



# The Mahonia

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

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

## JULY 2023

From the President's Desk.....1-2  
 Bits & Pieces Page .....3  
 A President's Farewell.....4  
 National/Regional Awards/  
 OSFGC Club Anniversaries.....5  
 OSFGC Awards.....6-9  
 District Updates.....10-12  
 Committee Updates.....13-17  
 Club News.....17  
 Tea Party Fundraiser.....18  
 Digging into Diversity.....19  
 Book Review.....20  
 Mahonia Due Dates.....21

### SEND ARTICLES & PHOTOS TO:

**Charmane Mitchell, Co-Editor**  
(article/photo collection & editing)  
cmainie@gmail.com

**Leanna Woodall, Co-Editor**  
(newsletter layout & publication)  
lwoodallor@comcast.net

### DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

### SUMMER ISSUE

### INTRODUCING...

Hello Everyone,

I'm going to start my note with a motivational quote: "To succeed in life, you need three things: "A wishbone; a backbone; and a funny bone."  
Reba McEntire, Country Music Megastar.

At this time, I would like to introduce your state officers.

I am Carolyn Olley, your President; Becky Cook is your First Vice President; Tanja Swanson is the Second Vice President; Darby Walker is your Recording Secretary; Karen Brown is the Treasurer; Tiffany Olley will be the Corresponding Secretary; and Mike Stewart is returning as our Parliamentarian.

It is time to start working on the new Directory. Tanja Swanson will be heading up those doing the work. Please send her names, mailing addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of your club's officers, new District Directors, and club Committee Chairpersons. Thank you.

Three bids were presented to the OSFGC Board for discussion relating to the printing of the new Directory. Each printing business was given the specifics of the directory and asked to give a bid and a timeline for completion of the job. The Board chose GIS Marketing Group. They are printers we have used in the past, have proven easy to work with and have given us discounts and good service.

**Carolyn Olley  
continued**



# PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

## Carolyn Olley continued

I want to talk about my President's Theme. It is **LEARN, SHARE, GROW**. Your OSFGC "CREW" hopes to motivate you to:

- LEARN
  - SOMETHING NEW
- SHARE
  - YOUR UNIQUE KNOWLEDGE, AND
- GROW
  - AS A PERSON (AND MAYBE GROW A NEW PLANT!).

You heard me right, I said CREW. To me, TEAM says "competition," winners and losers. An OSFGC member is never a "loser!" We are only WINNERS!

To me, CREW says people working together to get a job done. Each person with their own special part of that job, but all working toward a common goal. We are all working toward the goals of making our organization strong, welcoming new people who join us, celebrating with our members, and always learning new things.

I need to introduce my President's Project. I am calling it **The Wheelchair Project**.

What exactly is it? Last year I saw an article in the Oregonian newspaper (August 19, 2022) about free rentals of beach-accessible wheelchairs available at some Oregon beaches. The special chairs enabled mobility-challenged individuals to get onto the beach and have fun with their family and friends.

The chairs have special wheels and can be used by anyone, not just kids or adults. They come in different sizes and can be purchased with brakes (making it easier to get in and out of the chair), and other accessories. The article listed 12 places where the chairs can be found.

For my project, I would like to collect money to buy at least one chair and donate it to one of the locations listed in the article. There are all-terrain electric track chairs, too, but they run upwards of \$20,000 each. The manual ones can cost as little as \$2,500. I would rather help raise money for a manual chair.

continued

## continued

I believe that having more beach accessibility would encourage conservation with people learning why the ocean beaches are important to our environment. Experiencing nature could lead to more respect for it. Parents, other family members, and friends will be made aware of how precious, as well as beautiful, our Oregon beaches are. Have fun and appreciate nature...what could be better than that?

My plan is to raise the money needed to buy a chair over the next year. Re-access how we are doing, and buy a chair if enough money is collected. If it takes longer to raise the necessary funds, I would continue the project for the next year. If more than sufficient funds are raised, we can talk about continuing the project to raise the rest of the money for another chair, or we could possibly donate those extra funds to Shriner's Hospital in Portland.

A committee has been formed to flesh-out the details and report the results. The Wheelchair Project was voted on at Convention and unanimously approved.

Peggy Olin and our new Chaplin, Lauree Winfield, would welcome your help with this project. We are hoping to have more information at the Fall State Board Meeting on October 7th in Eugene.

You can reach Peggy at [peggyolin@gmail.com](mailto:peggyolin@gmail.com) and Lauree at [billnree@gmail.com](mailto:billnree@gmail.com)

It is my hope that your officers will DEVISE, DEVELOP, AND DELIVER things to help you stay engaged and active in your clubs. I wish all of you the best over the next two years. I hope you will give me the chance to meet more of you and to re-connect with those of you I have met before by inviting me, and the whole OSFGC Crew, to your club and district meetings.

Thank you for supporting OSFGC.

*Carolyn Olley*  
OSFGC President



# THE BITS & PIECES PAGE



## THE BITS & PIECES PAGE

Carolyn Olley  
OSFGC President

Remember to send the names and email addresses of new club members to Becky Cook now. She is the new OSFGC 1<sup>st</sup> V.P. and is in charge of Membership. Her email address is [seastudio06@yahoo.com](mailto:seastudio06@yahoo.com). *Thank you!*

**District Directors (especially!!) please SAVE THE DATE and plan to attend the Fall State Board Meeting that is scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup> in Eugene.**

- More information will be coming out soon. If you can't attend, send someone to take your place. *Thank you!*

**We still don't have a place for the 2024 State Convention.**

- We'll be discussing options at the Fall State Board Meeting, October 7<sup>th</sup> in Eugene.

