

Summer
2014



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Member

National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Pacific Region

2013-2015

**Pioneer District
Officers**

Leanna Woodall,

Beaverton GC, Director

Stan Chiotti,

St. Helens GC, Acting Director

Diann Conser,

Chehalem GC, Secretary

Sue Owen,

Cedar Mill GC, Treasurer

Notes from the Director

Pressing On...

The 87th OSFGC Convention has concluded and clubs are now starting the new Club Year. The duties of District Director have now officially been passed on to me, Stan Chiotti, Assistant Director, due to the health issues encountered by elected Director, Leanna Woodall. It has been an interesting experience so far.

Now that Convention is over, we are gearing up for 2014-2015. At the end of July, I was in Good Samaritan Hospital overnight after having a partial knee replacement. I am now recovering at home and preparing for the Fall Board meeting on September 18th. Please be sure that your club is represented at this meeting, as we will be giving out lots of information that is important to clubs and members.

The Fall District Luncheon is next and will be held on October 16th at the McMinnville Grande Ballroom in Historic McMinnville. It is highly recommended that members carpool to the Luncheon if possible, as parking will be at a premium. No Pink Panther Sale this Fall due to space limitations. But this might be held at the Spring

Luncheon in St. Helens.

The Pioneer District Budget is being prepared this month. A preliminary overview shows that we will need to look at some type of fund-raising effort by the District and its member clubs. One possibility is a Small Flower Show or a Garden Tour. It has been a while since we have had either of these activities. Our District has some fabulous gardens to tour as evidenced by the number of local gardens mentioned in the newspapers this past year. If you have a fundraising idea we can consider, please let your club President or the District Officers know right away. Don't be afraid to think "outside the box".

Be sure to have fun at your meetings. Laughter and sharing of ideas are great medicine for all of us. It was great to hear so much laughter at the Convention. It is contagious.

See you all at the Fall meetings, and remember to invite your District Director to one of your meetings. Just give me advanced notice of more than a week, if possible.

Stan Chiotti, Acting District Director

Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago. - Warren Buffett

2014 Washington County Fair Winner

Giovanna Burt, Hillsboro Garden Club Secretary and member, won many ribbons at the 2014 Washington County Fair Flower Show. Gio received four First Place, four Second Place and two Third

Place ribbons! Gio also assisted by volunteering at the fair. HGC is very proud of her!

Sonya Rose-Hoatson, President



McMinnvile Garden Club

The McMinnvile Garden Club was organized in 1926. We have about 93 members with usually 50 to 60 regularly attending meetings. We meet on the third Monday of each month beginning in September and ending in June. Our meetings are held at the Hillside activity room at the Manor from 9:30 to noon. The highlight of our annual projects is our annual Garden Tour and Faire. It is always held in June, the Sunday following Father's Day; 2014 was our 14th year. This special event allows over 600 visitors to personally visit five beautiful gardens in McMinnvile and to also attend the Garden Faire which is held downtown with fifty or more vendors whose wares range from plant material to garden art and furniture. It has become one of our signature events for our town.

This spring, we were very busy, working toward our annual Garden Tour and Faire, as usual. It is our only fund raiser and requires participation from all of our members to be successful. This year there were approximately 660 tickets sold. Our club was also asked to provide center pieces for the Downtown Association dinner as well as the State Convention's closing banquet.

To celebrate the National Garden Club week, we placed flowers with the meals served for Meals on Wheels. This year we auctioned a fairy garden donated by one of our members at the Amity Daffodil Festival with the proceeds going to the water project in Guatemala. Last year, we completed a community beautification project that included a hanging basket post, trees, shrubs and perennials to highlight the "Welcome" entry to the city from the South and West.

Fall brings plans for field trips to the Hoyt arboretum, leaf casting as a craft activity, Bag Ladies and Gents on Third Street (trimming the ivy in the tree wells) and readying the city to receive visitors to the Small Town Convention being held in early October.

Some of our on-going community projects are:

- Maintaining planting beds in front of the Post Office
- Caring for indoor plants at the Public Library
- Cleaning up Third Street tree wells
- Maintaining new planting beds at the southwest entry to the city
- Awarding scholarships to three students each year
- Providing hanging baskets for the city



Judy Eggers, President

Tigard GC Busy over the Summer

June and July have been fun-packed times for Tigard Garden Club. Following our final meeting and potluck of the season in June, members enjoyed a field trip to Oakwood Gardens in Hillsboro in mid-June. A stunning estate, it is the home of the owners of a large Alpaca farm along River Road. After five years of hard work installing beautiful hardscapes, planting tens of thousands of plants, bulbs and trees under the guidance of Lucy Hardiman, this garden was created and named after the majestic 300 year-old majestic oak. The ten acre garden has an old world ambiance and features formal beds, a pond, a three-tiered koi and later lily pool, a picturesque waterfall, sanctuary garden and an Amish wedding gazebo nestled in the woodlands. We also had a close-up look at the adorable Alpacas. Club members enjoyed our visit immensely and would recommend that your club add this wonderful venue to your schedule.

