



The Mahonia

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

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

APRIL 2025

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SEND WORD ARTICLES & JPG
PHOTOS TO:
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DEADLINE FOR SUMMER ISSUE
JUNE 30. 2025



SPRING ISSUE

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings Everyone,

I have news to share with everyone. You will be receiving emails from Tiffany, our State Corresponding Secretary, about several upcoming events (please continue to check your emails frequently), and you should have received the pictures of the beach-accessible wheelchairs that you so generously donated money to buy.

The chairs have been ordered, constructed, and are in Seaside. Karen Brown, our Treasurer, has sent a check to pay for both of them and shipping. Yes, we will be presenting **TWO** chairs to the Sunset Empire Park & Rec District at our Convention in June. I hope you will take a look at the chairs and pass the pictures around, so all of your members can see them. I am so proud of all of you. I am looking forward to seeing a lot of you at the Convention in Seaside for the presentation.

I realize that my President's Project was very different from what others have been doing recently. Yet, you embraced it and took it on. And we had a very successful outcome, I might add. It just goes to show that our members are willing to Learn Something New.

On March 29, we had our Spring State Board meeting. We voted on a few things and discussed several things that needed the attention of the Board. Do you remember who "The Board" consists of now? It was changed last year at our Zoom Convention. It now consists of our District Directors, Active Past Presidents, and the Executive Committee. Most of you are scheduled to have your Spring District meetings after the State Board meeting. It will allow you to report back to your club on things that were discussed. Please take the opportunity to share the information. Please still share this information for those of you who have had your meetings.

continued

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PRESIDENT

One of the more important things we “adjusted” was the Dues Remittance Form. Please let your club treasurers and district treasurers know the form has changed and that they should use the current form to send in their 2025-2026 dues. Please don’t use the “old form.” If you have any of those, recycle them.

Another important change involves the creation of a new fund. We are currently experiencing a shortage of Flower Show Judges. With our judges maturing and replacements finding it difficult to get the courses they need to complete their studies, we are finding it necessary to establish this new fund. We are calling it the “Flower Show Judges Education Fund.” We hope to offer scholarships to members who want to pursue becoming a Flower Show Judge.

Most of the four courses are offered on the East Coast and are not currently designed for Zoom presentations. It can be very expensive to attend those courses. An amount of money has been set aside for the scholarships, and a committee has been formed to come up with all of the qualifications and amounts to be offered. They have been tasked to bring a report to the Convention in June.

Looking forward, but not too far in the future, we will be working on the new 2025-2027 Directory. Spring is the time when club, district, state, and national officers can change. If there is a change in your officers, please let Tiffany know. She needs to keep a record of who to mail important messages to and to keep a current record of who the officers are in each club and district. With 64 clubs and 13 districts, as well as our incoming state officers, it’s a big job. Please help her with it.

At the Convention, we will ask all Committee Chairpersons to have a report ready to present. The same goes for the District Directors. Those reports should include what you have accomplished during the last two years. The reports need to be emailed to our State Recording Secretary, Darby Walker, as well as a copy brought to Convention. Committee Chairs and District Directors, if you are unable to come to Convention, please send someone to represent you and possibly give your report. Let me know if you are unable to attend.

On page 54 of the current Directory, there is a list of the “Awards, Contests & Scholarship Deadlines.” Check those out and determine if anyone in your club or district qualifies for any of them.

The “Member of Distinction Award” is given every two years. *One person from each district is eligible for the award.* I hope all of our districts have sent me the name of your honoree and the paperwork requested. Thank you.

My term is coming to an end. Two years have flown by! I have been humbled by the experience of being your President and representing Oregon members. I want to thank you all for supporting me and my administration. I want to thank you for all the welcoming invitations and smiles I received when I visited.

Carolyn Olley
President OSFGC, 2023-2025
Molley1755@comcast.net

CELEBRATE!

- The **TWO** beach-accessible wheelchairs have been ordered, shipped, received, and paid for!
- I so look forward to celebrating with all of you at the Convention in Seaside for the donation presentation.

Carolyn Olley
OSFGC President



2025 Oregon State Federation of Garden Club, Inc. 97th Annual Convention
Starfish, Sand Dollars, Seaside
June 10-12, 2025

Registration Form

(ALL Registrations/Menu Selections MUST be received by May 23, 2025)

Please **PRINT** your name as you want your badge to read:

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

District: _____

Club: _____

Registration confirmation via email, if email provided

Credentials (for voting purposes): Please check the following:

- ☐ OSFGC Officer
- ☐ District Director
- ☐ Former State President
- ☐ Club President
- ☐ Club Delegate

Other: Please check all that apply

- ☐ Alternate Delegate
- ☐ OSFGC Comm. Member
- ☐ National/Pacific Officer
- ☐ Convention Volunteer
- ☐ National Life Member
- ☐ Pacific Region Life Member
- ☐ OSFGC Life Member
- ☐ Flower Show Judge
- ☐ First Time Attendee
- ☐ Affiliates
- ☐ Guest

Make check payable to: **OSFGC Convention 2025**

Mail **CHECK, COMPLETED Registration Form, and Meal Selections** to the Convention Registrar:

Jenny Dahrens

PO Box 334....Neotsu, OR 97364-0334

Phone: 541.992.4567....Email: djdahrens@gmail.com

Full Time Attendance Registration

(includes registration fee & meals) \$230 _____

Total Full Time Attendance \$ _____

Part-Time Attendance Registration

- One Day Registration (meals not included) \$50 _____
- Tuesday, June 10: Life Membership Banquet \$50 _____
- Wednesday, June 11: Awards Banquet \$50 _____
- Thursday, June 12: Installation Banquet \$50 _____

Total Part Time Attendance \$ _____

Workshops (limit 25 people per session -1st Come 1st Filled)

Wednesday Workshops (Mark Your Choice)

- 1:30pm Workshops
 - ☐ Succulents & Driftwood (#1) \$5 _____
 - ☐ Membership (#2) No Charge
 - ☐ Shell Craft (#3) \$5 _____

- 2:45pm Workshops
 - ☐ Succulents & Driftwood (#1) \$5 _____
 - ☐ Protocol/Rules (#2) No Charge
 - ☐ Sustainable Garden Beauty (#3) No Charge

Thursday Workshops (Mark Your Choices)

- 1:30pm Workshops
 - ☐ Membership (#1) No Charge
 - ☐ Protocol/Rules (#2) No Charge
 - ☐ Ikebana (#3) No Charge

- 2:45pm Workshops
 - ☐ Sustainable Garden Beauty (#1) No Charge
 - ☐ Shell Craft (#2) \$5 _____
 - ☐ Ikebana (#3) No Charge

Total Workshop Fees \$ _____

Grand Total Check Amount \$ _____

Meal costs include 18% gratuity

****Bring your own water bottle****

Gluten Free _____ Vegetarian _____ Nut Allergy _____

2025 Oregon State Federation of Garden Club, Inc. 97th Annual Convention

Starfish, Sand Dollars, Seaside

June 10-12, 2025

Menu Selection Form

(ALL Registrations/Menu Selections MUST be received by May 23, 2025)

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Life Membership/Memorial Banquet

Beverages included

Main Entrée (served with a house salad, roasted red potatoes, seasonal vegetables, and dinner rolls)

- ☐ Chicken Cordon Bleu
- ☐ Baked Salmon
- ☐ Veggie Entrée

Dessert (gluten-free dessert upon request)

- ☐ Cheesecake with Berry Topping
- ☐ Chocolate Layer Cake

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

Awards Banquet

Beverages included

Main Entrée (served with a Mandarin orange salad, roasted vegetables, wild rice pilaf, and dinner rolls)

- ☐ Chicken Shish Kebob
 - ☐ Beef Shish Kebob
 - ☐ Veggie Shish Kebob
- **All main entrees are naturally gluten-free****

Dessert (gluten-free dessert upon request)

- ☐ Lemon Cream Cake
- ☐ Strawberry Cream Cake

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Installation Banquet

Beverages included

Main Entrée (served with spring greens with vinaigrette, seasonal vegetables, scalloped potatoes, and dinner rolls)

- ☐ Hazelnut Chicken
 - ☐ Tiger Prawns
 - ☐ Veggie Entrée
- **All main entrees are naturally gluten-free****

Dessert (gluten-free dessert upon request)

- ☐ Crème Brûlée Cheesecake
- ☐ Chocolate Torte

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Allergies: _____

****Bring Your Own Water Bottle****

Please send your Menu Selection Form & Registration Form to:

Jenny Dahrens

PO Box 334...Neotsu, OR 97364-0334

Phone: 541.992.4567...Email: jdahrens@gmail.com

OSFGC CONVENTION 2025 HOTEL/FASHION SHOW

CONVENTION HOTEL

- We have a block of 35 rooms reserved. The rooms are for Monday night, June 9 (for those traveling to Seaside on Monday) through Thursday night, June 12, 2025.
- Please tell the person you speak to that you are reserving a room for the **Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs** block of rooms.
- If we need more, we can add them after the ones we have are filled.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** Any room not reserved for the convention will be released back into the general rental pool **30 days** from the date of the convention at the regular seasonal price.
- **The cutoff date to reserve a room at our convention rate is May 9, 2025.**
- Seaside Holiday Inn Express
34 N Holladay Dr
Seaside, OR
Phone: 503-717-8000 (local number)
Price: \$165 per night
- Rooms available: 1 king bed OR 2 king beds
- Some of the included amenities: Across the bridge from the Seaside Convention Center, continental breakfast, indoor pool, mini fridge in the room, fitness room, room safe, and more

Your convention committee is looking forward to seeing you in Seaside.

If you have any questions, please email Becky Cook at: seastudio06@yahoo.com

Gardening Diva Fashion Show at the June 2025 Convention Pat Johnson, Director Pioneer District

The Gardening Diva Fashion Show is back for the second year at our OSFGC Convention 2025 this June.

Garden club members from OSFGC's Districts and Clubs will dress up in a variety of costumes and parade around the dinner tables, showing us all what fun we can have in our gardens, while Bernie Wood from Klamath Falls will read a short description of each participant's costume, written by the participant. All while wearing her own costume!

We would love to have as many garden club members as possible sign up to help us with this whimsical parade.

Do you need some ideas? Here are a few...

- Your outfit should reveal something about your relationship to gardening, a sense of humor, and personality.
- One member likes to dress up in a straw hat, jeans with patches, and carry a martini glass.
- Another member borrowed her granddaughter's tiara and ermine stole, bejeweled trowel, and fur-lined gloves while carrying her favorite clippers and a rake.
- Some members dressed as bumble bees.
- So, use your imagination, have fun, and join our parade.