**To District Directors** who have already sent the names of your District Crew members and their contact information to Tanja Swanson ([tanjandy@gmail.com](mailto:tanjandy@gmail.com)), a big **THANK YOU!** To those of you who haven't finished that task yet, please do so **ASAP..** *Thank you!*

**Reminder to District Directors and Club Presidents**, review the "pink pages" in the "old directory" to see if they are still current.

- Have Life Memberships been given to your members?
- Are the recipients listed on the pages as they should be?
- Are the people listed still active in the organization?

Submit revised information to Tanja Swanson ASAP so the correct information can be included in the new Directory.



continued

continued

## THE BITS & PIECES PAGE

**Is your club or district going to buy an ad in the new Directory?** You don't have much time left to get those in to Tanja Swanson by **July 15**. ([tanjandy@gmail.com](mailto:tanjandy@gmail.com))

There are still a few more **Committee Chairpersons needed** For the 2023-2025 Crew. They are:

**Horticulture Award  
Leach Botanical Garden  
National Garden Week and  
(Convention) Treasure crew**, let Carolyn Olley know. Her email address is [molley1755@comcast.net](mailto:molley1755@comcast.net)

We look forward to welcoming YOU to the Crew! **NEW AND RETURNING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**, do you need to update or re-word your write up in the green or blue pages in the Directory? Submit revised information to Tanja Swanson ([tanjandy@gmail.com](mailto:tanjandy@gmail.com)) ASAP so it can appear in the new Directory.

Karen Brown is our 2023-2025 OSFGC Treasurer. Send OSFGC dues to her at 5211 Salmon River Hwy., Otis, OR 97368-9780. You can email questions to [wkbrown@embarqmail.com](mailto:wkbrown@embarqmail.com) The dues are now \$5/member, a change that was voted on and approved in 2022.

**DISTRICT TREASURERS AND CLUB TREASURERS, TOO!!**

Please send your contact information to Karen Brown (your email **OR** U.S. mail, address) and phone number. *Thank you!*

**BE SURE TO CHECK  
"THE BITS AND PIECES PAGE"  
FOR LAST-MINUTE UPDATES, IMPORTANT  
REMINDERS AND SAVE THE DATE NOTES  
EACH ISSUE OF YOUR MAHONIA.**

## President's Farewell

Cheryl Drumheller  
OSFGC PRESIDENT  
2021-2023

### My Theme: "Promote our Pledge, Protect our Pollinators."

During my 2-year term as OSFGC President, 2021-2023, I:

- Sold 300 Cloth Grocery Tote Bags with my theme printed on them. From each sale, I donated \$1.00 to the Promise Trees Project.
- Held Fall and Spring Board of Directors meetings.
- Encouraged members to invite family and friends to their garden club meetings.
- Invited our National President, Brenda Moore, to attend the OSFGC Convention 2023.
- Distributed 670 vouchers from July 1, 2022, through May 17, 2023 for The Promise Trees Project.
- During 2022-2023 there were 2179 members with 236 new members.
- Attended two Blue Star Memorial Marker dedications. The first one was in Hood River at the Parkdale Bicentennial Garden. It is the Parkdale Blue Star By-Way Marker. The second one was in Dallas, at the Dallas Post Office, which was the first marker in Polk County and the 93rd Blue Star marker dedicated in Oregon. It is the Dallas Post Office Blue Star Highway Marker.
- Other dedication ceremonies for Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial markers were held at these locations:
  - Bly Blue Star Highway Marker
  - Maupin rededication Blue Star Highway Marker
  - MOPH (Military Order of the Purple Heart) Bend Heroes Blue Star By-way Marker
  - MOPH Bend Heroes Gold Star By-Way Marker
  - MOPH Medford Veterans Gold Star By-Way Marker
  - American Legion Hood River Blue Star By-Way Marker
  - American Legion Hood River Gold Star By-Way Marker
  - MOPH Redmond Veterans Blue Star By-Way Marker
  - MOPH Redmond Veterans Gold Star By-Way Marker
- On order:
  - 3 Gold Star Highway Markers
  - 1 Blue Star By-Way Marker
  - 2 Gold Star By-Way Marker

continued

## continued

- Honored numerous deserving garden club members with Certificates of Appreciation and Presidential Citations.
- The Pacific Region Member of Honor Award went to Sandra Rassi, a long-time proponent of children's poetry.
- Purchased 90 each of 'My Green is Gone' books from National Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Collected Penny Pines donations from club members to purchase one hundred eighty plantations.
- Was honored to have Eliska Pierce, an Oregon student, be selected as the recipient of the Linda Nelson Bentson National Scholarship Award in the amount of \$3,800.
- Upgraded our website and added more information regularly ([www.oregongardenclubs.org](http://www.oregongardenclubs.org))
- Traveled the State visiting ten of thirteen districts during their Fall or Spring District Meetings.
- Submitted black and white digital pictures for the Photography Contest.
- From Jun 2022 through June 2023 there were thirteen OSFGC Life Memberships, and one National Life Membership.
- Created over nine hundred pollinator gardens throughout Oregon.
- We lost the Blue Mountain District which covered three garden clubs.
- Eleven clubs have disbanded.
- We have recruited three new clubs, one each in Rogue District, Santiam District, and in the Portland District.
- Oregon has twenty-five accredited flower show judges.
- The Portland Judges Council held Class 1 Flower Show School with 32 attending in October 2022.
- Began the monthly Executive Committee Zoom Meetings and the bi-monthly Zoom meetings with district directors and club presidents. These meetings provided continued conversation between the State and districts and State and garden clubs.