July 4th found a large group of our members, their families, grandkids and dogs joining the big Tigard's Cook Park neighborhood's 17th Annual "Middle of Millen Drive" Parade. It was fun being a part of this community event which features the Sheriff's mounted posse, Tigard policeman on their ATVs, fire engines, homeowners' floats, music etc. Tigard Garden Club's entry included decorat-

ed classic cars and trucks topped with hay and waving club families. Spectators lined the streets cheering and calling to the marchers on the .7 of a mile route.

Finally, on July 9th, our club held their 6th Annual Grand Tour of TGC Members' Gardens & Progressive Lunch, our most fun social event of the year.

This year, we toured 3 of our members' beautiful homes and gardens located near or on the Tualatin River, one member's gorgeous mountain view acreage on Bull Mountain and a guest invitation to one of our members' neighbors to tour her picturesque garden. As usual, the food prepared by our hostesses and their helpers was fantastic, the chance to spend time socializing with other members and the opportunity to gather ideas for our gardens was just wonderful and everyone had a good time. Peggy Schiller



Tigard Members in Vintage Truck for "Middle of Millen Drive" Parade

Former Scholarship Winner Reaches Some Happy Goals!

It has been a few years now since the PDGC gifted a scholarship to me (2010-11) to complete my undergraduate coursework at Oregon State University. I am happy to announce that in December 2012, I graduated Magna Cum Laude with two Bachelors of Science degrees in Agronomy and Natural Resources Management.

I thought it would be neat to share with you and your members where it has taken me now. I currently work for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in The Dalles, Oregon. I am working with some fantastic farmers and ranchers to implement some amazing conservation projects, protecting the future of our landscape and agricultural industry.

I have finished paying off all of my student debt, largely due to your organization's contribution. I cannot express the gravity of my appreciation to you all for the support. I am confident that were it not for contributions like yours this career path would not have been possible for me. It's hard to say what's in store next, but my life has been kick-started like I could not have imagined and I plan to continue to do big things for America's agriculture.

It is my pleasure to announce that I am engaged to be married to my better half, Melissa Cookingham, next

May. She is finishing her coursework in Pharmacy at OSU. Our experiences at OSU are irreplaceable and led to this momentous occasion.

Again, I cannot thank you all enough, I know how much work it can be to put something like this gift together. I am truly blessed.

Regards, Garrett Duyck



Garrett with His Degrees

Garrett & Melissa

Beaverton Has Its Second All-club Garden Tour

Beaverton Garden Club held their Second Annual Garden Tour of member gardens on July 18th. About 25 members and friends visited the five gardens on the tour. Light refreshments were shuttled from one garden to the next, relieving garden hosts from having to think about providing refreshments...a great idea! Landscapes as diverse as gardening on a slope, clearing woods to enjoy one's backyard to perennial borders, water features and fruit and vegetable production... they saw it all! Bruna McBride, President



Gordon House - Free Admission for Gardeners October 20th

The Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Gordon House, 2014 recipient of the Ellen Ambuhl Conservation Award at the OSFGC State Convention, will be open at 11 am, Mon., October 20th, to all Garden Club Members due to their continuing support of this historic home and garden. No admission fee. Molly Murphy, Director, will welcome everyone with interesting facts about the Gordon House and America's Architect, Frank Lloyd Wright. The first garden interpretive sign will be dedicated; it was funded by the Oregon Roadside Council. Stroll the Oregon Garden and enjoy the beautiful autumn colors! Questions? Marcia Kay Whitelock, 503.524.5309, marciawhitelock@comcast.net

Oregon Garden Workshops

September 20 (Sat), 10-Noon - Learn tips for **minimizing the use of chemicals**. Which ones are best for the job? Which harm or help? Dale Small, Wilco's gardening expert, will explain the various products, what they do and how to use them. He'll also share some **organic** tips that you can rely on **first**, before you bring out the big guns. Register online before Sept 16 - free. Drop-in fee: \$5 mbr, \$11 non-mbr.

October 18 (Sat), 10-noon, **Conifer Workshop**, Mary Ann Payne, Coast Botanical Gardens, Mendocino, CA. Free to members; \$12 non-members includes garden entry. Get information: info@OregonGarden.org, 503.874.8100

Pioneer District Wins at State Convention!

Our District can be very proud of all its members receiving acknowledgement for their accomplishments at the OSFGC State Convention held in June. Here is a list of our shining stars:

- *National Awards:*
 - Hillsboro GC, 85th year, 'Anniversary Certificate of Merit'
 - Tigard GC, 'Certificate of Commendation' for their Yearbook (30-44 mbrs)
 - West Point GC, 50th year 'Anniversary Certificate of Merit'
- *Pacific Region Awards:*
 - Beaverton GC, 3rd Place, Yearbook (45-69 mbrs)
 - Chehalem GC, 1st Place, Club Newsletters
 - Tigard GC, 1st Place, Yearbook (30-44 mbrs)
 - Pioneer Press, 1st Place, District Newsletters

