join the "Million Pollinator Challenge." This is a campaign to register a million public and private gardens and landscapes to support pollinators. You can visit the website via a link from NGC, Google, or millionpollinatorgardens.org. Think about what your club can do to encourage pollinators. Let's challenge each club to submit one or more picture to place on the map.

1. Plant a pollinator garden.
2. Support pollinators friendly businesses.
3. Bee counted, S.H.A.R.E.
4. Plant sustainably.
5. Keep an eye out for free seeds.
6. Spread the word.



Blue Star Markers

Nancy Ebsen, Chair

The markers have been numbered and divided by districts. Our total for Oregon is 77. Each district has been asked to put the markers in their care in good condition. Check to be sure they are cleaned, repaired, and ready for company. Most are on grounds that are cared for by the location in which they are planted. That does not mean the marker itself will be cared for. They are our responsibility. For many, the grounds are cared for by the club that was responsible for their planting, again because of their location. I would like to know who actually is responsible for maintenance of the grounds and who is responsible for the care of the marker. In the Portland District, the markers are all placed in places where groundskeepers do just that, but we have divided our six between our six clubs to be sure the markers themselves are cared for. We also have a Blue Star Chairman whose responsibility is to keep a check on all of this. Divided it's a lot easier.



Community Service

Dolores Smith, Chair

Our Communities support our many projects, so we as a Garden Club should support community service projects.

Here are some more ideas:

Police and Fire Departments: Donate to their benevolent funds, K-9 units.

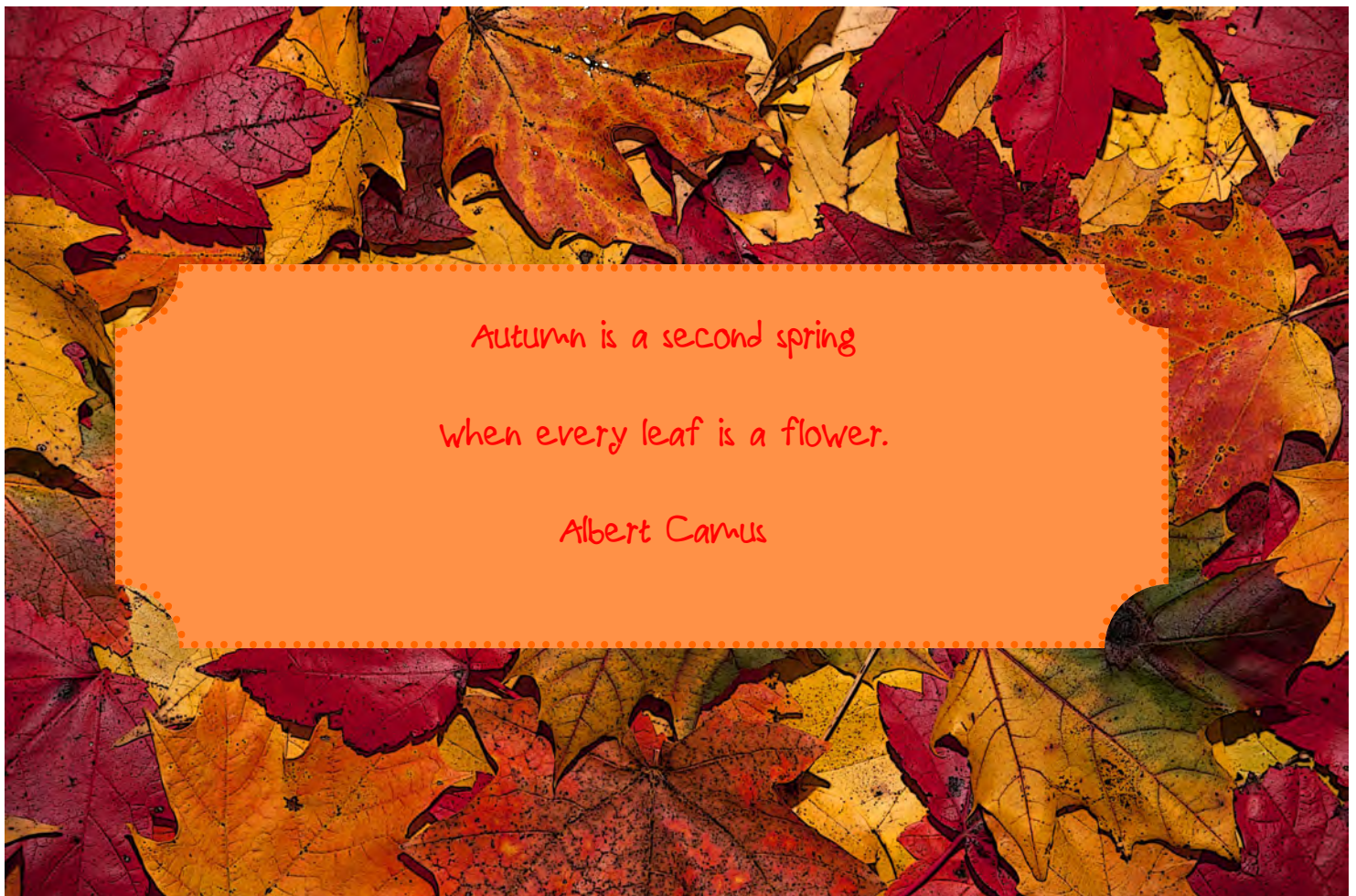
Animal Shelters: Donate pet food, toys, time or \$. Did you know that dogs love peanutbutter? The shelters are always in need of jars of creamy peanut butter. Take up a collection of \$2.00 from each of your members at a meeting and buy jars of PB. The dogs will love you!!

