

Fall
2013



PIONEER PRESS

Inside this issue:

Robin Hood's Travels	2
Nan Gerba Memorial	2
Busy Banks Country GC	2
Beaverton/Chehalem	3
Tigard GC	4
Blue Star Markers	4
Gordon House Free Day	4
Chehalem Steps Out	5
County Fair Winner	5
Beaverton on Tour	5
New Library Books	6

Notes from the Director

Dear Club Members:

We had a beautiful summer, but the fall rains have definitely started. I live in a small cottage behind my brother-in-law and sister's house and while they were away this past weekend, a tree in their side yard fell on top of my vehicle!

I don't think it caused too much damage other than maybe scratching the paint, but when they get home this week we'll find out. Hopefully all of you are having a less eventful start to fall in Oregon.

The Beaverton Garden Club is busily preparing for the District Luncheon on October 17 at the Meriwether Golf Club. I hope all of our clubs and their members are planning on attending. We will be having our annual 'white elephant' sale which is always fun, a wonderful guest speaker, and a lunch I think you'll enjoy. Check with your club President on reservation details.

One of my duties as District Director is to visit each garden club once during my 2 year term. In September, I had a delightful visit with the Tigard Garden Club. Their club has 40 members and they start their meetings with a luncheon hosted by

different members each month. Their speaker was from Joy Creek Nursery and afterwards I was able to purchase a Black Mondo Grass, *Ophiopogon planiscapus 'Nigrescens'*, and a lovely sedum, *Sempervivum 'El Toro'*, in a warm red color.

This month, you will notice a new section in the Pioneer Press that highlights two of our garden clubs and an activity their club has recently undertaken.

The Beaverton Garden club hosted a garden tour of members' gardens and the Chehalem Garden Club recently donated children's garden books to the Newberg Library. Please check out these articles and plan for your club to be highlighted soon.

One of the reasons I love gardeners is because of their optimism for the future. Anyone who can plant a brown bulb in the fall, looking forward to a lovely daffodil or tulip months later, has to have hope in the future.

Happy fall planting everyone!
Leanna



2013-2015

Pioneer District

Officers

Leanna Woodall,

Beaverton GC, Director

Stan Chiotti,

St. Helens GC, Asst. Director

Diann Conser,

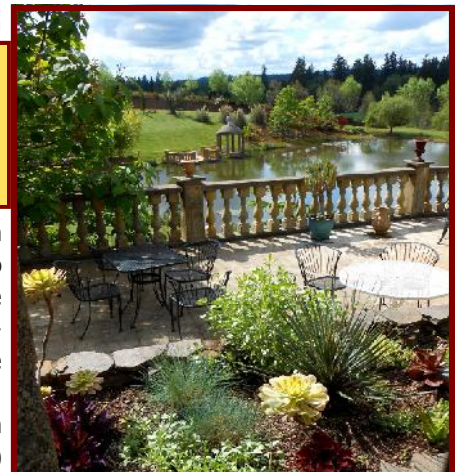
Chehalem GC, Secretary

Sue Owen,

Cedar Mill GC, Treasurer

Cedar Mills' Latest Escapades

Field trips are a big part of the Cedar Mill Garden Club's program and while summer came too soon to go to the Peony Gardens as planned, we did attend the Open House at Rare Plant Research. We were wowed by the vastness of the enterprise, beautiful views and exotic plants. Several of us with sunny spots bought *Lewisia* in various shades of peach and (Contd. on pg 2)



Robin Hood GC Hits the Road

The Robin Hood Garden Club traveled to Alsea, OR, this June to the Thyme Garden Herb Company. We had a great turnout for the approximately two hour trip (one way). This family-owned business offers over 700 varieties of herb plants as well as dried herbs for cooking. Our tour included information about propagating herbs as well as interesting and useful facts about good conservation practices and how to be good stewards of the land. A beautiful luncheon followed, featuring flowers and herbs from the garden in a tasty salad. Jacki Dougan



In Memorium

Nan Gerba, a long-standing member of the Tigard Garden Club (since 1991), passed away on June 21, 2013, at the age of 94. She was an active member of Ikebana International Sogetsu School, attended St. Helen's Hall (Oregon Episcopal School), was a lady Elk Club member and a University of Oregon alumnae. Nan was also a stamp collector and loved Bingo clubs. In recent years, she enjoyed spending the winters with her daughter in southern California. This active gal will be missed by all. Peggy Schiller

Banks Country GC What a Summer!