If you would like to be part of the parade, please email Pat Johnson at skibear08@gmail.com.

Portland District

A little bird told me that the Portland District has a summer tea in the works!



You haven't really lived until you enjoy tea in Peggy Olin's beautiful garden.



We will keep you posted!

Santiam District

Santiam District had a very productive Spring District meeting on Thursday, March 20. We elected and installed most of the new District officers for 2025-2027. Thank you especially to the Albany Grand Prairie Garden Club for being our hosts at the Albany Library. Santiam District includes Albany, Grand Prairie Garden Club, Alsea Garden Club, Corvallis Evening Garden Club, Corvallis Flower Basket program, and Lebanon Garden Club.

Sadly, Gaye Stewart's term as our District Director has come to an end after two terms. We can't thank her enough for growing our District and helping to grow our District clubs. Also, we thank her sidekick, Mike Stewart, for all the fun we enjoyed with his involvement. On the bright side, when Gaye came on board as District Director, she mentioned, "I think I should join a club in Santiam District, if I'm going to be District Director." Our Lebanon Club President, Lynne Neuman, said, "Well, I know a good club you can join." Now Lebanon is one of many clubs to which Gaye belongs.

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Santiam District

We had a wonderful program from Amy Nalle about "Monarchs and Milkweed." She and her husband also brought various kinds of Milkweed plants to sell. If any clubs want a great, fun program on this topic, Amy would be the one to call. We enjoyed her sense of humor, knowledge, and experiences.

The picture below is of Gaye presenting our 91-year-old, Vivian Chested, a certificate for being our District Chaplain for the last two terms. She is a member of the Lebanon Garden Club. Before joining Lebanon, she was a long-time member of the Sweet Home Garden Club, which disbanded in 2021, where she had served as every officer in the club. In the past, Vivian had also been our District Treasurer for many, many years. She also served as District Secretary as well as OSFGC Scholarship Chairman for more years than she can keep track. Vivian has also very rarely missed a convention.



Gaye Stewart and Vivian Chested

East County Spring Tea hosted by The Multnomah District Garden Clubs

Tricia Cochran
Powell Valley Garden Club

The Multnomah District Garden Clubs (Powell Valley-Gresham, Petal Pushers-Gresham, and Columbian-Corbett), with Linda Shamp as the Chairperson, hosted an enchanting Spring Tea & Luncheon on the afternoon of February 22, 2025. With a post-Valentine's Day backdrop of red curtains and white balloons, guests found their personalized place cards topping off each place setting as tables with individual themes welcomed them. The aromas of teas and delightful bites of sandwiches, scones, and petite cakes pulled them into an afternoon of delightful treats. Volunteers from all three clubs prepared and served with all enjoying an intimate lunchtime.

Skilled hands and creative eyes placed their own beautiful floral arrangements at the center of creatively furnished tables. This made the event a cheerful gathering for sharing lunch, tea, and treats with garden friends and guests. Members and invited guests are looking forward to hosting and enjoying another successful Tea in the future.

Many Thanks to the club hostesses:

Pat Fiedler, Dion Fugere, Bev Law, Linda Shamp, Sharon Williams, JoAnn Pullen, Annell Carlson, and Kathleen Fortune.

This fundraiser reached their goal to sustain the Multnomah Garden Club District. They were happy to report that the \$25 seats raised a total profit of \$1000, and the District was able to contribute a nice share to the Beach Wheelchairs for Seaside, Oregon, as part of the OSFGC President's Wheelchair Project.



BLUE/GOLD STAR MARKER INSTALLATION

BLUE AND GOLD STAR MARKER INSTALLATION

**Odell Garden Club
Norma Curtis, President**

Order of Ceremony:

PATRIOTIC SONGS: Lee Caryl

1. Stars Spangle Banner: Amy Maddy
2. Welcome: Odell Garden Club President Norma Curtis
3. Presentation of Colors: Cub Scout pack #282
4. Invocation: G.V. Ayers
5. Pledge of Allegiance: Odell Garden Club Vice President Jackie Shaw
6. History of Blue and Gold Star Markers: OSFGC Blue and Gold Star Marker Chairman Jane Sercombe
7. Military and Gold Star Families Tribute: OSFGC Past President and Dallas District Director Gaye Stewart, Margaret Taylor, Trish Paige, Norma Curtis and members of the audience
8. Unveiling of Blue Star Marker: Odell Garden Club Treasurer Trish Paige; and Unveiling Gold Star: Gaye Stewart
9. Dedication of Markers: OSFGC Parliamentarian Mike Stewart
10. Acceptance of Markers: Odell Garden Club President Norma Curtis
11. Tribute of Flowers: Mt. Hood District Garden Clubs Margaret Taylor, Treasurer
12. Benediction: G.V. Ayers
13. Taps: Kate Dougherty



