



# The Mahonia

The Official Newsletter of the  
Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

MEMBER NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.  
& PACIFIC REGION GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

## JANUARY 2023

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### DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

**MARCH 30, 2023**

## WINTER ISSUE



### Ring in the 2023 New Year – Mahonia Winter Edition

Warm greetings to all of you during these cold winter months. It's not only a new year, but it's a new chance for everyone to restart. We know that what a new year brings to us, depends on what we bring to it. Let us look back at the past year with the warmest of treasured memories. And, let the old year end and the new year begin with the warmest of desires and hope.

Throughout the year, I have asked garden club members to plant pollinator gardens in home and in the community. Plant flowers in their yard that provide pollen and nectar flowers which offer a variety of plants that bloom from late spring to late fall. As garden club members, we have moved into the digital world with Zoom to attend meetings and stay connected. Through this, we continue to conduct business, meet our friends, grow our knowledge and meet new friends. This year we have been busy encouraging and increasing membership, promoting awards, contests, and scholarships, adding Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial markers, and increasing donations to Penny Pines and the Promise Trees Project. We continue to preserve our earth's natural resources as evidenced by our community civic beautification programs and our environment's conservation programs.

The OSFGC Mission Statement says, "The Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. provides education, resources, and national net-working opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design and civic and environmental responsibility."

I'd like to finish this article with a statement, author unknown. "Flowers are the messengers for the most significant events of our lives. A tiny, simple rosebud in a church pulpit announces the arrival of a new life. A corsage for the special dance or anniversary conveys the feelings of fondness and love the giver holds for you. The grand display of bouquets at a wedding join in the festive celebration of two becoming one. The plant or cut flowers sent to the hospital room implies concern as well as encouragement. The abundance of floral arrangements at a memorial service often reflects the significance of one's life and deeds. Isn't it interesting how flowers welcome our entrance into life and then accompany our departure. What would we do if there were no gardens?"

Happy New Year and may you continue to be blessed through all your gardening ventures.

Best regards,  
Cheryl



# AWARD DEADLINES

## OSFGC AWARDS

Upcoming Deadlines

### March 31, 2023\*

- Digital Photography Contest
  - Guidelines on Page 57

### April 15, 2023\*

- Bird Scrapbook
  - Guidelines on Page 32
- Ellen Ambuhl Conservation Award
  - Guidelines on Page 53
- Horticulture Award
  - Guidelines on Page 54
- Member of Distinction (2023)
  - Guidelines on Page 54
- Suzy Twist-Powell Designer of the Year
  - Guidelines on Page 55

### May 1, 2023\*

- Butterfly Scrapbook
  - Guidelines on Page 32
- Claire Belsher Conservation Award
  - Guidelines on Page 52
- Gardener of the Year
  - Guidelines on Page 55
- All applications, forms and rules can be found on the following websites:
  - NGC: [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org)
  - PACIFIC REGION: [pacificregiongardenclubs.org](http://pacificregiongardenclubs.org)
  - OSFGC: [oregongardenclubs.org](http://oregongardenclubs.org)

\* Page numbers listed above can be found in the 2021-2023 OSFGC Directory.



## Claire Belsher Historic Preservation Award

Peggy Olin, Chair

Your Club or District could receive this AWARD!

Historic preservation is the restoration of a park, a building and/or garden of importance to local, state or National heritage. Did your Club or District clean out an old garden site adjacent to a historical building? If you have, you could receive this award for your Club or District!

Additional information can be found in the 2021-2023 OSFGC Directory on Page 52.

Looking forward to hearing from somebody!



## Garden of Distinction Award

Jane Sercombe, Chair

The Garden of Distinction must be available to the public on a regular basis. It will be unique in a particular way as these previous winners demonstrate: the many year-round plantings that center around the Parkdale Bicentennial Garden Blue Star By-Way Memorial Marker, the 2022 winner; the variety of azaleas and rhododendrons at the Connie Hansen Garden in Lincoln City, the 2021 winner; the Blue Star Memorial Marker dedicated in 2007 along with the Veterans bench and plantings at Beaverton Veterans Memorial Park, the 2020 winner.

A book of evidence should briefly explain the history of the garden, the clubs dedicated to the upkeep of the garden, and photos that show the special focus of the garden.

Nominations are due by **April 15, 2023**, to Jane Sercombe, Chairman.

Jane.sercombe@gmail.com or

Jane Sercombe  
4668 Calaroga Drive  
West Linn, OR 97068-1023



# OSFGC Officer Nominations

## Nominating Committee

Peggy Olin, Chair


The Nominating Committee is looking for Officers to serve in the 2023 –2025 term:

 **Second Vice President**  
**Treasurer**  
**Recording Secretary**

If you know someone you would like to nominate. **PLEASE** let the following members of the Nominating Committee know no later than **APRIL 1, 2023**.