A big 'Thank You' to the garden club members who have stepped up and volunteered to be leaders. Whether it was as an OSFGC Committee Chair, club officer, or a behind-the-scenes volunteer. Your leadership provides continued growth for the Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

**Thank you for allowing me to be your OSFGC President, 2021-2023.**  
**Best regards,**  
**Cheryl**



# NATIONAL & REGIONAL AWARDS OSFGC CONVENTION 2023 AWARDS

## NATIONAL & REGIONAL AWARDS

### LINDA NELSON BENTSON SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Eliska Pierce

### PACIFIC REGION AWARDS YEARBOOKS

#### CLUBS UNDER 20 MEMBERS

3rd Place – Petal Pushers Garden Club (3A)

#### CLUBS BETWEEN 30-40 MEMBERS

HM – Tigard Garden Club (3C)

#### CLUBS BETWEEN 70-99 MEMBERS

2nd Place - Coos Bay Garden Club (3F)

#### 2022-2023 YOUTH POETRY CONTEST

1st Place Winner

Gillian Brooks, Kindergarten

“Explore & Decorate”

Sunny Hills Garden Club

#### MEMBER OF HONOR

Sandra Rassi

A long time proponent of children’s poetry.

#### PHOTO PHUNDRAISER

Animals

3rd Place – Beaverton Garden Club,

Susie Roach Stewart

Landscapes

2nd Place – Beaverton Garden Club,

Marie Bailey

Insects/Birds

2nd Place – Country Garden Club,

Barbara Hildebrandt

continued

continued

## NATIONAL & REGIONAL AWARDS

Single Bloom

2nd Place – Northside Garden Club,  
Wanda Baker

One Green World

1st Place – Northside Garden Club,  
Wanda Baker

## OSFGC



### ANNIVERSARY CERTIFICATES OF MERIT 2023

Bruna McBride, Chair

#### 95 YEARS

Grants Pass Garden Club, Siskiyou District  
Medford Garden Club, Siskiyou District

#### 85 YEARS

Junction City, Willamette District

#### 75 YEARS

Villa Garden Club, Portland District  
Parkdale Garden Club, Mt Hood District

#### 65 YEARS

Alesea Garden Club, Santiam District  
Powell Valley Garden Club, Multnomah  
District

#### 50 YEARS

Posy Pickers Garden Club, Clackamas  
District

#### 40 YEARS

Northside Garden Club, Klamath District

#### 30 YEARS

Evening Primrose Garden Club, Klamath  
District



# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023 AWARDS

## OSFGC AWARDS

### HEART AWARD

Tanja Swanson, Chair

### Gaye & Mike Stewart

For their Dedication, Time and Energy and above all for “so much” Heart they have shown for our organization.

### GARDEN OF DISTINCTION

Jane Sercombe, Chair

### Dallas Garden Club

The Dallas Garden Club decided to beautify the area surrounding the Dallas Post Office with perennials, shrubs, and flowers for every season in every color.

This is a lovely year round attraction. A Blue Star Highway Marker stands proudly in the garden. The Dallas community is greeted by a pollinator garden when arriving at the post office.

### SUSIE TWIST-POWELL DESIGNER OF THE YEAR

Shirley Schmidt, Chair

### Linda Shamp

Calm, efficient, detail-oriented, willingly shares her knowledge with others, skilled in excellent, beautiful, creative designs – always a Blue Ribbon winner. She actively promotes floral design and willingly offers designs for state conventions, flower show schools, and symposiums. Three Oregon State Designer Councils have proudly nominated our winner this year.

### SMOKEY BEAR & WOODSY OWL POSTERS

Colleen Foster, Chair

### SMOKEY BEAR POSTER

1st Place Winners

Addy Blinco, Veritas School,  
Chehalem Garden Club

Sullivan Summers, Veritas School,  
Chehalem Garden Club

Aubrey Goering, Veritas School,  
Chehalem Garden Club

continued

## OSFGC AWARDS

### GARDENER OF THE YEAR

Nita Wood, Chair

### Jeanetta Lewis (2023)

Jeanetta Lewis is one of those gardeners blessed with two green thumbs, unlimited energy, a passion for floral and landscape design, and unending ideas to ‘bring it all together.’ Jeanetta loves to share seeds and plant-starts with those who visit her beautiful garden.

### Lynn Stevens (2022)

“Lynn’s hard work through the Tigard Garden Club to foster and encourage the love of gardening is exemplary and her energy and enthusiasm for constant improvement in her ‘Garden of Delights’ never cease to amaze”.