Project Pooch, Inc.- <http://pooch.org/>
Fences for Fido-<http://www.fencesforfido.org/>

County Juvenile Department- Clackamas has a job training program, Green Corps- Fresh Start, for youth on probation. Multnomah County's program is called Community Healing Initiative

Library- Donate books. Deliver a flower arrangement weekly-monthly (Don't forget to pick up the wilted ones). Schedule presentations by club members. Volunteer time or donate \$.

Meals on wheels- My club supplied "Snowman Soup" packages in January (envelope of hot cocoa, marshmallows and small candy cane in zip-lock bag). Another club makes floral arrangements in coffee/tea cups. Of course they will not turn down your donation of time or \$.



Container Clues

A few guiding clues for containers.

- Mix container shapes, textures and heights.
- Use pots of similar colors for larger impact.
- Place a tall spiky plant off center of container. Layer smaller plants around it.
- Keep a full watering can handy by keeping it close to the door you use every day. It's a quick pick-me-up for a droopy and thirsty plant.
- While waiting for new plants to settle in, add fast growing seeds or annuals. They tend to fill in the edges and spill over the sides.
- Containers are great to try out an unusual color combination you may be considering for a large new flower bed.
- A very large container at the end of a pathway shows the visitor where to proceed. An eye popping color, even without plantings, will help too.
- Express your personality with your container choice, whether it's humorous, edible, simple or many layered. Most of all have fun.



Garden Therapy

Katie Smith , Chair

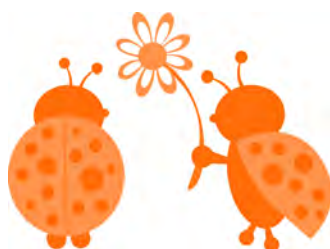
As Oregon State Chair of Garden Therapy this year I thought I would just toss out a few ideas for the garden clubs to try. Here is a list of "Garden Therapy Project Ideas". These are all projects that our garden club has used in the past so they are tried and true. If you have further questions you may contact me, Katie Smith at [541 476-3960](tel:5414763960). Leave a message, your phone number and your email address and I will make an attempt to help you in any way that I can.

Please don't feel you have to do these projects the first time with large groups. Try one of these with a friend or grand children first to get a feel for it and just have fun. Then if you are inspired, take the project to a retirement or convalescent home, school, or boys and girls club. Learning is an ongoing process that lasts a lifetime. My motto is to "GO and GROW". I encourage you to gather your supplies, *go* make new friends (friends come in all ages as well as sizes) and *grow* in wisdom together. Life is more beautiful when sweet moments are shared .



Tiny pumpkin or gourd vases. Always a winner.

