



# Evening Garden Club

Corvallis, Oregon

February 2024

## 2023-24 Officers:

### President:

Heather Emberson

### President Elect:

Nancy Haldeman

### Treasurers:

Hanne and Heinrich  
Niederhausen

Janet Klingler

### Secretaries:

Nancy Mandel

Judi DeBord

### Members at Large:

Karen Hopson

Gayle Parrish

## 2023-24 Chairs:

### Fund Raising:

Cory Koos

### Grants:

Marsha Ham

### Membership and

### Trumpetvine:

Svetlana Dascaluc

### Name Tags:

Anna Cassilly

Donna Schultz

### Newsletter:

Val Hall

### Programs:

Karen Hopson

### Tours:

LeAnna Trosen

### Website

Gayle Parrish

## 2023-24 Projects:

### Book Club:

Nancy Mandel

### Floral Therapy:

Donna Westwood

### Good Turn:

Melissa Cowan

### Homegrown

### National Park:

Robin Strauss

## President's Message:

### Planting Seeds

Recently I read The Egg & I by Betty MacDonald. It is Betty's memoir of her life as a 20-year-old wife whisked off to a "ranch" (somewhere near Sequim, WA) because her husband wants to raise chickens. It's a delightful, funny, easy read and filled with her travails including her extensive gardening and canning. In the 1930's, she recounts pouring over seed catalogues partly because she didn't have access to books! Made me think of our garden club, of planting seeds, of connecting with friends, and of learning and supporting one another.

For our newest members, I want to plant some seeds and let you know about the opportunities that exist in the EGC. One of those, certainly, is the Book Group that meets every other month. **Nancy Mandel** is the contact person, and all are welcome.

Three more projects are available to join in: The Homegrown National Parks group, **Robin Strauss** is the contact person; Good Turns group, **Melissa Cowan** is the contact person; and the Floral Therapy group with **Donna Westwood**. All four of these projects bring hands-on activities in their own ways and strengthen relationships within the Club.

We also have Committees (as most clubs do); look at the left-hand column for the list and chairs. I want to highlight the Fundraising Committee and the clever work they are doing devising some ways to raise funds for our grants and scholarships. **Cory Koos, Carrie Ottow, Kathleen Rochester, Anne Smith, and Leanna Trosen** ask that as you prep and purge your garden sheds this Spring, please set aside items in good condition that can be part of a money-making scheme (details to come).

I also want to showcase the Grants Committee (see related article in this newsletter). **Marsha Ham, Christina Clark and Jan Gustafson** have initiated this year's grant process, and we hope to have some earthly applicants. Planting seeds in our community by providing resources to learn about and enjoy gardening is a rewarding experience for the giver and the receiver (as you, as gardeners, know)!

Please plant this seed on your calendar: **Cathy Kerr** from the Program Committee has arranged for Eileen Stark, author of Real Gardens Grow Natives, to be our guest speaker. This ZOOM-only event titled "**Native by Design: Choosing Plants for Biodiversity**" is on **February 5, 2024**. A zoom link will be sent separately.

Finally, I want to plant a couple more seeds before I close. Recently, board member **Patrick Emblidge** left Corvallis to take a position in California; thus, we have an opening for a "member at large." Please contact me if you are interested. This "propagates" to thinking about how you would like to support your Club in the coming year. The Nominations Committee will begin its work soon, so please know we would love to have you love us back! It is February, after all. Nice time to think about planting and growing.

Heather

## Homegrown National Park

All interested EGC members are welcome to attend our meetings. Please contact Robin Strauss or Adrienne Guy if you are interested.

Adrienne: 330healthyliving@gmail.com  
Robin: rstrauss@peak.org



## Floral Therapy

The Floral Therapy team continues monthly visits to 4 local retirement facilities in Corvallis, using freshly donated flowers from Trader Joes to create lovely flower bouquets for the residents to enjoy.

Donna Westwood: 541-740-7942 (cell)  
[ndbalumna@yahoo.com](mailto:ndbalumna@yahoo.com)

## Good Turn

Our scheduled work days are the second Sunday of each month from 10am to 2 pm. We will likely get started in February, depending on weather. A notice will be sent out on Trumpetvine about a week ahead.

Melissa: Cowan196@gmail.com



# Club Activities

## Book Club

The EGC Book Group meets on odd-numbered months on a Thursday. All members are welcome.

Book: *The Gardener's Year* by Karel Capek  
Time: Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 2:30pm  
Place: Imagine Coffee  
5460 SW Philomath Blvd  
Corvallis, OR 97333



### Upcoming books:

**May 2** - *The Botany of Desire* by Michael Pollen  
**July 11** - *Beautiful Madness: One Man's Journey Through Other People's Gardens* by James Dodson  
**Sept 5** - *The Food Explorer: The True Adventures of the Globe-Trotting Botanist Who Transformed What America Eats* by Daniel Stone

### Books read in 2023:

- *The \$64 Tomato* by William Alexander
- *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver
- *We Made a Garden* by Margery Fish
- *Back in the Garden with Dulcy* and *Through the Seasons with Dulcy* by Dulcy Mahar and Ted Mahar
- *The Signature of All Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert
- *The Earth Moved, On The Remarkable Achievements of Earthworms* by Amy Stewart

## 2024 EGC Grants Program is now open!

**Local Nonprofit Organizations** can apply for gardening related education, community development, common spaces beautification.