### SMOKEY BEAR & WOODSY OWL POSTERS

Colleen Foster, Chairman

### WOODSY OWL POSTER 1st Place Winners

Maggie Brittingham, Veritas School,  
Chehalem Garden Club  
Kaelyn Orr, Veritas School,  
Chehalem Garden Club  
Skyler Nguyen, Veritas School,  
Chehalem Garden Club



# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023 AWARDS

## OSFGC AWARDS

### COMPTON FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Trudie Bason, Chair

**Jesse Carroll**  
**Oregon State University**

### YEARBOOK

Peggy Schaller, Chair

**Clubs under 20 members**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Petal Pushers Garden Club (3A)**

**Clubs between 30-44 members**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Tigard Garden Club (3C)**

**Clubs between 45-69 members**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Villa Garden Club (3D)**

**Clubs between 70-99 members**

**Coos Bay Garden Club (3F)**

### YEARBOOK COVER

Peggy Schaller, Chair

**Clubs between 30-44 members**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Tigard Garden Club & Lebanon Garden Club**  
**(tied)**

**Honorable Mention**  
**Northside Garden Club**

**Clubs between 45-69 members**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Illinois Valley Garden Club**

continued



continued

## OSFGC AWARDS

### YEARBOOK COVER

Peggy Schaller, Chair

**Clubs between 70-99 members/  
Clubs between 100-299 members**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Place - Coos Bay Garden Club &  
Grants Pass Garden Club**  
**(tied)**

### CLUB NEWSLETTERS

Norma Curtis, Chair

**1<sup>st</sup> Place - "Daffodil Express"**

**Tigard Garden Club**  
**Pioneer District**

### YOUTH POETRY CONTEST

Sandra Rassi, Chair

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Gillian Brooks, "Explore and Decorate"**  
**Kindergarten - Damascus, OR**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

**Harrison Falquist, "Nature Gives Us Snow"**  
**Kindergarten - Damascus, OR**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

**Taylor Braunstein, "Let's Go Outside"**  
**Kindergarten - Damascus, OR**

**"Explore and Decorate"**

Touch and feel, look and see, make something.  
I like the tree moss because it is soft and strong.

One day I made a nest out of tree moss.

A bird found it and made a home for her eggs.

When the babies hatched they liked the nest too.

It was strong, sturdy, soft and warm.

It was a perfect place for a first home!

I mixed some water with soil and made a mud pie  
and decorated it with pebbles and flower petals

but the birds didn't want any, they wanted to learn  
to fly!

# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023 AWARDS

## PHOTO CONTEST

Tanja Swanson, Chair

Thank you everyone who entered the photo contest! We had a total of 103 entries. In my eyes they were all winners, but like the Pacific Region Photo fund-raiser our judge looks at them from a photographer's point of view and not a gardener's view.

*Congratulations to the winners!*

## BEST OF SHOW

**Susie Roach-Stewart**  
Beaverton Garden Club, Pioneer District

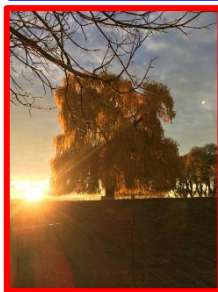


## SCENERY

**1st Place**  
Connie Moreland-Bishop,  
Jacksonville GC,  
Siskiyou District



**2nd Place**  
Vickie Liskey,  
Evening Primrose GC,  
Klamath District



**3rd Place**  
Pamela Zaklan,  
Grants Pass GC,  
Siskiyou District



continued

continued

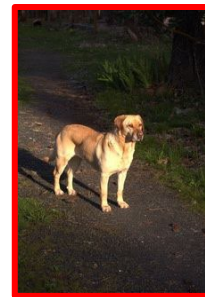
## PHOTO CONTEST

### PETS IN THE GARDEN

**1st Place**  
Patty Boynton,  
Eugene GC,  
Willamette District



**2nd Place**  
Rachel Neemann,  
Illinois Valley GC,  
Siskiyou District



**3rd Place**  
Renata Stanko,  
Lebanon GC,  
Santiam District

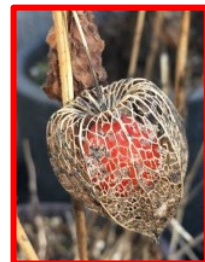


### FLORAL BLOOMS

**1st Place**  
Susie Roach-Stewart,  
Beaverton GC,  
Pioneer District



**2nd Place**  
Chris Tudor,  
Beaverton GC,  
Pioneer District



**3rd Place**  
Brigitte Johnson,  
Grow & Show GC,  
Capitol District



continued



# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023 AWARDS

continued

## PHOTO CONTEST

### BIRDS

#### 1st Place

Elaine Cramer,  
Coos Bay GC,  
Rogue District



#### 2nd Place

Pamela Zaklan,  
Grants Pass GC,  
Siskiyou District



#### 3rd Place

Caroline Richards,  
Lebanon GC,  
Santiam District



### ANIMALS

#### 1st Place

Susie Roach-Stewart,  
Beaverton GC,  
Pioneer District



#### 2nd Place

Elaine Cramer,  
Coos Bay GC,  
Rogue District



#### 3rd Place

Gretchen Blanchard,  
Coos Bay GC,  
Rogue District



continued

continued

## PHOTO CONTEST

### INSECTS & BUTTERFLIES

#### 1st Place

Brigitte Johnson,  
Grow & Show GC,  
Capitol District



#### 2nd Place

Caroline Richards,  
Lebanon GC,  
Santiam District



#### 3rd Place

Kami McNeill,  
Chehalem GC,  
Pioneer District



### GARDENS

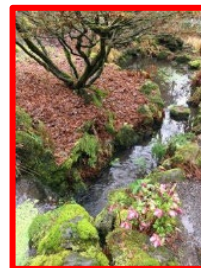
#### 1st Place

Gretchen Blanchard,  
Coos Bay GC,  
Rogue District



#### 2nd Place

Wanda Baker,  
Northside GC,  
Klamath District



#### 3rd Place

Patrice Ball,  
Villa GC,  
Portland District



# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023

## DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

### Director's Report

Peggy Schaller  
Pioneer District Director

Pioneer District has thirteen clubs on the roster. Chehalem elected not to disband but to reorganize. However, Hillsboro did disband. We now have 514 members in the district.