This works for any age. The rest home facilities enjoy this one but the kids are eager participants as well. It requires quite a bit of prep. Cut an opening in the top of the mini pumpkins that will allow a small plastic cup to be inserted or a cut down pill bottle. Hollow out the pumpkins. If you have access to floral foam this makes a good introduction to the benefits of foam for floral arranging. Cut and presoak the floral foam and place in the center cups. We generally have club members bring what ever flowers they have blooming in their gardens. The profusion zinnias, small sunflowers and fever few are a few that work well. Nandina and/or boxwood for greens are ideal. Place the first round of greens around the edge of the pumpkin and then add the flowers. I usually have a work party of 3 ladies/friends to prep the pumpkins and gourds so we have an opportunity for a small social a day or two ahead. I take Sharpie pens and people can add faces to the pumpkins if they want. I encourage the folks in the rest homes to put a happy face on one side and a sad face on the other so they can turn the face that tells what kind of day they are having.



Got Milk(weed)?



Fall is the perfect time to start planning your spring milkweed garden. All butterflies enjoy the nectar-filled flowers, but Monarchs will only lay their eggs on milkweed and their caterpillars will only eat milkweed! Monarch populations are declining due in part to roadside spraying across the nation which destroys the milkweed growing there. As gardeners we can combat this problem by growing milkweed thus providing food for adult and juvenile Monarchs. This past summer, I had 8 plants which were host to 35-40 caterpillars throughout the season. Needless to say I also had plenty of butterflies of all varieties haunting the flowers for months. Another reason for Monarch population decline is that butterflies have viruses too, just like we do. Some gardeners have expressed concern about butterfly viruses being left on plants from one year to the next affecting the survival rate of future butterflies. In Oregon these plants die back to their root balls leaving no viruses on their plant materials. This is a concern in the southern, more temperate portions of the U.S.

There are many varieties of milkweed, 3 varieties that grow well in all parts of Oregon are two hardy perennial varieties, *speciosa* (also called Showy with mauve and light pink flowers) and *incarnata* (Swamp with all pink flowers) can be started by sowing outdoors and then mulching for the winter; or (for highest germination rate) Showy, Swamp and *curassavica* (Tropical, a tender perennial in Oregon has yellow and orange flowers) can be started by **placing about an inch of moist sand across the bottom of a zip lock bag and sprinkling the seeds on top of the sand, sealing the bag, scuffing the seeds against the sand, writing the date on the bag and slipping it into the back of your refrigerator for 5 weeks of "winter". After 5 weeks remove the bag, give the seeds about ¼ tsp. of water, reseal and lay the bag in a sunny windowsill. Germination should begin in a couple of days, I remove the seedlings as they sprout and place in pots with moist seedling mix. The pots go into a plastic tray that will hold water as milkweed has a long taproot that likes to stay moist so watering from the bottom is best. When your plants are no more than 5 inches tall, plant them outside but be very tender with the taproot making sure the hole is deep enough so the taproot is straight and not bent. All the milkweeds like well-drained soil and mulch.**

Milkweed in Oregon dies back to its root ball in the fall and will resume growth in the spring with more stalks growing from the root ball than the year before. Showy and Swamp can over winter in the ground in Oregon with lots of mulch placed on their root balls. Tropical needs to be planted in a gallon pot, plant the pot in the ground and then pull the pot in November to be stored under cover (patio, porch, garage) as this variety does not like freezing rain and snow on its root ball. Once established, milkweed is a perennial that is drought tolerant and enjoys a spot with lots of sun. Swamp milkweed is a variety that doesn't mind its feet staying wet (for those with wet planting areas), although dry soil conditions doesn't bother it either. Every summer milkweeds will produce a large pod full of "dandelion" type feathered seeds. The pods explode and the seeds fly! If you want to control this, simply pick the pods after they are dry but before they explode...leaving you seed for next year.

Seeds and plants are available through Rusk Ranch Nature Center (541-287-2164 or ruskranchnature-center.org); ForestFarm (forestfarm.com); or a search on the internet will result in many sites that provide plants and seeds. Be aware that some varieties may not grow here or be a hardy perennial. Plant some milkweed this year, sit back and enjoy the flying rainbows the plants will draw into your garden!

50 years Highway Beautification Act *Todd Kepple*

October 22nd, 1965- 2015

Lady Bird Johnson's Legacy

October brings an opportunity to celebrate a half-century of prolonged efforts to make America's highways more scenic. The Highway Beautification Act, championed by Ladybird Johnson, was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on Oct. 22, 1965.

Ladybird's dedication to beautification on a national scale took hold soon after her husband assumed the Oval Office in 1963. She set out to promote the planting of wildflowers along highways, the relocation of junkyards beside highways, and removal of bill boards.

