



# The Garden Gazette

Volume 28, Issue 4, December 2023

The Connie Hansen Garden Conservancy  
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*Rhododendron 'Yellow Hammer' is still blooming.*

## 2023 Calendar of Events

*As new events are scheduled, we will post them on our bulletin board and web page.*

*Visit our website often for up to date details. Share your photos of CHG on our Facebook page.*

***The Garden is always open from dawn to dusk for your enjoyment, to visit, walk or sit and enjoy. Please avoid walking (including dogs) on closed pathways and grass.***

***The Garden House, with gift shop and library will be closed for winter from Dec. 1 to the first week of March, 2023.***

## From the President's Desk.... Skeletons and Garden Bones

Whew! After what seemed like endless waiting, the removal of *Phytopthera ramorum* infected rhodies and other plants has been completed. We've also removed some other overgrown, aging, or otherwise undesirable plants, in preparation for the replacement of the ageing, and in places, failing, drainage system. Following that will be an update and improvement of the irrigation system.

The timing of the plant removal in retrospect was perhaps fortuitous. Early winter is upon us, and the remaining garden is stripped of much of its leafy dress, which lays bare its essential shapes and patterns: the bones and skeleton of the garden. The removal of so many plants has opened the garden to more light, and created new vistas.

The bareness of the winter garden is ideal for the drainage and irrigation projects to be completed before the spring growth. Of course, the plant-obsessed crew here is already critiquing the remaining garden and making plans for new plantings to come. As usual, stay tuned for the latest at the Connie Hansen Garden!

~Kathie Arehart,  
President CHG Board of Directors

# Garden Report

~ Priscilla Patterson, Head Gardener

Connie Hansen Garden has undergone a huge transformation, and I think we are all still taking it in and putting it in perspective. I'm finding it really interesting to see how the new puzzle pieces will fit together to complement the original garden plan, of which so many areas have been preserved.

Expanding the plant palette with completely new material is going to be a huge challenge. I think our approach will be by area, building around original, mature features wherever possible.

Many of the great old rhododendrons and trees that Connie had planted still remain, healthy and less crowded. Those older plants are going to need some pruning and shaping up to be seen as focal points. We have a good deal of work ahead of this winter in order to be ready to start planting this Spring.



*The magnificent Giant Dogwood, *Cornus controversa*, is now open to view on all sides.*



*The Magnolia Bed now has only three rhododendrons, which will grow into their new spaces*

The *Phytophthora ramorum* "remediation process" required that all of the infected rhododendrons be removed, the stumps killed, and the soil under the infected plants covered in deep mulch of cedar chips. Replacement plants cannot be hosts to the fungal blight. Remaining rhododendrons will be inspected yearly for further infection. The newly open areas will allow the remaining trees to enjoy the increased light and space.



*Connie's carefully pruned *Stewartia* still holds the corner by the middle bridge.*

## Reflective

I found a  
weed  
that had a

mirror in it  
and that  
mirror

looked in at  
a mirror  
in

me that  
had a  
weed in it

~A. R. Ammons

## In Connie's Own Words:

"As a third generation Californian who lived in Oregon from the age of two to seven, I had always been homesick for Oregon, where it rained in the summer, and one could walk out in the trees without traveling for several hours.



"I also like the fog and wished to live near the ocean. Eighteen years ago, after many years of vaguely wishing, things seemed to come together, and I made the move. The property had not been gardened for at least four years before I found it, and then only minimally, with a few shrubs, each in its own spot, and well staked—'one here, one there'.



1979 view of the garden from 33<sup>rd</sup> Street.

The south half was an open meadow used by the local children as a baseball or football field in season. The rest was an overgrown jungle of willows, alders, sedges, and every kind of berried vine, shrub or tree the birds could plant."

(Copied from an essay Connie wrote for a class she was taking in Lincoln City.)

## A Lunchtime Treat

One of our volunteers brought in a lovely chocolate apple cake to share, along with the recipe from their Grandmother. It's a great use for all that applesauce you canned up in the fall.

### Grandma Florence's Applesauce Cake

**3 cups flour**  
**1 ½ cup sugar**  
**5 Tbsp. cocoa powder**  
**3 tsp. baking soda**  
**1 tsp. salt (optional)**  
**¾ tsp. nutmeg**  
**1 ½ tsp. cinnamon**  
**2 ¼ cups applesauce**  
**¾ cup oil or melted shortening**  
**(1 ½ cup raisins, nuts, if desired)**

**Mix dry ingredients.**

**Add liquids and mix thoroughly.**

**Spread in greased and floured 9 x 13 pan.**

**Bake at 350 degrees, approximately 40 minutes.**

**We wish you all a peaceful holiday season.**



Connie enjoyed rearranging her plants to create color harmonies, often digging her rhodies up to move them.



*Happily, the reblooming rhody on 33rd is okay.*

## **Thank you, Members, Volunteers and Contributors!**

It really does “take a village” to keep the Connie Hansen Garden “Growing”. There are many ways to contribute: Funds, of course. Hosting once a week. Gardening – weeding, planting, pruning. Growing plants for sale and future plantings. Garden house maintenance. And many more ways your talents may be helpful.

Tuesday is our usual work day, weather permitting. If you’d like to join the crew, stop in and chat with whatever gardeners are in the garden between 10: and 2: on a Tuesday.

Winter rain and cold may interrupt the work day, so bring some sunshine along or pick a dry day.



*Hydrangeas are resistant to the phytophthora ramorum.*

### **MEMBERSHIP**

If you are not currently a member and would like to be, or would like to give a membership as a gift, the options are listed below. Payments may be sent to: CHGC, PO Box 776, Lincoln City, OR 97367.

There are no meetings and no requirements. Benefits of membership include this quarterly publication, a 10% discount in our gift shop and the joy of knowing you are helping to save this beautiful garden!

___ Individual \$25	___ Family \$35
___ Senior individual \$15	___ Senior family \$25
___ Supporter \$100	___ Sponsor \$500
___ Business Supporter \$100	

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send my "Gazette" by Email!  
The E-Gazette includes beautiful color photos of the garden in its seasons.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### **E-mail “Gazette”**

If you request your “Gazette” newsletter by email, you will find more color photos of CHG, taken by our photographer, Nancy. Just send us a note to our email address on the front page, with the address where you prefer to receive it, and we’ll be happy to send your next issue there.

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Nancy Chase: E-Gazette