Margaret Tayler
Mt. Hood District &
Odell Garden Club
Treasurer



Mike Stewart
OSFGC Parliamentarian

BLUE/GOLD STAR MARKER INSTALLATION

BLUE/GOLD STAR INSTALLATION SPEAKING POINTS

Norma Curtis

Odell Garden Club President

- ✓ Amy Maddy: Sung the national anthem for us.
- ✓ Norma Curtis, President of Odell Garden Club: "It is an honor to dedicate the Blue and Gold Star Markers here at the Hood River County Fair Floral Building."
- ✓ Many years ago, one of the Odell Garden Club members, Emily Plog, with the help of her husband Fred, helped design this building. It has hosted many activities since then. Odell Garden Club has two Flower Shows a year and is also used for many different events, such as quilt shows.
- ✓ This year, Trish Paige, our Treasurer, has been working diligently to get the Blue and Gold Star Markers in place. It is so appreciated. It isn't an easy task, believe me. Thank you, Trish, for all you did for these markers. Thank you, Sergio, for getting the rocks for us and placing them here. Thank you, Trish and Susie, for getting the landscaping done around the markers. Thank you, Lee Caryl, for providing the sound system.
- ✓ Presentation of Colors: Cub Scout Pack 282
- ✓ G.V. Ayers, an Odell Church of Christ member
- ✓ Jane Sercombe, OSFGC Blue and Gold Star Markers, and the Gold Star Families' Highway project Chair: Presented the history of the Blue and Gold Star Markers.

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SPEAKING POINTS

- ✓ Gaye Stewart, OSFGC Past President and now Santiam District Director: Read her poem
- ✓ Norma Curtis: "My husband Lee Curtis and my daughter, Wendy Hereman, both served in the Army; my mother's youngest brother, Lee Roy Teague, was a pilot for the U.S. Navy and was shot down over Guadalcanal in the South Pacific."
- ✓ Thank you all for serving.
- ✓ Mike Stewart, OSFGC Parliamentarian: Gave the dedication of the Blue and Gold Star Markers
- ✓ As President of Odell Garden Club, we want to thank the Hood River Country Fair board and Jodi Loop for allowing us, and we are honored to be able to display these markers here at our floral building.
- ✓ Margaret Taylor will place the Wreath.
- ✓ Benediction: G.V. Ayers, Odell Church of Christ
- ✓ Taps: Kate Dougherty



G.V. Ayers
Odell Church of Christ

Blue and Gold Star Markers

Jane Sercombe

Blue Star and Gold Star Chairman, Veterans'
Liaison

Dear OSFGC Members, Clubs, and Districts,
Many clubs have participated in a record number of Blue and Gold Star Dedications these past two terms. Partnering with Bend Heroes and Veterans and participating in the Gold Star Highway Project has greatly increased Oregon memorial markers.

Clubs and Districts made choices to support this program. You budgeted for your marker and the perpetual care needed, and you have decorated that marker for Veterans' Day, Christmas, and Memorial Day. Thank you!

Thanks to every person who scrubs the marker, pulls the weeds, and chooses garden flowers, potted plants or a wreath to remember our veterans.

The markers are forever. It is not a two-year project that will fade as time goes on. From Marker #1 in 1949 at Getting Creek Rest Area to Marker #113 in 2024 at Central Point, these markers stand proudly for the world to see and to know where we stand: supporting peace, honoring all Veterans, and caring for Oregon's Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Markers.

The Blue Star Program began in 1944 before the end of WWII. NGC members wanted a "ribbon of blue" from East to West to support our Armed Forces. The Gold Star Program was added in 2015. We salute all Veterans with Blue Star Markers and honor those whose lives were given with Gold Star Markers.

This outstanding program takes all of us to keep the Blue and the Gold at the forefront to remember those who gave so much.

OSFGC Nominating Committee Update

Gaye Stewart, Chair
Nominating Committee

The 2025-2027 OSFGC Nominating Committee is comprised of Gaye Stewart (Santiam District) as Committee Chair, Mike Stewart (Capitol District), Wanda Baker (Klamath District), Kathy Kelsey (Mt. Hood District), Ginny Timmerman (North Coast District), and Mary Kerr (Rogue District).

Gaye reported to the Board at their March 29, 2025, Zoom meeting that these club members have accepted nominations to be candidates for the following positions:

First Vice President:

Bernadette Sterry, currently serving as President of Beaverton Garden Club

Second Vice President:

No candidate yet.

Recording Secretary:

Joscelyn Welshons, currently serving as Secretary of the Salem Area Garden Club and the Treasurer of Capitol District.

Treasurer:

Colleen Foster, currently serving as Treasurer of Multnomah District.

Nominations remain open and will be accepted from the floor prior to delegate voting on Wednesday, June 11, 2025. Any positions not filled by ballot will be filled by appointment by Becky Cook, the incoming OSFGC President.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Oregon Flower Show Judges

Beverly Seibel

Oregon Flower Show Judges' Credentials Chair

A lot of time, money and studying goes into becoming a National Accredited Flower Show Judge.

Congratulations to two new **MASTER Flower Show Judges** who just completed their fifth 3-day symposium in Tacoma, Washington: **LINDA SHAMP** and **NITA WOOD**

There are 3 levels of National Judges: **Accredited, Life, and Masters** being the highest.

Congratulations to **Vicki Liskey**, from Klamath Falls, who just achieved the **Accredited** level.

We have one student, **Joyce McComie**, who has completed 3 of the 4 classes. She is from Beaverton.

Judges must renew their credentials every 3 years by taking a symposium. And entering shows in design, horticulture and judging shows.

PLEASE, consider having your Club or District having a flower show. Judges are ready.

Well done to all of you.