The results of the Highway Beautification Act have been mixed, but the intent has not been forgotten. The Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs and the Oregon Roadside Council began making plans a full year ago to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the law. Wildflower seed was purchased in bulk last spring, and distributed to garden clubs around the state. Working in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation and other agencies and organization, local garden club members scattered wildflower seed in numerous locations. The full impact may not be seen for some years.

The nationwide effort to continue the work of highway beautification is carried on today by Scenic America, an organization that celebrates Ladybird Johnson's pioneering vision for beauty across the country. Scenic America is staging a national symposium on highway beautification in Washington, D.C., with well-known public radio journalist Cokie Roberts as keynote speaker.

Scenic America, founded in 1978, works to educate and motivate Americans to tackle the problem of billboard blight, and provides tools for community activists to address other beautification projects, including protection of scenic byways such as those that lace our region. Information is available at scenic.org. The celebration comes even as Scenic America holds that a key provision of the Highway Beautification Act has turned out to be a failure. While the law was designed to discourage billboards along highways, subsequent policymaking has turned the law on its head, so that it essentially protects the rights of billboard corporations to plaster America's highways with advertising.

The Oregon Roadside Council, an arm of the Garden Club Federation, has worked for many years to fight the proliferation of billboards in Oregon, and to fund beautification projects across the state.

A 50-year anniversary celebration can help rejuvenate interest in worthwhile programs. Let's hope that's the case with Ladybird's Highway Beautification Act.



The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of various vintage and modern cameras, including SLRs, rangefinders, and compact cameras, in different colors and orientations.

Photo Contest 2016

Jeannette Rogers, Chair

There are two **new** categories in the 2016 photo contest
Photos must have been taken between **January 1, 2015 and April 1, 2016**.
The categories are as follows:

1. Landscapes/Seascapes
 - A. Color
 - B. Black and White
2. Gardens
 - A. Color
 - B. Black and White
3. Floral
 - A. Color
 - B. Black and White
4. Birds, Butterflies, Insects
 - A. Color
 - B. Black and White
5. Pets
 - A. Color
 - B. Black and White
6. **Wildlife**
 - A. Color**
 - B. Black and White**
7. **President's Choice: -Subject - Frogs**
 - A. Color**
 - B. Black and White**

OSFGC would like to use the winning photos at the State Convention in a calendar and note cards. Photo contest entrants are asked to have a digital copy of their photo available and to sign a release allowing OSFGC to use their photos for the calendar and note cards and to post on OSFGC web page.

For any questions, please contact

Jeannette Rogers, Photography Contest Chair (541)415-1035,
hrsridr@aol.com.

Complete rules are on the OSFGC website: <http://oregongardenclubs.org/>

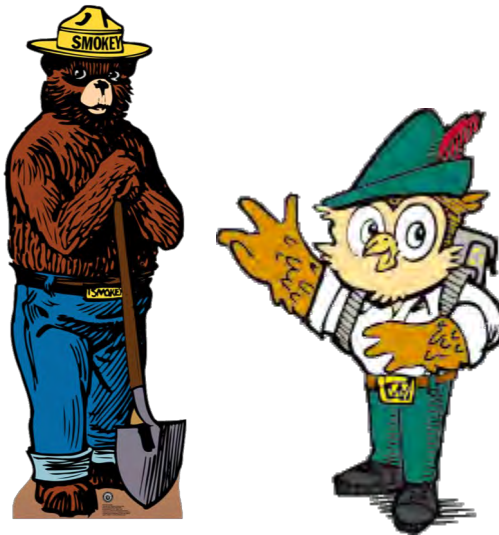
Smokey Bear-Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

Bernie Wood, Chair

Has your District asked schools or youth clubs yet to participate in the Smokey Bear –Woodsy Owl Poster Contests?

Here is a tip: Appoint someone with contacts to school or clubs like Scouts or Boys and Girls clubs to chair this position. Ask for help from the schools or district secretaries to get the word out to all the teachers. A little bribe (like a tiny potted plant or so) might help!?

Make it fun and the smiles on the kids faces when they win prizes make it all worth the effort.



State Directory

Darla Bulmer, editor, Karen Varty, editor, Trudie Bason, bids and distribution, Karen Brown, proofreader, Bruna McBride, bookkeeper, Jane Sercombe, ad. solicitation

Hours Worked: total of 261 hours!!

Distribution: Make sure all clubs receive a book even if they are not active. First two books go to the President and the Treasurer. All advertisers are entitled to a book unless they specifically say "NO". There are enough books that you may take extras if you need them.