**Deadline** to submit applications is **March 15, 2024.**

**Scan the QR code** or go to the **web page** below to apply.



<https://corvalliseningardenclub.org/grants/>

# Community Activities

## Public Seed Library Free in-person lecture

### How to Start & Grow Peppers & Tomatoes

When: Thursday, Feb 22, 12:30-2:00 PM

Where: Corvallis Public Library

645 NW Monroe

More details in flyer below



## Gearing Up For Gardening Surprising Plant Phenomena

This in-person lecture series is **Free** and open to everyone.

**Feb. 6** - Another Surprise! Growing Subtropicals in Oregon

**Feb. 13** - Yes, Climate is Changing. Learning to Garden in a Changing Climate

**Feb. 20** - We Can Also Grow Citrus!

**Feb. 27** - Last Surprise! Garden Myths

When: Tuesdays, noon—12:45 PM

Where: Corvallis Public Library

645 NW Monroe

## Mary's Peak Orchid Society Annual Orchid Show & Sale

See exhibits, purchase plants, get expert advice, and have your orchid repotted.

When: Saturday, Feb 3, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Where: Garland Nursery

5470 NE Hwy 20

## Growing Oregon Gardeners: Level Up Series



This year's free online series is aimed at helping gardeners take a bite out of hunger. Classes are the 2nd Tuesday of the month at noon. See the details of each program and register for the event at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2024>. Events will also be recorded and will be available on their web site about 2 weeks after they are completed.

**Feb. 13** - Growing Hot and Cold: Successful Vegetable Gardening in Any Season (Part 1: Cool Season)

## Seedy Tuesday Seed Swap

When: Tuesday, Feb 27, 6:30 PM

Where: Lebanon Public Library

55 Academy St. (just off Hwy34)

More details in flyer below

## 10-Minute University Clackamas County Master Gardener Assoc. **FREE**

To see details, pre-register, download handouts, and view previously recorded webinars go to:

<https://clackamascountymastergardeners.org/10-minute-university/>

Wednesdays, noon-1:00pm



**Feb. 7** - Garden Tools

**Feb. 8 (Thursday)** - Growing Cane Berries

**Feb. 14** - Soil Amendments

**Feb. 21** - Growing Tomatoes I

**Feb. 28** - Growing Early Vegetables

## Greenbelt Land Trust Annual Meeting

Learn about what Greenbelt is doing and listen to keynote speaker James Cassidy, who will give a fascinating look at the world of soil.

When: Thursday, February 22, 6pm—8pm

Where: First Presbyterian Church of Corvallis  
Dennis Community Hall  
114 SW 8th St.

## Spring Home & Garden Show Portland

Display gardens, speakers and booths from home improvement firms and gardening businesses. Go to <https://www.homeshowpdx.com/> for more information and for tickets. Use promo code HG24PLANTS for \$3 off the \$15 ticket.

When: February 22-25

Where: Portland Expo Center

## Northwest Flower & Garden Festival

Five days of display gardens, seminars and vendors! Go to <https://www.gardenshow.com/> for all of the information you will need and for tickets.

When: February 14-18

Where: Seattle Convention Center  
705 Pike St., Seattle, WA

## Wildlife & Water Friendly Gardens

Clackamas Community College  
Environmental Learning Center

For class details and registration, go to

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wildlife-water-friendly-gardens-free-series-2024-tickets-760732410117?aff=oddtcreator>



Thursdays, noon-1:00 pm

**Feb. 1** - The Remarkable Wild Bees of Oregon

**Feb. 8** - Garden Smart for the Changing Climate

**Feb. 15** - Friend or Foe? Identifying Invasive Plants in Our Backyards

**Feb. 22** - Companion Planting for Clean Water

**Feb. 29** - Plants and Fungal Networks

## Milk Jug Seedlings Workshop Grand Prairie Albany Garden Club

Visitors are always welcome at club meetings. This month they will have a workshop on starting seedlings in milk jugs. Supplies are provided.

When: Thursday, Feb. 8, 1:00 PM

Where: Albany Public Library  
2415 14th Ave. SE



Helleborus niger



# Meet a Member

## Donna Schultz

I am a relatively new member to the EGC family. The wealth of shared gardening knowledge and the generosity and positivity of our members is amazing. My favorite events are the plant and social exchanges and garden tours.

I have always loved digging in the dirt. I grew up in an old stone house (1832) with a very large vegetable garden in Scotland – built on a long strip of feudal land – great for showing off snowdrops along the hedgerows. By the age of ten I had inherited a little alpine rock garden. Visits to my grandmother's country cottage have also stayed with me – I remember an abundance of hollyhocks, delphiniums, poppies, lilies, lavenders and phlox. Many years later I worked my first pea patch in Cardiff, Wales. With help from green neighbors, I grew sunflowers, pumpkins, cape gooseberries and Indian herbs and kept company with a hedgehog or two.