- *State Awards:*
 - Bruna McBride, Beaverton GC, Honorable Mention, Gardener of the Year
 - Beaverton GC, 1st Place, Yearbook (45-69 mbrs)
 - Chehalem GC, 1st Place, Chehalem Clippings, Club Newsletters
 - Chehalem GC, 3rd Place, Yearbook (less than 20 mbrs)
 - Tualatin Valley GC, 20 Year Award, Historian
 - Pioneer Press, 1st Place, District Newsletters
- *Photo Contest:*
 - Marilyn Coats, McMinnville GC, 1st Place for Gardens Color
 - Victoria Fuller, Beaverton GC, 1st Place for Gardens B&W, 3rd Place for Landscape B&W and 3rd Place for Birds B&W
 - Kathi Hupp, St. Helens GC, 3rd Place for Land & Seascapes Color and 3rd Place for Floral B&W
 - Yolanda Moser, Beaverton GC, 3rd Place for Pets B&W
 - Lynn Stevens, Tigard GC, 3rd Place for Pets Color

Note: Within Levels, any individual winners are listed first, then clubs in alphabetical order with entities (Newsletters) listed last.



Acting District Director, Stan Chiotti, accepts the Pacific Region 1st Place Award for the Pioneer Press Newsletter



Vision of Beauty Calendars - Order Now!

The popular Vision of Beauty calendars (5.5" x 8.5", spiral bound) featuring attractive and innovative bouquets, is available for ordering, just \$5.50 each. They make great gifts! Please pay your club Treasurer. CLUB orders must be received from Treasurers by District Chair, Peggy Trees, BEFORE October 1. Calendars will be handed out at the District Luncheon Oct 16th. Peggy's contact info: 503.620.0703, twofirsclean@aol.com

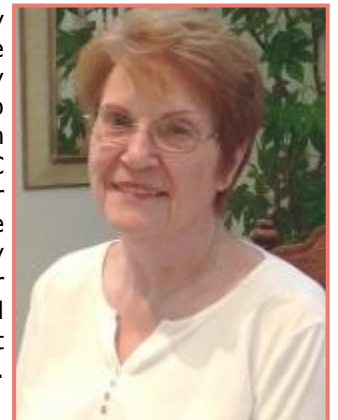
Intertwine Alliance Oak Mapping Work Group, a citizen science effort, is looking for volunteers (especially in Washington County) to assist in mapping Oregon white oaks. Training available. Contact www.swcd.net/news/oakquest, at the Soil & Water Conservation District.

Why not go out on a limb?
...that's where all the fruit is.
Mark Twain

Peggy Schiller Stellar Garden Club Service

The Tigard Garden Club members wish to extend their whole-hearted thanks to our immediate past President, Peggy Schiller. She joined the club in 2003, became Vice President in 2004 and in 2005 was installed as President. That presidential post continued for *nine* years until 2014. She was an excellent leader who was extremely effective in guiding a meeting, initiating creative projects and keeping the club vibrant with its 40 regularly attending members. She supplemented monthly meetings with

highly anticipated monthly field trips. Her design of the club's yearbook continuously wins annual awards. The Club recently completed its Sixth Annual Grand Tour of TGC Members' Gardens under her steady guidance. Peggy, the Tigard Garden Club is deeply grateful to have had your wonderful leadership and warm friendship throughout your many years of service. Thank you! Gayle Allen



Lots of Camaraderie at the State Convention Hosted by Pioneer District!

Camaraderie n.—a feeling of good friendship among the people in a group. That was the perfect definition of the gathering of gardeners at the 2014 Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs State Convention, held June 23-25th at the Wilsonville, OR, Holiday Inn. Guided by Oregon’s State President, Peggy Olin, the following made up the hard-working Convention Committee: Chairman: Gaye Stewart (McMinnville GC), Vice-Chairman: Stan Chiotti (St Helens GC), Secretary: Diann Conser (Chehalem GC), Treasurer: Sue Owen (Cedar Mill GC), Registration: Bruna McBride (Beaverton GC), Credentials: Beverly Seibel (The Five Oaks GC), Exhibits: Lynn Chiotti (St Helens GC), Tours: Sally Thompson (Chehalem GC) & Diann Conser, Floral Decorations: Marcia Kay Whitelock (West Point GC), Aloha Cannon (Cedar Mill GC) & Beverly Seibel, Tote Bags: Stan & Lynn Chiotti, Photography: Victoria Fuller (Beaverton GC).

If you didn’t attend, you missed a lot, including interesting displays showing what other clubs around the state are up to, a talk about the urgent healthcare needs of our bee friends, delicious food, a chance to buy the latest in primo plants from Petal Heads Nursery, (did I mention delicious food?) and a Group Think about how to make Garden Clubs more relevant in order to grow membership and increase knowledge. Oh, and you especially missed the wonderfully chock-full 10 lb. goodie bags everyone received. Make no mistake, lots of business got done but recognition awards were given, acquaintances were renewed and entertainment was enjoyed by all! Victoria Fuller



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503.259.9987

1savoy@comcast.net