- Linda Shamp, ldaisys@comcast.net
- Norma Piper, pipernorma@gmail.com
- Peggy Olin, peggyolin@msn.com

Please don't wait until the last minute to share your suggestions with the Nominating Committee.

 **Don't forget you can also self-nominate.**  
Thank you



## OSFGC and Willamette National Cemetery 2022

Peggy Olin  
Willamette National Cemetery Chair

The Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. has continued the beauty of Willamette National Cemetery know as "Arlington of the West" since 1953, starting with landscaping projects, raising funds to purchase Carillon Bells and a tower. Through the diligence and hard work of these volunteers and donations from various sources, \$40,000 was raised to permanently install the bells, tower and music.

- The Avenue of Flags was adopted by OSFGC in 1983. Garden Club members and friends donated 400 casket flags, 150 flag standards and purchased 350 flag poles. As the flags wave in the breeze on Memorial Day, they are truly a beautiful memorial to our departed veterans.
- We have two Blue Star Memorial Markers in the cemetery, The Oregon Korean War Memorial Marker located in the Rose Gardens is one, with the other located by the Main Office parking lot.
- A few years ago we were asked to plant the 12 foot star at the entrance of the cemetery. In preparation for Memorial Day, 300 red, white and blue million bells petunias were planted.
- We also helped sponsor the NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY, December 17, 2022.

### Quote:

*"Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 3,700 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad."*

Thank you for your donations to the dedicated fund for Willamette National Cemetery, so we can continue what OSFGC started in 1953.

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## The Avenue of Flags Information

The Avenue of Flags flanks both sides of the curb line – usually along the main entrance road – with flags mounted at grade in support sleeves.

The Avenue of Flags or "Avenue of Remembrance" is a patriotic feature at a veterans cemetery and reinforces patriotism, national pride and represents a visible, bold and proud display of flags. At some locations, the flags are donated by the families of the interred veterans for display along the Avenue of Flags. In most cases, the Avenue of Flags is only flown on days of special ceremonial significance such as Memorial Day.

The Avenue of Flags establishes a strong sense of entry, creating an interesting and dramatic space. It adds an important feature after the gate and entry feature and strengthens patriotic expression, adding color and interest along the entry road into the loop of the cemetery grounds. Flagpoles and flags are usually donated to the cemetery. Other than the installation of the flag sleeves, federal funding is not provided for this feature.



## An Alternative to Roundup

Submitted by Stan & Lynn Chiotti

Looking for something to replace Roundup in your landscape maintenance? Our nephew in Portland recommended a new product that does not contain glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup.

Wanting to try it, Stan purchased a jug of the product after reading its contents and other researched documentation. A few weeks ago, he applied it to a small portion of the walkway that had gotten overgrown with weeds and grass. Within minutes, you could see it working, killing the plants where it had been applied. The next day, he applied it to another place where we had horsetail, that had never responded to Roundup and had become a nuisance. Imagine his amazement when the horsetail was desiccated the next day. Gone, dried up, withered. After 50+ years of trying to get rid of it, the horsetail was gone.

The original product came premixed and included an applicator. Stan has now ordered the concentrate that can be mixed in the original jug. What is this product? **Pulverize.\*** It can be ordered on Amazon.com. It is weather effective, so it should not be applied right now, as the temperature is too cold. But when it warms up to above 50 degrees consistently, it will work. Like anything, read and follow the directions.

See what you think of this product.

- Additional information on this organic-garden approved product may be found at: [www.messinas.com/pulverize](http://www.messinas.com/pulverize).



## *Winter Trees* *by William Carlos Williams*

*All the complicated details  
of the attiring and  
the disnaturing are completed!*

*A liquid moon  
moves gently among  
the long branches.*

*Thus having prepared their buds  
against a sure winter  
the wise trees*

*stand sleeping against the cold.*

## Silent Earth: Averting the Insect Apocalypse A Book Review

Submitted by David Kollen  
Coos Bay Garden Club



Dave Goulson, Silent Earth: Averting the Insect Apocalypse, Harper Collins, 2022.

Our pledge tells us in general terms what we should do, but how do we decide what we will do? There are so many options. Dave Goulson's book is an attempt to help us and others do just that. The book helps us both understand the current situation with insect declines, and the actions we can take as individuals to help stop or reverse it. As he advises us early on, "we would be wise to start appreciating everything that insects do for us before it is too late."

Goulson is eminently qualified to guide us. He is a well-respected entomologist and a world-renowned expert on bumble bees. His previous books, *A Garden Jungle* and *A Sting in the Tale*, were Sunday Times bestsellers. *A Sting in the Tale* was shortlisted for The Samuel Johnson Prize, one of the world's most prestigious awards for non-fiction writing.