Oh what a summer!!! Where did it go? We had delightful garden tours at the homes of Dalice Sawyer, Bette Prickett, Ginny Tingling, Linda Sepulveda, and Rita Hofsheier. There were also trips to several different nurseries as every gardener knows you can never have enough plants! Rita Hofsheier had the great fortune to visit Monet's Garden and sent back incredible photos from

his historic gardens in Giverny, FR. Meanwhile, our little gnome, Gerome, had probably the most exciting summer of his life. He began at Bette Prickett's home where many gnomes go each year for vacation. He reconnected with old friends, made some new ones, then headed on to the big city of Forest Grove to be interviewed & photographed, becoming an overnight media sensation in the Forest Grove News Times. Robin Cavendish



Cedar Mill - Contd. from pg 1

pink as well as other interesting plants. More recently, we went to Garden Palooza at Fir Point Farms in Aurora and visited 45 different nursery vendors all in one spot. Finally, to kick off our Fall season, two Portland African Violet Societies presented a program discussing types of Saintpaulia ionanthas (African Violets), their light, soil and water needs and gave everyone one to take home. Jeanette Benson, Dahlia grower, Master Judge & Designer and former District Director (pictured here) showed us types of dahlias and what judges are looking for when they are shown. She also donated bouquets for us to raffle off. Barbara Cushman



Jackie McClung with bonsai at RP Research

Ed. Note - This quarter, Pioneer Press is beginning a series of articles highlighting two member clubs in each edition. This Fall, we are looking at the Chehalem and Beaverton clubs.

Chehalem Garden Club

Newberg's Chehalem Garden Club members celebrated our 20th anniversary (1993) in May of this year. From the beginning, we have been active in the community, starting with taking on the project of the Hoover Minthorn House Museum's Herb Garden which we continue to improve and care for today. We meet or have an activity monthly, except for a break in August. Regular meetings with programs are scheduled on the third Thursday in the evening at 7 pm at Newberg's Senior Center, January through May. June's meeting is an outdoor picnic, July's a craft project and meetings resume in September through November with a Christmas tea in December.

Our fund raiser is a Plant Sale held the first full weekend in May with member-grown annuals, perennials, shrubs and vegetable starts available at modest prices to encourage gardening. The sale not only provides our operating funds, we also donate a portion of our net proceeds to the Newberg Children's Library for children's gardening and nature books, to the Newberg High School Greenhouse Project and to our District Scholarship Fund.

All our regular programs and meetings are open to visitors, as is the craft project in July. The picnic is a chance for us, our families and invited friends to get together for a great potluck meal. The December tea is a popular social occasion for members and invited guests. We are currently working on a location for a Blue Star Marker in Newberg, a long time dream of ours to complete, we hope, in 2014.

This year we have a great schedule of programs and speakers put together by our Vice President Marye Steckley. We will be covering such diverse topics as Flower Design with Marcia Kay Whitelock in October, Holiday Table Decorations with Carol Buche in November, Winter Gardening in January and much more. Our schedule of programs and meetings is available at our website oregongardenclubs.org/chehalem. If any of these programs are of interest to other club members, please do not hesitate to visit us; we would love to have you visit and share in our meetings!

Beaverton Garden Club

The Beaverton Garden Club was started in May 1990. We now have 55 members. We have two large community projects that take much of our time. On May 27, 2002, the Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs dedicated the Blue Star Marker in Beaverton's Memorial Park. Our club then volunteered to landscape and maintain the marker. It wasn't long before the Veterans of Foreign Wars asked us to take over the landscaping of the rest of the memorials in the park. So, for the last ten years, this has been one of our ongoing projects. This year the Tualatin Park & Recreation District would like to revamp some of the park, so they have asked us to help. We will be removing some of the larger plants and repositioning them in other spots and filling in with a new landscaping plan. Adding a bench to the park will help to complete this current portion of the project.