Awards Lists & Rules: The National Garden Clubs' Awards List & Rules are no longer available to us as editors in a format that we can insert into our state yearbook. Same goes for the Pacific Region Awards List & Rules. You can find them on their websites, on our state website and from me. You can print the entire list of awards or you can print out just the page you need.

Alert! The Awards List on the Pacific Region website says it is the list for 2013-2015. They can't seem to change the heading. They had no amendments so that list applies to this term. We will not include it on our website until they get the heading corrected.

Thank you all for your tremendous job on a beautiful directory!

Correction: Page 77: Keep Oregon Green: Delete Mary Ellen Holly Add: Kristin Babbs
Kristin info is on page 105 of the directory

Year books

Mike Zerwer, Chair

Deadline for submitting yearbook and yearbook covers is November 1, 2015.

Please send three (3) copies of your yearbook to:

Mike Zerwer

201 Whispering Pines Lane

Grants Pass, Oregon 97527-4521

Forms are found on the OSFGC website:

<http://oregongardenclubs.org/Portals/52/2015/YearbookApp15-17.pdf>

Indicate if you wish the cover judged too.

NOTE: Eligible for Pacific Region Award #3 and NGC Award #16

If you have any questions, call Mike Zerwer at 541-955-5076



Easy Dollars for OSFGC -- Consider these easy ways to fund OSFGC *without an additional cost for your purchase.*

These earn a percentage of your purchase toward OSFGC

1. eScrip Dining (escrip.com) Register a credit or debit card, dine, pay with the same card, earn up to 5% back to OSFGC. *No additional money from your pocket.*

2. Fred Meyer Community Rewards – OSFGC #**91407**

OSFGC will receive a **\$54.05** check from the Fred Meyer Community Rewards for this 3rd quarter 2015.

However, this reflects only 22 households supporting the program which adds funds to our Youth Projects.

The Fred Meyer Rewards program gives back to non-profit organizations a percentage of what a customer spends. There is no charge or additional loss to the customer.

Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. is on the list of recipients: **91407**

The funds collected are used for the OSFGC Youth Projects.

Simply log on to the website: www.fredmeyer.com

look for “Community Rewards” (in the left column)

sign in with your email address

create a password

Additionally, you may add other organizations to your list.

Please take a moment to sign up for this Rewarding Program.

Youth

Carolyn Olley, Chair



Diana Caryl
Mt Hood District.



Carolyn Olley and Jane Sercombe
Clackamas District



Sharon Wilson
Willamette District.



Janet Conley
Multnomah District.



Bertha Keith
Blue Mountain District



Joli Root
Santiam District.



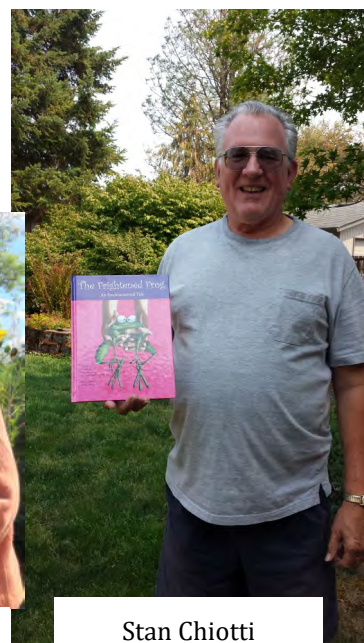
Nancy Ebsen
Portland District.

Thank You Carolyn!

for bringing all the District
Directors their
Frightened Frog books.
You are amazing !



Tanja Swanson and Carolyn Olley
Klamath District.



Stan Chiotti
Pioneer District.

Reports from Districts and Clubs

Pacific District

Judi Barkley, Director

In July our district enjoyed our first ever progressive lunch/garden tour. Starting with the Depoe Bay club we ate a tasty mid-morning snack while touring Deanna Cooke's lush shade garden with niches for garden art objects, a water feature and raised beds in the sunny area. From there we walked over to Diane Pugh's nearby garden which featured some hidden niches for fairy gardens and a man-made stream meandering through.

Ocean Spray Club in Lincoln City had two open gardens. First we visited the Anderson's small garden surrounding a large pond complete with its own water monster. The garden was absolutely packed with colorful flowers and interesting plants. After that our out-going district director, Jenny Dahrens, served a salad lunch in her gorgeous garden complete with flower laden bicycle and blue bottle tree.