OSFGC AWARDS

REMINDERS

Kathy Simmons
OSFGC Awards Chair

AWARDS, CONTESTS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

April – June 2025

The following Contests and applications are due between April 1 and June 30, 2025.

Please refer to the OSFGC 2023-2025 Directory for details or the OSFGC, Pacific Region, and NGC websites.

April 30 Deadlines:

- Digital Photography Contest

May 1 Deadline:

- Claire Belsher Conservation Award
- Gardener of the Year

All applications, forms, and rules can be found on the following websites:

- NGC: gardenclub.org, PACIFIC REGION: pacificregiongardenclubs.org
- OSFGC: oregongardenclubs.org

Kathy Simmons
OSFGC Awards Chair
Phone: 541-592-6009/
Email: bobkat97523@gmail.com

Feel free to contact me for help researching information.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

OSFGC Bylaws Committee Report **Mike Stewart** **OSFGC Parliamentarian, Bylaws Committee**

The OSFGC Bylaws Committee reported on several proposed changes that will be considered by the Delegates to the 2025 Convention on Wednesday morning, June 11, 2025.

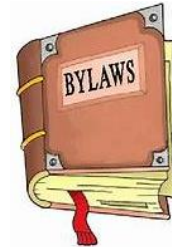
The summarized changes being proposed are included in this edition of the Mahonia. The complete bylaw document, including the proposed changes, may be viewed on the OSFGC website.

At their March 29, Zoom meeting, the OSFGC Board approved additions to the OSFGC Standing Rules under Standing Rule 7, e. 8. c. "Prior to the installation of new officers, the outgoing administration will be given an opportunity to make remarks about their term in office." and d. "Following the installation of the new officers, the outgoing President shall present the incoming President with the official Presidential pin and, in turn, be presented with a former President's pin."

They also approved a new Rule 37, which states, "OSFGC may allow both non-profit and for-profit vendors to promote and/or sell their products or services at official OSFGC meetings, conventions, or other events and to be charged the standard rental fee even if they are not official.

OSFGC sponsors. OSFGC retains the right to deny vendor space or recognition to any entity whose purposes and/or actions conflict with either the National Garden Club's Conservation Pledge or the OSFGC Mission Statement." The updated Standing Rules are also posted on the OSFGC website.

- **Please check the attached Word document regarding Bylaws changes.**
- **This report will be discussed at the OSFGC Convention 2025.**



One More Club Dues Report **Mike Stewart** **OSFGC Parliamentarian, Bylaws Committee**

Our current OSFGC Bylaws require clubs to report on their club membership and to pay annual dues by September 30, and if additional club members are received after the filing of that report (and before March 15), to file a supplemental report and to pay dues for those new members.

An updated Dues Transmittal Form is being sent to each Club, and is also posted on the OSFGC website, to aid in your reporting.

The 2025 Convention delegates will be asked to consider a bylaws amendment that would move the organization to a single membership report and dues payment schedule beginning next fiscal year.

If you have had no change in club membership since you filed your Club's initial report in September, no further action is required for this fiscal year. If you have received new members, a prompt response and filing will be appreciated.

POLLINATORS IN YOUR GARDEN

Attracting Pollinators to Your Garden Using Native Plants Cheryl Drumheller

Many of us enjoy beautiful flowers in our gardens. Growing native plants adds beauty and needed habitats for the pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, beetles, flies, and wasps. They also adapt to the growing season and climate.

The pollination process starts with the pollinator moving pollen from one flower to another, which produces fertile seeds. Plants can also be pollinated by wind, water, or self-pollination. However, most flowering plants depend on pollination from bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.

Most pollinators feed on specific plant species – hummingbirds sip nectar from long, tubular flowers, while green sweet bees prefer open-faced flowers. The bumblebee and other pollinators are called keystone species because they are dependent upon by other species.

Hence, the bumblebee feeds on the nectar and pollen of huckleberry flowers, pollinates the flower, which will be eaten by birds, animals, and humans.

Pollinators are essential to maintain healthy ecosystems, plant reproduction, and genetic diversity.

It has been noted by biologists that the butterfly and bumblebee species have decreased. This is partly due to habitat loss, diseases, pollution, and pesticide poisoning.

To support pollinators, we can do our part by creating pollinator-friendly gardens and protecting wildlife habitats.

Pollination

Each little flower
Bathes in the sun's shower,
Reflecting a wavelength of light.

Radiantly it beams,
Attracting small winged things...
Offering them drinks of delight.

In exchange for their treat,
Pollen beads on their feet
And is carried to the next feeding place.

Where some rubs off the bead,
Causing mixture of seed...
Allowing the flower to continue its race.

Douglas Nichols

WHERE HAVE ALL THE BUTTERFLIES GONE?

Where Have All the Butterflies Gone? By David Kollen

Older readers might remember the song “Where Have All the Flowers Gone?” It was a popular folk song in the 60s. These days, a more appropriate song title might be “Where Have All the Butterflies Gone?”

Today’s story isn’t a particularly happy one, but neither is it hopeless. In March of this year, a truly alarming research paper* was released in Science magazine. The authors analyzed data from the years 2000 to 2020 across the continental US. The data came from over 76,000 surveys that recorded over 12 million individual butterflies. During that period, total butterfly abundance fell by 22%. Looking at the 554 recorded species, they discovered that the number of species declining was 13 times that of the number increasing.