Our other large project is the cutting garden at the Elsie Stuhr Senior Center in Beaverton. In the spring of 2007, we were asked to take over the maintenance of the Remembrance Garden. There were a few shrubs and a few perennials already there but no one was in charge and it wasn't very attractive. We started with perennials that were small so for the first few years we planted annuals to fill in. Now we are thinning the perennials so we have a little room to plant some summer annuals for color and cutting. Also in 2007, we cleared one quadrant of the garden and planted a "Pink Garden" with a rose, some hydrangeas, dahlias, lillies and added pink annuals and pink tulips for spring, in honor of breast cancer awareness.

This summer we had our first garden tour of member gardens and were pleased to have three of our new members have their gardens on the tour along with two of our established members, ending with a potluck at one of the gardens. A wonderful swimming pool at that last house was put to good use by members since the weather co-operated and was beautiful.

This Fall, we are now very busy planning the Fall District Luncheon. Hope to see you all there!

Tigard Garden Club on the Go!



Tigard GC has a good turnout on the outing to the Rare Plant Research Nursery and the Villa Catalana Gardens

Almost every month the adventurous members of the Tigard Garden Club are off on one of their fabulous field trips. In September, a large group went out to Oregon City to tour the Rare Plant Research Nursery and their Villa Catalana Gardens; what a treat that was! Rare Plant Research is very unique in that it contains rare plants from all over the world which owner Burl Mostul collects, then grows and sells to high-end nurseries. But the property is so much more than a nursery. Burl and his wife have built a gorgeous Spanish-style villa with authentic stone in-

spired by a Romanesque church. A huge terrace overlooks three ponds. There is a pond-side wedding gazebo with small amphitheater and all manner of gardens including a desert garden among huge boulders, tropical gardens with lush ornamental grasses and rare plants, herbs and vegetables and ancient olive trees that Burl hauled up from California. Everywhere you look is something eye-catching and beautiful including hand-crafted Spanish columns and balusters. After our tour, we lounged contentedly on the terrace with our sack lunches, enjoying the view. Peggy Schiller

Blue Star Memorial Marker Program

Each garden club president was recently given a folder at the September District Board Meeting with information about the Blue Star Marker program: how to order a marker, a history of the National Garden Clubs, Inc., Blue Star Memorial Program, step-by-step planning instructions and an agenda for a dedication program.

The following markers locations have been dedicated by our district:

- Marker #16, Baldock Rest Area (Exit 281)
- Marker #50, Beaverton Memorial Park
- Marker #52, Evergreen Aviation Museum, McMinnville
- Marker #57, McCormick Park, St. Helens
- Marker #59, River Front Park, Rainier
- Marker #71, North Plains Fire Station

We have been advised there are also plans to purchase a byway marker and dedicate it on Memorial Day 2014 in Columbia City.

Your Chairman, Marcia Kay Whitelock, is available to speak to garden clubs, civic organizations and patriotic or business clubs interested in dedicating a marker. Pioneer District has a dedicated fund to assist with funding and the Oregon Roadside Council has funds available for landscaping, so financial constraints that might concern clubs can be mitigated. Marcia Kay Whitelock, chairman, marciawhitelock@comcast.net

Holiday Flower Show

The Portland Council of Accredited Judges is sponsoring a standard flower show this November. Bring

a carload of members from your club to enjoy this free show. Refreshments will be served; new to the show this year will be a sale of plants and materials (fresh and dried). Fresh plant material will include instructions on their care. The flower show will be held at the Christ United Methodist Church, 12755 NW Dogwood Street, Portland, 97229 (in the Cedar Mill area). Open Friday, November 15th, noon to 4pm and Saturday, November 16th, 10am to 4pm, you'll be able to see a variety of designs that just might inspire you to create your own designs for the next area show. Marcia Kay Whitelock

Gordon House Free Admission Day!

The Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home located adjacent to the Oregon Garden in Silverton was originally designed in 1957 for Evelyn and Conrad Gordon. Due to Wright's ill health, building at its original location next to the Willamette River near Wilsonville was delayed til 1963, when its construction was overseen by FLW-trained Portland architect, Burton Goodrich. In 2001, its current owners wanted to tear it down but it was saved by the FLW Conservancy and relocated 21 miles to its current location, with refurbishment assisted through grants from the Architectural Foundation of Oregon and The Oregon Cultural Trust. It is currently maintained by the Gordon House Conservancy and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This 2,100 sq ft home is the only publicly accessible FL Wright home in the Pacific Northwest. October 21st the house will be open from 10am-2pm with free admission...a perfect field trip for garden clubs! You shouldn't miss this chance to see what all the fuss is about this world famous architect and the house so many worked to save.

Chehalem Makes Stepping Stones

In July, Chehalem Garden Club often gets together to create a craft item for the garden or to make something using materials from the garden. This year they made concrete stepping stones. Showing up on Thursday evening, July 18th, provided for a fun evening of playing with concrete; each person created their own design with pieces of rock, beach glass, beads and other items.

Club member Dave Conser had made up the frames ahead of time so the crafters could start right in making the stones. The evening ended with eleven members and perspective members enjoying berries and ice cream. The next afternoon crafters stopped by to pick up their stones. They proved to be quite heavy and are not going anywhere once placed in the garden!



Janet O'Malley Begins Her Creation.

Suzy Ramm, Chehalem GC

DON'T FORGET!
The 87th Annual
Oregon State Federation
of Garden Clubs, Inc.
2014 Convention
June 23 – 25, 2014

Holiday Inn
Wilsonville, Oregon
SAVE THE DATE!
More information
to follow...

2013-2014

Pioneer District

Scholarship Program

Through the generosity of our garden clubs, we have been able to award \$7,000 in scholarships beginning with academic year 2009-2010 through 2013-2014. Your financial assistance is greatly appreciated. Tuition continues to increase and students need help to achieve their dream of attending college.

Each of your garden club presidents received a folder with the updated Scholarship Application and flyer. Please take time during your meetings to discuss this program. Education is part of our mission: "...promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forests, land and wildlife".

Your Scholarship Committee is asking our members to join in the effort by contacting citizens in your community who can help publicize and discuss this opportunity. The flyer is ready for bulletin boards in the local Post Office, grocery store, library, etc. More flyers are available upon request. Your Chairman, Marcia Kay Whitelock, is available to come to your garden club to fully explain the program. marciawhitelock@comcast.net



County Fair Winner

Donna Soderberg, a member of the Hillsboro Garden Club, won 3 First Place blue ribbons and a Third Place white ribbon this summer at the Washington County Fair 2013 Flower Show. The First Place blue ribbon winning flowers were: an Orienpet hybrid Lily named 'Scheherazade', a Fuchsia magellanica 'Aurea' and a Pelargonium 'Appleblossom Rosebud'. The Third Place winner was a Fuchsia 'Gartenmeister Bonstedt'. This was Donna's first time entering the flower show so Hillsboro Garden Club is very proud of her effort to enter and her novice accomplishments! Sonya Rose-Hoatson

Beaverton Garden Club's Garden Tour

In August, Beaverton Garden Club had their first garden tour of member gardens. It was a huge success with about 30 members and guests touring five gardens. We ended up at the home of Barbara van Doorninck. In addition to her garden, she has a lovely large pool so, after our potluck many enjoyed swimming. Three of the gardens belonged to new club members so touring their yards was a great way to get to know them and have them feel a part of Beaverton Garden Club.

We have also been very busy this summer planning and preparing for the Fall District Luncheon, Oct 17th. Invitations are mailed, the program has been prepared and we are getting the name tags ready for the attendees' names as they are received.

Hope to see all of you there as we feel we have a very interesting speaker in Linda Beutler. She has written a book "Garden to Vases" and will be demonstrating how to make great bouquets from the foliage and flowers in our yards. She will then offer the bouquets as door prizes. Bruna McBride



Chehalem GC Funds Children's Library Books

The Newberg Public Library was able to purchase two sets of children's gardening books with money the Chehalem Garden Club donated to them using proceeds from the club's Spring plant sale. Each set has six books and are for ages 8-11. The first set is the "Cool Garden to Table" series.