The clubs are actively seeking new members, while trying to promote healthy, active clubs within their own group.

We had a successful Spring District Meeting in McMinnville at the Yamhill County Heritage Center on April 20th. The meeting was well attended, and we had a wonderful speaker, Kevin Vaughn, teaching us about hybridizing. The McMinnville Garden Club and the Oregon Camellia Society were our hosts.

Three district clubs held plant sales on May 13. Tigard's was at the Bull Mountain Farmers Market, Beaverton's at the Nexus Church and St Helens had one at the St. Helens library. All did very well.

McMinnville hosted their 22nd Annual Garden Tour and Faire on June 11, with 6 gardens and many garden-themed vendors, making it one of the largest they have held.

Robin Hood grew from 31 to 43 members over the past year. They held a plant sale last month as well. It combined many handmade items as well as plants. They also created a Facebook page.

Scappoose Garden Club now has 39 members. They built a pollinator garden at the local Fairgrounds and members have committed to planting pollinator friendly plants in their yards this year.

continued

### Pioneer District Director's Report

As you may know, I am moving to Tucson, Arizona in July. It has been a great pleasure to work with so many wonderful folks. I have learned a lot and had great teachers! I'm sure I ran them all crazy with questions – now I can start anew in Tucson! I do not know anything about the plants that grow there!

*With warmest regards and best wishes to each of you.*

*Peggy Schaller  
Pioneer District Director, 2021-2023*



### Multnomah District Year End Report

Annell Carlson, Multnomah District Director ('22-'23)  
Carolyn Elsten, Multnomah District Director ('21-'22)

May 2023 Multnomah District has 4 clubs with a total of 70 members. We are small in numbers but still make an impact on our environment and the community. We are proud of what our clubs do.

Columbian GC tends to the Blue Star marker at Multnomah Falls. It is a landscaping challenge because of the climate in the Gorge...frying summers and frigid winters plus wicked windy wind. Somehow they always keep it looking nice.

Columbian is also involved in the landscaping at the brand new historical museum in Corbett.

Petal Pushers does seasonal outreach to Bonaventure Retirement Home and provides Holiday arrangements for the memory care unit.

continued

# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023 DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

continued

## Multnomah District Year End Report

Because Bonaventure has a nice craft room where we can meet and put together messy arrangements easily, it works out well.

Petal Pushers also helps with the Sanctuary garden at the church where they and the District meet.

Powell Valley supports two \$500 scholarships to Barlow High School graduating seniors.

Ramblin' Rows meets at Janet Conley's house and keeps on learning about horticulture. Learning how to care for it and how to arrange it in the garden and house have been the focus.

To support our contributions to the community, we have various money raising activities including plant sales and the sale of seasonal arrangements.

Our plant sales are a chance for us to educate the community about plants and what they need to grow and thrive.

We sell many blooming plants adding more food for the insects, bees, butterflies and birds all of which are pollinators. And they make our communities beautiful.

The District and the Clubs all Donate to various organizations and scholarships including Penny Pines, Leach Botanical Gardens, Gary Simone internship program at Leach, Oral Hull, Gardens of Enchantment and the Clair Hanley Scholarship Fund.

As we are all getting advanced in years, it has become necessary to adjust our activities to match our abilities.

continued

continued

## Multnomah District Year End Report

One of our strategies is to share offices. Having a co-Director or a co-Assistant makes it ever so much easier.

During the pandemic we learned to stay connected using the computer and Zoom.

Petal Pushers, who always met in the evening, changed up to Saturday morning to still accommodate working folks while considering aging eyes that don't like to drive at night.

It has proved to be a successful change.

The lesson here is that we can change things up and still survive. Traditions are fine...until they're not.

So even though small in number, our impact on the Community and Environment is felt and important.



"In every walk with nature one receives  
far more than he seeks."

John Muir

# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023

## DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT & COMMITTEE UPDATE



### Siskiyou District Report

Kathy Simmons, Siskiyou District Director

Siskiyou District held their annual District Meeting in April with great success. The host club was Illinois Valley and all six clubs were well represented. A wide variety of colorful fresh flowers in an assortment of small vases decorated the entire room. It was a beautiful site.

We had two program presentations; "Plant a Pollinator Friendly Garden" and "Perennials Loved by Pollinators."

One of the highlights of the event was the "Apron Auction." This was a District fundraiser that raised over \$400. Some very creative members shared their talents to help support District operations.

In keeping with President Cheryl's theme, all the clubs in the District continue to tend their pollinator gardens. Some have enhanced existing gardens while others have created new ones. The heavy spring rains in the valley helped wake up the gardens and bring out the bees and butterflies to pollinate the spring flowers.

District membership continues to increase in our clubs. It's exciting to see all the new faces -- a sign that good things are happening.

This is the time of year when all Siskiyou District clubs take their turn providing fresh flowers for the VA Chapel at the Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center (also known as the Dom) in White City. This is a tradition that began in 1943 when the domiciliary was established and continues to this day.

continued

continued

### Siskiyou District Report

Our progress continues with the Promise Trees project working with local clubs and organizations to obtain contact with families affected by the 2020 fires in Jackson County. To date, 48 tree vouchers have been issued in Jackson County.

Visiting our six clubs these last 2 years showed me that the clubs in Siskiyou District are active in their communities, educating themselves about gardening through programs and garden tours, keeping their meetings interesting and continuing to share the joy of gardening to any and all who will listen.

It's been a pleasure serving as the Siskiyou District Director 2021-2023.

Thank you for the opportunity.