The declines occurred across all seven US regions. Interestingly, our Pacific Northwest was The least affected region. However, part of that was due to a breakout of the California tortoise-shell butterflies that inflated the counts in some years.

Speaking metaphorically, it would seem that our little butterfly brothers and sisters need our help now more than ever.

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continued

Where Have All the Butterflies Gone?

Luckily, conservationists have a good understanding of the causes of these declines and what we can do to help mitigate the effects of some of those drivers. Not surprisingly, they are the same issues that are affecting many of our other invertebrates: habitat loss, pesticides, and climate change.

Due to space limitations, I suggest interested readers go to the Xerces Society’s Pollinator Resource Conservation Center (<https://xerces.org/pollinator-resource-center>) and click the PNW region of the map. Here you can find comprehensive guides to improving habitat, eliminating pesticides, and adopting other beneficial practices.

Finally, the paper’s authors highlight the necessity for improved monitoring. For those able and inclined to get involved, a good place to start would be the North American Butterfly Association (www.naba.org). They list resources and opportunities to get involved in butterfly conservation specifically. You might even consider joining a local chapter. Another thing to consider would be donating to your favorite conservation organization, especially if they have programs aimed at butterflies.

REFERENCE

* Edwards et al., Science 387, 1090-1094 (2025)



How Climate Change Is Affecting Wildfires

Wildfires are intensifying due to climate change. Rising global temperatures result in prolonged droughts, reduced humidity, and more extreme weather - ideal conditions for fire outbreaks. Additionally, urban expansion into wildfire-prone areas increases risk to communities.

A stark example is the 2018 Camp Fire in Paradise, California. The fire spread at an unimaginable rate—up to 80 football fields per minute, driven by high winds and dry conditions after 200 days of drought.

Tragically, 85 lives were lost as people fled in cars, on foot, or remained trapped at home. Entire communities like Paradise, Concow, and Magalia were devastated. Contributing factors included outdated maintenance of electrical lines by PG&E and challenges in emergency response. Text warnings were only in English, limiting communication in diverse communities. Narrow evacuation routes were overwhelmed by accidents and flames.

Every wildfire serves as a reminder to better prepare. Solutions may include fire-resistant building materials, creating defensible spaces around homes, designing multiple evacuation routes and developing multilingual alert systems.

Homeowners in high-risk areas might consider fallout shelters or detailed emergency plans for extended survival.

Are you ready for a wildfire or natural disaster?

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Climate Change & Wildfires

Take time to assess dangers around your home, establish an evacuation plan, and prepare provisions for at least 10 days.

Preparedness is key. Wildfires are inevitable, but we can minimize their impact.

Resources:

- Netflix: Fire in Paradise
- Google Image Map search: Paradise CA Fire Map 2018
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concow,_California
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helltown,_California
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centerville,_Butte_County,_California
- A Case Study In Wildfire and Vulnerability, Thomas Williams, April 19, 2021
- <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/009c461b833d4de4a512719f239d5fb3>
- “Firstly, most sources cite a failure of a Pacific Gas and Electric power line as the initial spark of the blaze.
- Second, many sources also evaluated the gridlock that occurred during the evacuation as a reason for many deaths and injuries that may have been avoided with better planning.
- Thirdly, the cumulative damage and recovery from the disaster are both major points explored.”

Villa Garden Club 77 Years Young!

Villa Garden Club, Portland District, celebrated its 77th Anniversary with a special party, “Be Our Guest, Bring a Guest.” Members of the other three clubs in the district, including the presidents, were present along with friends and neighbors of Villa members. It was a potluck with many delicious dishes prepared by the hosts.

Bingo and a garden-related trivia game were added to the festive occasion. Villa’s Vice President, Pat Allabastro, was presented with the State Life Award for her outstanding contributions to Villa.

Sue Ceglie, Villa’s President, also received the State Life Award for the incredible dedication and hard work she has put forth for the club. The event was topped off by a delicious cake. It was a very successful and enjoyable way to celebrate 77 years of gardening in the OSFGC!



Linda Kenney (back), Villa Garden Club Secretary, welcomes OSFGC former State President, Peggy Olin (l), and current State President, Carolyn Olley, (r) to Villa’s 77th anniversary party “Be Our Guest, Bring a Guest.”



Marie Voss (left) and Pat Allabastro (right) are presented the OSFGC Life Award from last year’s recipient, at Villa Garden Clubs’ 77th anniversary celebration.

Villa Garden Club
Sue Ceglie
President, Villa Garden Club

We at Villa Garden Club/Portland have been busy trying to “retain and enlist” new members as our numbers, like everyone, have been slowly declining.

The club has tried multiple ways to enlist members, like having a Facebook page, advertising at our annual plant sale with member applications available, word of mouth, and we even had T-shirts with our name printed on them.

However, our club Executive Council felt we could do more. We had an open house on our 77th anniversary meeting on March 27, 2025. Our meeting’s theme was “Be Our Guest, Bring a Guest,” where we asked all of our members to bring someone who might be interested in our club. That could bring up to 25 more non-members to our meeting so they can see what the Club is about.

Villa Garden Club continues to enjoy our regular Club meetings and our excellent District meetings! Pictured here are our members at the October 2025 meeting, where we enjoyed a wonderful speaker, viewed our school-era pictures, and tried to identify who the pictures were of.

We are looking forward to the June 2025 Convention in Seaside, OR!