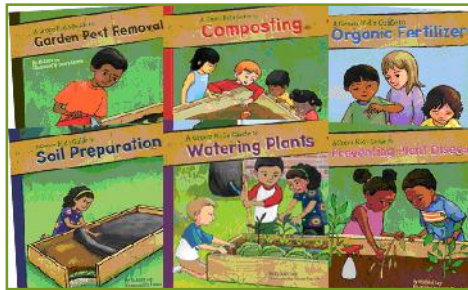


Cool Basil, Cool Carrots, Cool Green Beans, Cool Leaf Lettuce, Cool Tomatoes and Cool Potatoes.

In this "cool" series, kids learn how to grow their own vegetables in containers as well as how to prepare them to eat. There are step-by-step planting, care and harvesting tips, giving the beginning gardener a basic understanding of the growing process. They also contain delicious

recipes with step-by-step photos to help the child bring their homegrown vegetables to the table to share with others.

The second set of books purchased is the "Green Kids Guide to Gardening" series.



Books in this series: Composting, Garden Pest Removal, Organic Fertilizers, Preventing Plant Diseases, Soil Preparation and Watering Plants.

The "Green Kids" series teaches students how to prepare the soil, fertilize the garden, and remove pests - all without the use of harmful chemicals. Children also learn how to compost and conserve water.

Club members were able to review

the two sets of books during their September meeting. The books have been delivered to their new home at the Library and are available for checkout by future gardeners. Suzy Ramm

Club Reminders

Pot Up Plant Sale Material - Take advantage of these few sunny fall days to dig your dividable plants so they can get a better start for next spring's fundraisers.

Hydrangeas - It's a good time to trim your hydrangeas a bit, perhaps bringing the blooms in now that they're had a chance to color up. Wait for more severe pruning til late winter/early spring next year. Hydrangeas Plus in Aurora has some nice 3 year-old plants on sale now for \$30. For details & pictures, go to www.hydrangeasplus.com

Awards - Document (pictures, too!) community outreach efforts for next spring's State Awards recognition.



Bleeding Hearts Column Fall Round-up



Upcoming Events

During the month of October, the following have Fall Festivals. Please call or go online to check hours and planned events:

Bauman Farms, Pumpkin Patch, Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun til 5; ages 3-103 \$7; lots of kids' activities, (market, nursery, coffee shop, bakery, etc. open as usual); 503.792.3524, www.baumanfarms.com, Gervais

Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm, Pumpkin Fest, 10-6; 4 & under Free, ages 5-12 \$6, age 13 & up \$7; a multitude of childrens' activities. www.woodenshoe.com, 503.634.2243, Woodburn

French Prairie Gardens, Pumpkin Patch with Pig Races, Mazes & more, Tues - Fri; \$6, Week-end All Activities Pass \$12.99; 503.633.8445, www.fpggardens.com

Smith Berry Barn, 503.628.2172 for latest apple availability information, www.smithberrybarn.com

Oct 16th (Wednesday), **Portland Nursery** (SE Stark St location), **Elder Day**, 1-3:30, pressed flower crafts, crocus bulb planting, fall container planter ideas; live music; apple tasting; senior discounts; groups of five or more, please make a reservation. Jan Curtis, 971.302.1846

Oct. 18-20 (Fri, Sat, Sun), **Portland Nursery** (SE Stark St. location), 10-

5, 26th Annual Apple & Pear Tasting Event; 60 varieties; scarecrow contest, canned food drive, live music, kids activities, 503.231.5050, www.portlandnursery.com

Park & Rec Classes

Oct 27th (Sat), Nature Park Interpretive Ctr, 8-6pm, **Touring Kayak**, (brief intro lesson included; beginners - OK); meet at Sunset Transit for transport to Skamokawa, WA; equipment provided; Srs \$17 + \$60 equipment fee, www.thprd.org

Nov 9th (Sat), Cooper Mtn Nature House (Kemmer Rd), 1-3pm. **Build a Birdfeeder Family Program**, \$17, 503.629.6350, www.thprd.org

PIONEER PRESS

ARTICLES FOR NEXT EDITION DUE JANUARY 1, 2014

Published Quarterly Editor: Victoria Fuller 503.259.9987 1savoy@comcast.net

Subscription Price: \$3.50/year

Subscription requests send to Pioneer District Treasurer, Sue Owen 5320 SW 18th Drive Portland, OR 97239-2103