### Blue Star Gold Star Report

Jane Sercombe, Chair

Our recent alliance with the Oregon Veterans has resulted in a surge of orders for Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Markers. Several sets of markers have been dedicated with more in the coming months.

On order: 3 Gold Star Highway Markers 1 Blue Star By-Way Marker, 2 Gold Star By-Way Markers.

Blue Star Gold Star Information: MOPH stands for the Military Order of the Purple Heart Veterans.

# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023 COMMITTEE REPORTS

## LEACH BOTANICAL GARDEN

Submitted by Janet Conley

After serving as OSFGC Leach Botanical Garden Chairman for many years I have with much regret resigned as of the OSFGC 2023 Convention. I served as a Manor House volunteer visitor information and receptionist.

This extremely enjoyable and rewarding experience I am unable to perform as well and have given it up.

My last official act as chairman was to present Leach Executive Director Ben Shockey a check of \$1,500 to support the Gary Simon Internship program at the garden. Ben expressed his gratitude to our organization for our many years of support dating back to before the Portland Parks acceptance of Lila and John Leach's gift of the original home and garden acreage on Johnson Creek.

Multnomah District members helped organize the Friends of Leach Garden who have raised money to expand the property, garden improvements and so much more. **continued**

*The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul.*

*Alfred Austin*

Continued

## LEACH BOTANICAL GARDEN

We have volunteered our work on Garden Teas, plant sales, Greens Sales, Manor House receptionists, weeding, planting, children's programs and so many other activities.

After the death of our member Dr. Gary Simone, his club Columbian, created the Gary Simone intern scholarship at Leach to support college students interested in public gardens careers.

Gary was OSFGC Garden Study Chairman for many years and presented many great Garden Study Schools.

OSFGC soon started supporting this scholarship along with their continued support of the garden. My hope is OSFGC will support the scholarship program, the Garden and new chairman. Please continue your club, individual and state contributions to this unique Garden and program.

Your clubs could give a percentage of profits each year from your plant sales, garden tours, etc. OSFGC can make a yearly pledge to support the internship from perhaps the Jan Iseli interest in her wonderful gift. The internship at Leach qualifies to all the requirements of her gift. The Garden, our members and clubs raise the majority of cost for each internship. Two years ago an internship for the summer was approximately \$7,000. In the past, they had two or three internships per summer. They are hoping to provide programs for two or three full summer interns but shorter times for specialized internships. Please support your new Chairman and the garden.

*Respectfully,  
Janet Conley*



# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023 COMMITTEE REPORTS

## GARDENS OF ENCHANTMENT

Submitted by Carolyn Olley, Chair

The last few years have been very stressful for everyone. The Gardens of Enchantment at Hull Foundation and Learning Center in Sandy has proven to be a place of calm serenity for low vision and blind visitors as well as staff and members of the Clackamas and Multnomah Districts who routinely volunteer in the Gardens.

Thanks to the generosity of our OSFGC members and our clubs throughout the State, we have been able to select and buy plants to create a welcoming space for all. There have been enough funds to provide fertilizers and other necessary elements of care needed to keep the Gardens looking their best.

At this time, there are sufficient monies in both the Hull Dedicated Fund and OSFGC Dedicated Fund to provide necessary plants, etc., for next year as well.

Thank you to everyone who continues to contribute to the success of the Gardens. If you are ever in Sandy, please stop by for a visit. Before you come, please call the Hull office at 503.668.6195 to make sure no one else has scheduled an event there.

There is nothing that is comparable to it, as satisfactory or as thrilling as gathering vegetables one has grown.

Alicia B. Tokias



## Protocol

Submitted by  
Tanja Swanson  
OSFGC 2nd-vice President

When I was second-vice President before, we established what protocol means is having manners. To mind your manners; “do what seems right and polite to you.” Since we just had our wonderful Convention in Wilsonville, we’ll start with that and specifically the meals.

I learned from the late Linda Nelson, the only Oregon member who ever was a National President, that the visiting dignitary (either the National President or the Pacific Region Director) always sits on the right of the State President.

When the Presiding officer introduces the people at the head table (s)he will say: “Please stand for National President and stay standing for our State President. Everyone then stands and applauds!

Wherever the Presidents go they will receive applause and members will stand! Also at your District meetings.

There is more though that you need to know about convention meals.

- Nobody can start eating before the State President puts the first bite in her mouth!

That is hard to do when the salads are served a half hour before that actually happens. A solution would be to ask the servers not to serve the food until the head table and honor tables are introduced. Then of course the food gets served during the prayer.... I guess we just have to learn to be patient.

# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023 COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Facebook

Tanja Swanson, Chair

Our Facebook page would be a lot better if all of you who do Facebook for your Club or District would share your entries on the OSFGC page.

You can just send me your information or ask to be a contributor.

And if there is someone out there who loves to do Facebook, you are welcome to take over and do a much better job than I can. I know you all do fantastic things out there so let's show the rest of the country what a wonderful organization we are!

continued

## State Directory

State officers and committee chairs new and old, please send me a description of your chairmanship. Or tell me if the old one is OK. Especially if you are new, you might want to change the wording.

The color back page is sold to Rarity Gardens, Jim and Lore Sampson's peony farm in Mt. Hood. But we need black and white ads inside! I'd love to see ads from all over, from nurseries that you like, special events in your area and whatever you can think of.

### Ads Due Date

**The deadline is July 15,  
but the sooner the better of course!**

It does take a village to put all this together, so thank you all for your help!