Photo ID seated from left:

Virginia Durrin, District Co-Director Chris McClure, Jenny Drews, Rachel Jespersen, Linda Kenney, and Pat Brady.

Standing from left:

Velda Altig, Diane Tuttle, Mitzi Cannady, Mary Ann Rogers, Pat Allabastro, Ree Hawkins, Elaine Carlson, Sue Ceglie, Alana Eckert, Lyn Farris, Jeanette Dimick, Barb Schira, Judy Jewell, Dorothy Connect, and Geri Grieve.

Symbiosis

I wonder, sometimes,
Do a blossom and a bee
know the meaning
of their union?
Or do they simply live
in quiet commitment
to their pleasures?
One content to be adored,
the other devoted
to laying down a garden
of their love.

Alex Dawson
(@alexdawcreates)

Northwest Flower & Garden Show Seattle, Washington

Bernadette Sterry
President, Beaverton Garden Club

Three members of the Beaverton Garden Club boarded an Amtrak train on Wednesday, February 19th, to travel to Seattle and attend the Northwest Flower & Garden Show at the Seattle Convention Center. All three floors of the Convention Center were full of vendors, lectures, displays, and classes, with endless sights to see and ideas for the home garden and landscape. The three went to an English High Tea on Wednesday to hear the adventures of an American gardener who toured 12 different, amazing English gardens. The food was delightful, and the photos of the gardens were gorgeous!

Thursday started out chilly, but interesting. After a small adventure (ask about the Police car!), they took the monorail to the Convention Center, where they attended talks on native plants, soil conservation, climate change in the garden, and a container battle between two teams of nursery owners. After a dinner of delicious local seafood, they made their way back to their hotel in preparation for the trip home.

Friday was cloudy but not too chilly, so a trip to Pike Place Market was planned. There was no fish-throwing, but lots to see, including a mini bookstore and a quick lunch overlooking the water. From there, they made their way to King Street Station to board Amtrak for the comfortable ride home.

It was a wonderful trip and highly recommended for anyone who likes to see new trends or find new sources for plants.



Beaverton Garden Club members (Bernadette Sterry, President, Orpha Grimsrud, and Ella Jefferson) at Pike's Place Market, Seattle, Washington.

The Last Bee

After the last bee
Had buzzed its last buzz,
The birds and the butterflies
Did what they could.

But soon the fields lay bare,
Few flowers were left,
Nature was broken,
And the planet bereft.

Brian Bilston



Beaverton Garden Club News **Bernadette Sterry** **President, Beaverton Garden Club**

With Spring rapidly unfolding, things are kicking into high gear for the Beaverton Garden Club. Digs are underway to get plants potted and recovered from their transplant shock so they will be gorgeous for our 17th Annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 10th. Cedar Mill Garden Club will be partnering, and we love having them with us! There will be close to 2,000 plants, shrubs, vegetable starts, native plants, indoor plants, container gardens, and beautiful pre-arranged Mother's Day bouquets. Fingers crossed for good weather!

The Veterans Memorial Garden, as is the Elsie Stuhr Center Remembrance Garden, is getting some tender yet determined attention. Our membership is growing, too! Partnering with the Beaverton Chamber of Commerce has done a great job of getting us public exposure, and our amazing speakers have been a wonderful draw for new people to come and check us out.

One event we are doing with a Chamber partner is "Plants & Pints" on May 17th. We will bring plants that didn't sell at our Plant Sale to Central Station Taps in Beaverton and use the outside tables and extended sidewalk to entice passersby to purchase something for their gardens. We also receive \$1 from every pint sold during our time there, generously donated by the pub owner. We also got 2 members from this event! Just one idea on how to get involved with local businesses and get more people thinking about being in a Garden Club.



Beaverton Garden Club
In partnership with
Cedar Mills Garden Club

17th Annual Plant Sale

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025

8:30 am to 2:00 pm

NEXUS CHURCH
Parking Lot
12555 SW 22ND STREET
(Hall Blvd. & 22nd St.)
BEAVERTON, OR

2000+ PERRENIALS, SHRUBS,
TREES, VEGGIE AND HERB
STARTS, PLANTED
CONTAINERS, NATIVE PLANTS
AND MOTHER'S DAY
BOUQUETS.

For more information e-mail
beavertongardenclub01@gmail.com



**Sou'Wester Garden Club
Seaside OR
Cherita Potter
President, Sou'Wester Garden Club**

Things are coming together for our Annual Plant Sale on May 24th from 9 am to noon at the Seaside Convention Center.

We have an amazing number of plants to choose from. House plants, native plants, veggies of all kinds, beautiful baskets, annuals, flowers from Dahlias to Sunflowers, sweet peas to lilies.

Our Market Place has baked goods, jams and jellies, pies, cookies, dog biscuits, specialty Breads, something for everyone.

Beautiful and fun silent auction items, and raffle items like a beautiful Brass pond on a stand, a funky Country Wagon filled with spring flowers, and much more.

Come early, the line is out the door and down the walkway, and the best things go fast.

We are also preparing for our State Garden Club Convention, being held from June 10 -12

There is so much to see and do at the Convention and in town. We have planned some interesting workshops and fun learning opportunities. We are looking forward to meeting all of you in June.



**sorry
I HAVE
plants
THIS WEEKEND**

**What's a gift that keeps on giving?
A PLANT!!**

The **Villa Garden Club's Plant Sale** will be held the day before Mother's Day.