Salmon River Garden Club in Otis served dessert at my country garden which sprawls over four lots and features a park-like area on the river bank. The final stop on the tour was Karen Brown's neatly laid out mixed flower and vegetable garden.

The event was blessed by perfect weather (not always a given on the coast), a wonderful turn-out of garden clubbers, and lots of delicious food. Jenny Dahrens came up with the idea for this event, and it was a terrific one! Many thanks to Jenny who has done so much for Pacific District over the past four years.

Ginny Timmerman, North Coast Director, has proposed starting a Design Guild in our area and so far the response has been positive. Our organizational meeting is set for September 28th at Connie Hansen Garden.

Pacific District's Fall meeting will be held on October 22nd at the Connie Hansen Garden in Lincoln City. It will be my first as Director, so I'm feeling a little nervous. Anyone who would like to visit the garden, and the beach, will be welcome at our meeting which starts at 9:00 am. We plan to finish with lunch at noon, so there will be the whole afternoon to enjoy sight-seeing.

Pioneer District

St. Helens Garden Club

Peggy Schaller, President

The St. Helens Garden Club held its first meeting of the year on September 10. We had a good crowd and are looking forward to a full and exciting year. Our own, Dr. Leo Mock gave a wonderful program on Bonsai.

One of the things that I am most looking forward to this year is a joint endeavor with the Scappoose and Rainier Garden Clubs in the Spring. We will have two gardens each on tour with a lunch on our own at noon. The following year, we will have a formal tour and open it up to others. I love that we are going to be sharing with our sister clubs. We can all learn so much from one another and I am really looking forward to this venture.

A contingent of our folks went down to the Dahlia Festival on Swan Island last month. They had such a good time, they almost forgot to come home! We hope to do a number of these side trips and/or tours this year, apart from our regular meetings and programs.

Portland District

Villa Garden Club

Jeanette Dimick, President

Our club consists of many long-time members, over 25 years, and last year we added 12 new members. New members are often a result of our spring plant sale. This sale funds our budget for the next year. We are able to support the historical Zimmerman House on NE Sandy Blvd, at which many hours are spent planting new and tending the old. We also support Snow Cap, a local community food bank, with funds for their community garden.

Our November program is "Winter Hanging Baskets" and our Conservation Chair has some great tips: did you know you can use cereal box liners instead of ziplocs in your refrigerator veggie drawer....and google "composting with cotton clothing"!

My motto this year....We Dig It....all in fun.





**Rogue District
Coos Bay Garden Club**

Cheryl Drumheller, President

Cheryl Drumheller's goal, when she started celebrating National Garden Week, was to get Coos Bay Garden Club noticed by the public. Well, the article and pictures are on line, seen by thousands of people. Woo Hoo!

More members ... maybe.

From the Shore Acres Park website:

...Oregon State Parks Day and National Garden Week were celebrated on June 6, from 11 am to 4 pm at Shore Acres State Park. The \$5 parking fee was waived and Friends of Shore Acres volunteers served refreshments in the Garden House. Also, the Friends' Information AND Gift Center offered a 10 percent discount on merchandise. "Many stopped to talk with us in the Garden House saying how impressed they were of the gardens," said Cheryl Drumheller, President of the Coos Bay Garden Club. Garden Clubs displaying "what they are all about" included Coos Bay, Coquille Valley and the Friends of Hinsdale Gardens in Reedsport. Nineteen people stopped by the Coos Bay Garden Club table to craft their own greeting card using pressed flowers. When each masterpiece was completed, they were so delighted. One woman commented, "I remember seeing my grandmother do this." Another woman was mailing her creation to her mother that day.



Hinsdale Garden Club *Sue Martino, President*

On Sept. 26th the Friends of Hinsdale Garden assisted the Bureau of Land Management in creating a pollinator garden at the Dean's Creek Elk Viewing area east of Reedsport. We planted 250 potted plants for native bumble bees and other pollinators. We built a retaining wall to form a two tiered planting area, scattered native wildflower seed, created brush piles for bumble bee nesting and constructed a protective fence. Some site clean up was also done (weeding and litter pick up). This is the initial step in a long term effort to improve wildlife habitat at the Dean's Creek area which is registered as a pollinator garden in the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge.