## State Directory

Tanja Swanson  
tanjandy@gmail.com

Different Districts have given me their updated information. Some have even sent their ads and the checks to pay for them already. Thanks so much for being on top of things!

I still need the other Districts to report their new officers, the District Chairmen, your Club Presidents and all the up-to-date contact information for all of these.

Also check with each Club and ask them to check the pink pages in the Directory and let Margaret Taylor and me know if the information is current and if there are names to add or delete. Remember the pink pages only show the current active members who have life memberships, State, Pacific Region or National.

continued

In my garden, after a rainfall, you can faintly, yes, hear the breaking of new blooms.

Truman Capote

Don't wear perfume in the Garden unless you want to be pollinated by bees.

Anne Raver



# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Promise Trees Report

The Promise Trees Team is still meeting monthly mostly by Zoom. We are encouraged by the amount of vouchers that are being reimbursed, but it seems like a lot of homeowners aren't rebuilding or are not ready yet. In some places (like Douglas County) there is just no interest.

However, in Lincoln County Judi Barkley did a wonderful job working together with the "Landscaping with Love" organization. Most people who are rebuilding got and used their vouchers.

Also in Siskiyou District, Kathy Simmons has been working together with an arborist and Hazard Mitigation Coordinator from the city of Talent; Mike Oxendine who has been very helpful and is instrumental in getting the word out and handing out vouchers.

In Klamath County Stephanie Pickern has worked together with the Fire Department in Chiloquin and almost all the fire victims have used their vouchers. There have been requests from People from the 2021 Bootleg Fire for vouchers.

In Eugene Pat Kramer worked together with the city building Department. They had one person in their department, Marianne Nolte, take care of the vouchers. They have been very helpful but there are too not as many people, as expected, who are rebuilding.

The OSFGC Board approved the request from The Promise Trees Team who asked to extend the deadline of the vouchers to December 2026 and to also hand out vouchers to homeowners who lost their homes in later fires.

### Historian Report

Submitted by Bruna McBride

I think the most important duty of the Historian is keeping track of the year each club is federated and the year they withdraw from the federation. Along with that history I compile the list of anniversaries that we recognize at convention each year. I send this list to National and they issue the certificates that we present at convention.

I try to have a history of each president, keeping pertinent information along with her/his picture for the files. I have requested that each president send me a summary of the events of importance during her term.

I print off all of the Mahonia's and have them in binders, so that also keeps track of the events of importance.

I have copies of the histories of some of the Districts and Clubs in the State. I do not have histories for all of the districts or clubs. That is the kind of information that is requested from members as they try to put together information for an event in their club.

There is so much more information in the two file drawers and four crates in my garage. I think we need a team to go thru all of this and decide what needs to be kept. It is getting too much for most people to be able to store.





# OSFGC CONVENTION 2023

## COMMITTEE REPORT & CLUB UPDATE

### Oregon Flower Show Judges Credentials Report

Beverly Siebel, Chair

Oregon has 25 accredited Flower Show judges.

Fourteen of these judges attended a 3 day symposium in Tacoma, Washington to renew their credentials. Flower show judges are required every 3 years to renew with a symposium. They are also required to judge shows, exhibit horticulture and designs in shows or County Fairs.

- Portland Judges council held a Class 1 Flower Show School with 36 attending in October 2022.
- There were 12 students attending from Washington, 2 from Oregon and 1 from Montana that passed the 3 day class. One day is on Horticulture and flower show procedure and next day on Design.
- The national instructors were from Tennessee and Florida.
- Flower Show school Class #3 will be held in Oregon in October 2023. For those students working to become flower show judges.
- Washington held class #2 and will hold
- Sharing these classes and symposiums with Washington has been beneficial for both states.
- We now have 2 Oregon students that have passed 2 classes and will continue to attend the last two.

### SCAPPOOSE GARDEN CLUB

Michelle Berg

President, Scappoose Garden Club

How many of our state's garden clubs can boast that their town has a tall, beautifully carved totem pole? Well, Scappoose, located west of Portland about 20 miles, not only has a massive wooden totem pole, but our garden club maintains a lush floral perimeter at its base!

continued

### SCAPPOOSE GARDEN CLUB

This is just one of the many projects undertaken by our group of about 40 women who are committed to beautifying the area, to educating each other about plants, to organizing the annual floral show and competition at the Columbia County Fairgrounds, and financially supporting our local women's safe house.

We gather monthly except for the summertime when we are hard at work with our other commitments. This year we will participate in the St. Helen's Kiwanis Club parade in June where we will have a float (really a truck and trailer) decorated with flowers. Several of our members will be sitting on hay bales, showing off hats that they decorated at our May meeting. At this meeting we had lots of glue guns and scissors, along with a table piled high with silk flowers of all sorts. What came of this? Such an assortment of hats. All our ladies looked quite regal and fun-loving!

Our club is helping to promote pollinator gardens. We have established an area in the county fairgrounds for pollinator plants and we provide education about their importance. Also, many members of our group have committed to planting pollinator plants in their personal garden. And this is the second year each of us has done this! We should have happy pollinators and flowers all around us!

The support and beautification of our community is what drives our group. We've been meeting since 1938 and our members know that we have made an impact on this area. You can see it. We welcome other garden clubs to come and visit. See for yourselves the totem pole, the well-maintained lawns and flowers. We are happy to show our love of this little community tucked into the hills by the Columbia River. Our love of nature helps make this town shine!!

## Tea Party Fundraiser

Tea Party at Hull Park Fundraiser!