My first job in college was in a plant lab, growing seaweed starts. They still hold a fascination for me. Now I live near Philomath, on an unruly 10 acres of land. The grounds and garden are a work in progress. I am interested in improving access for wildlife and expanding the range of native plants. We have honeybees – but are still trying to improve our stewardship.

I recently acquired a little greenhouse and look forward to experimenting with different seed varieties for a spring start. I'm also thinking of growing Wasabi as the beautiful heart shaped leaves are delicious!



# Program Schedule 2023-24

Board Meetings are held once a month to discuss club business and set up the agenda for the following Membership Meeting. All members are welcome to attend and observe the proceedings. RSVP to Heather Emberson is requested. If you have an issue you want the board to address, please send it to Heather **ahead of time** for inclusion in the agenda for the next board meeting.

Location: Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 2650 NW Highland Drive, Corvallis

Time: 4:00-5:30 PM

Membership/Program Meetings are generally held on the first Monday of the month, October through May.

Location: Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 2650 NW Highland Drive, Corvallis

Time: Doors open at 6:30; meetings begin at 7:00

\*\*\*There are no hybrid meetings this year. All meetings will be in-person only, except for those specified as Zoom-only. The link for our Zoom meetings will be sent via email approximately one day before the presentation. These presentations are intended only for our members and paying guests, so please do not share them with others. Non-members who would like to attend should contact Heather at [president@corvalliseninggardenclub.org](mailto:president@corvalliseninggardenclub.org) to pay a small fee and receive the link.

Board Meetings	Member Meetings	Programs
Jan 29	Feb 5 <b>Zoom only</b>	<i>Native by Design: Choosing Plants for Biodiversity</i> Presenter: Eileen Stark, Author of <i>Real Gardens Grow Natives</i>
Feb 26	Mar 4	<i>Adaptive Gardening</i> Presenters: Dana Hughes, Seedgrass PT Sharon Knight, Garland Nursery
Mar 25	Apr 1	Designers' Panel Q&A, short business meeting, and gift certificate raffle Panel: Signe Danler, Owen Dell, and Alan Shay, EGC members Jeff Cope, Homegrown Gardens
Apr 29	May 6	Presentation, Business Meeting, and Plant Exchange <i>Year-round Edibles Gardening</i> Presenter: Janet Throop
May 20		
Jun 24		

# Member Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2024 7:00

The meeting started at 7 pm as a Zoom only meeting with Heather Emberson presiding. Heather expressed thanks to Nancy Haldeman and Signe Danler for their assistance with the ZOOM meeting. The meeting was attended by 51 people.

Richie Steffen, the executive director of the Elizabeth Carey Miller Botanical Garden, spoke on *The Beauty of Ferns in the Garden*. The Miller Garden is a former private garden located north of downtown Seattle. Only 500 visitors are allowed each year but there is a virtual tour online. The garden consists of four acres, of which two thirds are shaded, making it ideal for ferns. Richie spoke with enthusiasm about the history and variety of ferns. There were ferns 350 million years ago, before the dinosaurs and there are now about 13,000 species. He provided us with two handouts about ferns and showed us some beautiful photos displaying their great variety. He then answered our many questions. The meeting ended at 8:40.

Submitted by Nancy Mandel,  
co-Secretary of the EGC.



Helleborus 'Rosemary'

## Treasurers Report EGC December 2023 Activity

Janet Klingler

Hanne and Heinrich Neiderhausen

### CHECKING ACCOUNT OSCU

Starting Balance	\$2,093.92
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#### Income

Dues	380.00
Grant Fund	175.00
Guest Donations	10.00

Total income	\$565.00
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#### Expenses

Heather Emberson: purchase of voice amplifier	64.99
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Total Expenses	\$64.99
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Ending Balance	\$2,593.93
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### SAVINGS ACCOUNT OSCU

Ending Balance	\$8.22
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### SAVINGS ACCOUNT WaFd BANK

Certificate of Deposit including interest	9,237.74
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GRAND TOTAL	\$11,839.99
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# How to Start & Grow Peppers & Tomatoes

Late February to early March is the time to  
**start peppers and tomatoes indoors!**  
**Come learn how** to grow strong starts,  
when and how to transplant them, and  
how to grow a stellar crop with  
**BCMG Meleah Ashford & Jennifer Klammer.**  
**Take home free seeds to start now!**

**Thursday Feb 22**  
**12:30 - 2:00 P.M.**  
**Corvallis Library**  
**Meeting Room**

**Learn more:**



OSU Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials.



THE SANTIAM FOOD ALLIANCE presents

# SEEDY TUESDAY

Tuesday, February 27, 6:30 pm  
Lebanon Public Library



**A SEED SWAP,  
plus brief stories about seeds on offer,  
& a Master Gardeners' advice table**

*Bring any seeds, commercial or gathered, that you have to  
share, and take samples of others' seeds.*

*Well-wrapped plants, tubers, and bulbs are welcome, too.  
Don't forget to bring envelopes and a pen!*