Siskiyou District

*I want to thank all of you who sent me cards and well wishes after my husband passed away. The outpouring of love and friendship has been unbelievable. I especially want to thank those members of the Grants Pass Garden Club who sat with my husband each day in order that I could take a few minutes and water my flowers. Getting in touch with nature during this most difficult time was a Godsend to me. It sounds like such a simple act of kindness, but one I will never forget. I was given the most precious of all blessings, that the love of my life for 54 years was able to die at home, with our hands interlocked, as I sat by his side till the end. With a most grateful heart. **Joan Foley***



In Memoriam

With great sadness I must tell you that Billie DeMille, Accredited Emeritus Judge has passed away on October 13, 2015. Billie was a member of the Siskiyou Judges Council holding the position of Emeritus Judge. She resided in Medford, Oregon until her death.

Suzy Twist-Powell
President, Siskiyou Judges Council



*Thanks to all of you who sent me cards and e-mails
while I was recovering from my open heart surgery.
It has been a pleasure to get to know all of you as
I served as corresponding secretary for OSFGC.*

With love and friendship,

Bertha Keith



Forget-Me-Not

Wreaths Across America



As we come into the holiday season, this President challenges each member to consider a donation to Wreaths Across America for a fresh wreath to decorate our national cemeteries and even many local cemeteries.

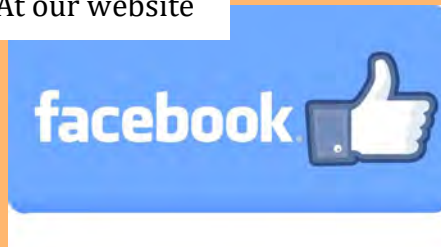
A \$15.00 donation to www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org will purchase a fresh green wreath to be placed on a grave at a National cemetery.

The ceremony takes place simultaneously at noon at Arlington National cemetery, the second Saturday in December, annually. This year it will be on December 12, (9:00 a.m. Pacific Time) with ceremonies planned at Oregon's Willamette and Eagle Point National cemeteries. What a great way to celebrate our fallen. There were a total of 716,000 wreaths placed all over the US in 2014.

This is a wonderful tribute to our fallen.



At our website



"Good humor is a tonic for mind and body. It is the best antidote for anxiety and depression. It is a business asset. It attracts and keeps friends. It lightens human burdens. It is the direct route to serenity and contentment."

The Children's Hunger Project:
“Fill the Cup – Feed a Dream”

School Meals Help Children

Learn, Grow and Thrive to reach their Potential

\$0.25 per meal



Please pass the cup at each Club and District Meeting. Invite your Youth Club, Boys & Girls Clubs, Home School groups, after school and private schools to participate.



**OSFGC Two-Year
Goal: \$1,800**

(\$11.00 per Club each year)

“No child should go hungry and every child deserves the right to learn.”

<https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/school-meals-healthy-meals-for-schoolchildren/>

<https://youtu.be/9iiLM5VT3hc>

The GlobalGiving Foundation is a US 501(c)(3) registered non-profit. As a 501(c)(3) charity, donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of US law. The federal tax ID # is 30-0108263.

GlobalGiving has a [four-star rating from Charity Navigator](#) and is a [BBB Accredited Charity](#).



OSFGC 88th Convention Report

Joan Johnson, chair

Five garden clubs within Rogue District hosted the OSFGC 88th Convention, June 15 – 17, 2015 at the Mill Casino, North Bend. The theme was “Clean, Green and Pristine”.

Attendees enjoyed various programs and activities, to include; guest speakers, a workshop on making greeting cards using pressed flowers, a dry sculpture design, a bus tour to Shore Acres State Park and Cranberry Sweets, a Flutist, singers and a surprise visit by Smokey Bear. They also enjoyed the interaction with other garden club members from all over Oregon.

Many favorable comments were received about the program, lodging, accommodations and meals.

The Rogue District garden club members thank the OSFGC for the opportunity to hold the convention in the Oregon south coast where the area is “Clean, Green and Pristine.”



OSFGC 89th Convention

Norma Curtis, chair

Mt. Hood and Blue Mountain District had our first meeting for the 2016 OSFGC Convention. All clubs were represented except one in Blue Mountain. That was their regular club date. 16 ladies attended and were eager to participate. We filled all if not almost all of the chairmanships. All the programs are secured and also the entertainment.

We are grateful for all the responses we received and look forward to a very successful, entertaining, educational and fun filled convention in our beautiful Hood River Valley.