**Saturday, May 10, 2025
10:00 a.m.
Parkrose Community Church
12505 NE Halsey
Portland, OR 97023**



“Strawberries Wanna Have Fun”

Submitted by Gaye Stewart

The **Lebanon Garden Club** proudly announces their **Annual Flower Show and Quilt Display**, a signature event paired with the **Lebanon Strawberry Festival on June 6 and 7, 2025**.



This judged show includes floral designs in multiple categories and horticulture. To increase participation, design classes are being offered free for community members to take and then enter a design or two in the flower show.

Youth classes are also being offered through 4-H and Girl Scouts, and they may enter their designs in the Youth Division of the Flower Show.

The show will be held at **The River Center, 3000 S. Santiam Hwy, in Lebanon**, and opens to the public on **Friday, June 6, 12:30pm to 4:30pm** and again on **Saturday, June 7, 10am to 4:30pm**.

Please join us for the beauty and the fun.

For more information, contact:
Gaye Stewart,
503.510.4370

Teacups Galore!

At their recent February meeting, the Salem Area Garden Club members enjoyed making teacup designs.

Each person brought a teacup, saucer, and floral clippers; flowers and other supplies were provided. The instructions were given, and the fun began.

We were even honored by the presence of OSFGC President Carolyn Olley, who made a beautiful teacup design while visiting with the club members.

See the results in the photo below.



Lake Grove Garden Club Colleen Keyes LGGC Publicity



March 2025

On a foggy winter day, the January 16 meeting was brightened by two guests! Dan Heims, President of Terra Nova Nurseries in Canby, who presented his slideshow, "The Greatest Garden Shows on Earth – RHS Chelsea Show and Hampton Court," featuring superlative flowers, amazing display gardens, and behind-the-scenes action, such as meeting Queen Elizabeth!

And our second guest, Dave Doolittle, co-owner of Petal Heads in West Linn, who brought an assortment of hellebores and primroses that were ready to bloom. Within 15 minutes, his stock was pretty well cleared out by plant-hungry club members!

Of course, the hospitality committee provided a British-themed luncheon with tea sandwiches and teapot centerpieces. A sunny bowl of lemon curd held court on the dessert table with shortbread cookies, poppy seed cake, strawberries & cream.

As we stepped back out into the chill of winter, arms wrapped around new treasures for the garden, we were warmed by thoughts of spring to come!

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In recognition of National Bird Feeding Month, we were all about birds at our February 20 meeting.

Our guest speaker, Darlene Betat, Outreach Coordinator for Backyard Bird Shop, gave an enthusiastic, fact-filled presentation on best practices for backyard bird care: feeders, birdbaths, and shelter. Creating an ideal backyard habitat for our feathered friends takes time and effort, but the rewards are worth it. The colorful centerpieces with decorative birdhouses and flocks of birds added just the right touch!



One of the club's many projects is the Heritage House Rose Garden (HHRG) annual maintenance.

The HHRG Committee prunes, weeds, and mulches the roses from mid-February through early March. This year, these 'rosy' women spent two sunny, but still chilly, days preparing the rose garden for spring. Everything's coming up roses thanks to this intrepid bunch!

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Lake Grove Garden Club

At our March 20 meeting, we celebrated two significant events: the First Day of Spring and Oranges & Lemons Day, which is celebrated annually in London, England, on the third Thursday in March!

The Birds, Butterflies, Bats & Bees (4Bs) Committee hosted a Seed Exchange station and reported on the club's February Backyard Bird Watch. In addition to the usual suspects at a winter bird feeder (here's lookin' at you, juncos!), we had sightings of all three local woodpeckers (Downy, Hairy, and Pileated), Cooper's and Sharp-shinned hawks and Bald eagles. The bird that all participants saw? The American crow, of course!

The Plant Sales Committee reviewed the logistics and member tasks for our upcoming plant sale (April 26), including a short demo on how to label the plant ID sticks using botanical nomenclature. For instance, the botanical name of our club flower, the pink dogwood, is *Cornus florida* f. *rubra*.

The Hospitality Committee went all out with the citrus theme: they served a variety of salads with citrus dressings, a delicious lemon pound cake for dessert, and offered a citrus tasting of various oranges, clementines, and mandarins! Each committee member made a centerpiece, and their creative use of citrus was delightful!



Lake Grove Garden Club
99th Annual
Plant Sale
Perennials, trees, shrubs, grasses, veggies, herbs,
native plants, and more! Quality plants from our
members' gardens at affordable prices!
Saturday, April 26, 2025
9:00am – noon
Our Lady of the Lake School
650 A Ave, Lake Oswego, OR

PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Publication Requirements

- All Mahonia articles must be submitted in a Word document, Reference: OSFGC Directory 2023-2025, under OREGON NEWSLETTER (The Mahonia).
- Any article submitted in a different format will be returned to the sender for resubmission in a Word document.
- Photos must be submitted separately in a .JPG format only. Any photos not submitted in .jpg format will not be published.
- 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.
- Submitted 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.).

The *Mahonia* is published 4 times a year

Article Due Date

- Summer 2025-Due 06/30/2025
- Fall 2025-Due 09/30/2025
- Winter 2025-Due 12/30/2025
- Spring 2026-Due 03/30/2025

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