July 29, 2023

1pm—4pm

- ♥ Raffle Items
- ♥ Silent Auction
- ♥ Come enjoy our beautiful 1/2 acre of manicured gardens at Hull Park in Sandy, OR, 43233 SE Oral Hull Road.
- ♥ Our event will feature a variety of teas and mouth-watering scones, savories, and sweets!
- ♥ Wear your best “tea party hat”! Great prizes for the fanciest hat, the funniest hat, and the hat with the most flowers!

**Tickets \$25 each or 2 for \$45**

**Kids 10-18 \$10.00**

**Ages 5– 9 \$5.00**

**4 and under - Free**

Hosted by The Hull Foundation  
and Learning Center.

Please call 503-668-6195  
for tickets.

[www.hullflc.org](http://www.hullflc.org)

Non Profit 503 ( c ) ( 3 )

EIN # 93-6032742

43233 SE Oral Hull  
Road, Sandy, OR 97055



Summer Fun

## Digging into Diversity

by David Kollen ©  
2023

It seems that diversity is almost always a good thing. Studies have shown that diverse (human) work groups produce superior outcomes and that ecosystems with high species diversity are more resilient to stresses than those with low diversity. Many other examples abound.

When it comes to pollinators and flowers, we find the same diversity principles coming into play. An essential message that I try to convey during my various pollinator or bee presentations is that if you want to ensure a diversity of pollinators in your landscape, you need to provide a diversity of plants. With flowering plants, you want a selection that provides temporal bloom diversity. That means making sure that your pollinating visitors will find blooms from late Winter or early Spring through the Fall. But diversity in bloom time is not the only aspect of floral diversity that is important.

Ideally you also want to provide a range of flower shapes. This concept is very obvious if you think about hummingbirds - they love a long corolla. Many types of bees are attracted to open flowers like sunflowers. Have you ever seen a hummingbird visiting a sunflower? (If you have, it was almost certainly gleaning insects or collecting bits of spider web silk for a nest.)

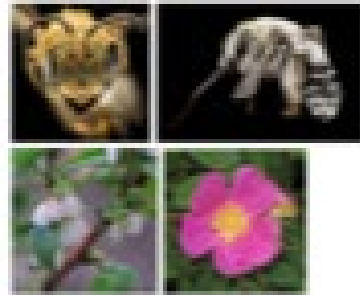
It turns out that the interplay between flower shapes and bees is actually quite complicated. Scientists that study these interactions have devised extremely clever experiments over the years. Among other things they've determined that bees prefer flowers with symmetry, either radial or bilateral. Different bee species have different tongue lengths and, even though we can't normally see this in the garden, it affects which flowers they select, much like the hummingbird mentioned above.

continued

continued

## Digging into Diversity

This article could continue on for pages, examining various interesting factoids about bees and flowers, but we don't have the space to do that here. Let me leave you with a few images to help capture diversity concepts visually. As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words. Can you match the bees to a suitable flower?



Bee pictures by USGS Bee Lab; Evergreen Huckleberry by John Rusk Wikipedia CC; Wild Rose by James St. John Wikipedia CC





## **Garden Allies**

### **The Insects, Birds & Other Animals That Keep Your Garden Beautiful and Thriving**

by Frédérique Lavoipierre

This wonderful book gets my “Entertainment and Educational” seal of approval. Many writers don’t seem to be able to meld the above two approaches to dealing with subjects, but Lavoipierre manages to do so throughout the book. Whether you are looking to be entertained, educated, or both, this book is highly recommended.

Garden Allies is a collection of 44 short (two-to-three pages) essays, originally published in **Pacific Horticulture Magazine** and filled with interesting factoids. There are technical names introduced, but they are there for the sake of completeness and don’t need to be memorized. The perfect approach to working through the book is to grab a cup of coffee, find a quiet place to sit, and read two or three essays at a sitting. Then, give the knowledge plenty of time to be absorbed before continuing the book at another sitting. This is the “take a few bites of dessert at a time” approach that I try to take with books that make for especially pleasurable reading.

It is fitting that Lavoipierre starts off with John Muir’s well-known quote:  
*“When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe.”*

As the reader gains more understanding of the many common organisms found in a typical garden and how these organisms are interrelated, Muir’s quote becomes realized.

continued

continued

## **Garden Allies**

Lavoipierre reminds us that “It’s not enough to just grow pretty flowers for our garden allies. Many . . . garden allies don’t even need pollen and nectar, but have different habitat requirements that we can supply. Garden design is just as important as careful plant selection, as it incorporates all aspects of supporting the organisms in a healthy garden.”

Who are these garden denizens and what makes them special? A random sampling might contain the following examples. We learn that:

- A single earthworm may produce up to 10 pounds of nutrient-rich castings per year.
- Tardigrades, soil inhabitants that are barely visible to the naked eye, can survive temperatures from -459 F to 300 F.
- Fairyflies (actually wasps) are the smallest flying insects, about the size of a “.”
- Lady beetles can be found year-round, and that we should never buy them. Instead, provide habitat and let nature take its course.
- Crickets have been culturally important throughout history, and that in Japan, elaborate cages are built so that cricket music can be properly enjoyed. There is even a festival based on insect music.

Go ahead and check-out **Garden Allies!**

*- Happy Reading -*



# ABOUT THE MAHONIA

## 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, Carolyn Olley, 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

### Articles Due

September 30, 2023  
December 30, 2023  
March 30, 2024  
June 30, 2024

### Publication Dates

October 8, 2023  
January 8, 2024  
April 8, 2024  
July 8, 2024