Pacific Region News

From the WACONIAH

Alexis Slafer, Pacific Region Life Memberships Chairman

Life Membership: What is it?

Why do I want it "Life." It could mean being alive and enjoying that time, as in "What a life!" Or, perhaps, it means "for as long as you're alive." In our case it is a little bit of both.

Purchasing a Pacific Region Life Membership is a way to honor your members. You can recognize and reward your members who have worked so hard -- with a Pacific Region Life Membership -- to celebrate their guidance and commitment to strengthening your club, state organization, and/or our region. For just \$40, you'll honor a Pacific Region Life Member who will receive a lovely pin and certificate...while, at the same time, you'll be helping our scholarship program. And, remember your donation is fully tax-deductible.

To have some fun and provide an extra incentive while increasing our scholarship program by growing our life members' cadre...an exciting contest is taking place. The winner will be the state that has the largest percentage (per capita) increase of Pacific Region Life Members. This chairman will donate \$180 to the winning state to be used for a special project of their choice!

At the Pacific Region 2015-17 Board of Directors meeting an immediate response began the "run for the roses" pace. To date those in the running are: · California with 5 life memberships · Washington & Nevada tied with 3 life memberships · Oregon with 1 life membership.

It is absolutely wonderful to acknowledge & celebrate these Pacific Region Life Memberships and the \$480 that has been added to our scholarship program in just over two months. Please be sure to follow any special life membership purchase procedures in your state. The application forms are available from this Life Membership Chairman or they can be found on the Pacific Region website: www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org/Forms.

Let's get those applications in and watch our scholarship program grow while honoring our deserving members!

Save the dates!

2016 Pacific Region Convention

April 5-7, 2016

Green Valley Ranch Resort

Henderson, Nevada

All-day pre-convention tour April 4, 2016

Hoover Dam and Lake Mead

Additional information will be in available in November -
in WACONIAH and on the Pacific Region website.



Gift ideas from the National Website

Have you looked at the National Garden club's website lately and seen all the gifts you can buy? Official jewelry items from The National Garden Clubs Inc. like this antique gold NGC Membership Charm attached to an 8" Brass GP Patterned Double Link Curb Chain Bracelet for \$20.00?

You can buy different charms for it to add later for just \$8.00 a piece.

So check out the national web and see if you can do some Christmas shopping there!



Calendar of Events

2016

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| March 13-14 | OSFGC Spring Board Meeting at the Oregon Garden |
| April 4-8 | Pacific Region Convention, Henderson, Nevada |
| May 2-7 | NGC Convention, Grand Rapids, MI |
| June 13,14,15 | OSFGC Convention, Hood River |
| September 26-Oct 2 | NGC Fall Board Meeting, Portland, Maine |

Mahonia subscription fee for 4 issues of the printed version \$6.00.

Send **checks (payable to OSFGC)** to:

Nita Wood, 5210 River Road N. Apt. **2013**, Keizer, OR 97303-4498 **Please note the new apt # for Nita**

Send **the names and a copy of the check** to:

Darby Walker 128 North Shore Road Lake Oswego, OR 97034-6702

Phone # 503-675-0173 darbjw@msn.com

All Former State Presidents, Executive Board members, District Directors and Club Presidents

will receive a free e-mail edition of the *Mahonia*. Presidents are asked to forward the e-mailed edition to everyone in their club.

For members without e-mail or who still like to receive the black and white printed issues

the annual subscription covers current fiscal year July 1 - June 30.

Subscription rate is \$6.00 when started in summer, \$4.50 in fall, \$3.00 in winter and \$1.50 in spring.

Date on mailed "Mahonia" is subscription end date.

For **mail** delivery (please print):

Name of Garden Club: _____ **District:** _____

New Order ____ Renewal ____

Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ 9-digit zip-code _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Winter issue deadline 1-15-2016

Submit articles to: mahonia.editor@gmail.com

Let us know what your District and Clubs are doing. Send pictures and celebrate some of your most colorful members! Please let me know if you have suggestions for the Mahonia.

Thank you! Tanja Swanson, Mahonia Editor 2015-2017

Proof readers : Karen Brown

Advisor: Shirley Schmidt



*To publish a **Forget-Me-Not** in the next issue of the
Mahonia: Send your \$10.00 check
made out to OSFGC to:
Nita Wood , 5210 River Rd. N., Apt. **2013**,
Keizer, OR 97303*

Send message to: mahonia.editor@gmail.com