As you begin to read, you will immediately recognize that Goulson is British. Many examples relate to England and Europe, but there are also U.S. examples and others from around the world. Don't let this put you off. We share many of the same agricultural and other systems that have gotten us to where we are today.

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## Silent Earth: Averting the Insect Apocalypse A Book Review

Don't be put off by numbers expressed in kilometers, kilograms, and hectares! In your mind just substitute miles, pounds, and acres. The message will still come across. And "allotments," those are what we refer to as community gardens.

Through the course of the book Goulson moves through the high-level topics of Why Insects Matter, Insect Declines, Causes of Insect Declines and What We Can Do. The author tries to keep things light-hearted, but it is a serious topic and some things just can't be discussed with "happy talk." The thing to remember is that we can still make a difference if we will only try. As if to reward us for completing each chapter, we are provided with an endnote that contains an amazing anecdote about one of the weird and wonderful treasures that inhabit our world, such as tiny midges whose wings beat 1000 times per minute as they fly.

HELLO  
*Winter*

## Pollinator Plants

Illinois Valley Garden Club

Shown are Pollinator Plants in Cathy Warner's garden, Illinois Valley Garden Club:.

**Queen Alexander Poppy** - (bee magnet) an excellent pollen source and their open petals invite bees to come dance in their stamens to collect pollen.

**Loraine Rowe Clematis** - attracts bees, butterflies and hummingbirds.

**London Heart Lily** - their bright colors call in butterflies and bees, the lily's primary pollination assistants.

**Irises** - the iris puts a great deal of energy into producing numerous, very large, colorful flowers on a single plant to attract pollinators (bumblebees) at a time when many other plants are blooming and competing for pollinators as well. Hymenopteran bees are considered the principal pollinating agents of Iris species.



*Loraine Rowe Clematis*



*London Heart Lily*



*Queen Alexander Poppy*



*Irises*

# MAHONIA PUBLICATION NEWS and DUE DATES

## Mahonia Publication Information

- The Mahonia is published quarterly each year.
- Currently there are two co-editors. Each co-editor has specific roles in the publication of our newsletter.
- The first co-editor is Charmane Mitchell, [cmainie@gmail.com](mailto:cmainie@gmail.com). Charmane's duties include collecting all articles, editing and proofing them and forwarding them to the other co-editor for inclusion in the newsletter.
- The second co-editor is Leanna Woodall, [lwoodallor@comcast.net](mailto:lwoodallor@comcast.net). Her duties include collecting all article and photo submissions from Charmane and formatting them into the newsletter for publication.

## **ORDER OF PUBLICATION**

1. Articles are due to Co-Editor, Charmane Mitchell, [cmainie@gmail.com](mailto:cmainie@gmail.com), no later than the dates listed here. No articles will be accepted after the published due date without prior approval from our OSFGC president.
2. Charmane will proof all articles and forward them to Leanna Woodall, Co-Editor, [lwoodallor@comcast.net](mailto:lwoodallor@comcast.net), for inclusion in the newsletter.
3. Leanna will format each article, and any accompanying photos into the newsletter. After additional proofing and editing by Leanna, Charmane and our President, Cheryl Drumheller, the Mahonia will be posted on the OSFGC website and distributed to the district directors, club presidents and others for distribution.



## Publication Requirements

- All Mahonia articles are to be submitted in a Word document, Reference: OSFGC Directory 2021-2023, page 47, under OREGON NEWSLETTER (The Mahonia).
- Any article submitted in a different format will be returned to the sender for re-submission in a Word document.
- Photos should be submitted separately in a .JPG format only.
- Any photos containing minors (those under 18 years of age) must be accompanied by a "Youth Release for Publication" Form. This can be found at OSFGC.org under FORMS, YOUTH.
- Acceptable articles must also follow correct procedures to avoid plagiarism. We cannot publish articles, or portions of articles, that have been published in other newsletters, magazines, books, etc. without proper referencing or approvals.
- In addition, any references or quotes within a submitted article that refers to other publications must use the proper references (publication name, date, volume, author, title, etc.).
- If you have any questions, please email the Co-Editors:  
Charmane Mitchell, [cmainie@gmail.com](mailto:cmainie@gmail.com) or  
Leanna Woodall, [lwoodallor@comcast.net](mailto:lwoodallor@comcast.net).

## MAHONIA DUE DATES

<u>Articles Due</u>	<u>Publication Dates</u>
March 30, 2023	April 8, 2023
June 30, 2023	July 8, 2023
September 30, 2023	October 8, 2023
December 30, 2023	January 8, 2024