



The Garden Gazette

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The Connie Hansen Garden Conservancy
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Calendar of Events

- * Quilt Show & Sale: March 1 - May30
- * Petal Heads Talk & Plant Sale: Sat. March 2
- * Tea Party: Sat. May 11th
- * See articles in this issue of the Gazette

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

Webmaster Needed

There is an opportunity for a community volunteer to step up to do website support for the CHG website. The website is fully hosted by Wix, and according to the current volunteer web master, it is very easy to do the monthly tasks. "Brochure" site is a good description, with the original design being done so well, maintenance is a breeze.

Please contact any CHG board member if you are interested in taking on this role. Connie Peabody, the current web master, is available for any questions at conniepbd@gmail.com.



Rhody 'Christmas Cheer' bloomed in February.

From The President's Desk

~Kathie Arehart, President CHG Board

March brings the reopening of the Garden House, to be open from 10am to 2pm every day except holidays, staffed by our volunteers. The Gift Shop has a selection of garden related items, and the Gallery currently has a display of quilts by local quilters. March 2 brings Petal Heads Nursery from West Linn, offering hellebores and other beautiful plants. May is the Month for our Spring Tea Party, and always there is something to enjoy in the Garden. We thank you for your support that makes all this possible.

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

The Garden House, with gift shop and library will open on March 1st, 2014..



Garden Report

Change is in the air at Connie Hansen Garden! The removal of rhodies, azaleas, and other plants infected by *Phytophthora ramorum* has been completed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture. The infected plant material was put into enormous dumpsters and transported to a sanitary landfill.



Although we cannot replant with any plants susceptible to the fungus (200+ plants listed!) there are still many, other options available. We're considering the possibilities!



They treated the stumps to prevent regrowth, and put down a deep cover of cedar chips on the areas where the infected rhododendrons had been. The cedar will inhibit the regrowth of the phytophthora fungus in the soil. The ODA will continue to monitor the remaining plants for further infection.



Although a lot of plants were removed, many rhododendrons remain in the garden. We are happy that so many of Connie's large old rhodies have been declared free from the blight. The garden is still beautiful, with more openness and light, and new vistas in every direction.

Now that the "remediation" is complete, we're in the process of enlarging and improving the sprinkler system throughout the garden. Ground FX is doing the work, and when that is done, we plan to improve the drainage system as well. If you see little pink flags or orange spray paint on the ground, that's marking areas for the new systems.



Rhododendron Seta is blooming now, behind the big-leaved *R. Macabeanum*.





Silver Frost

The January storm blanketed the Garden in ice, a beautiful sight that caused little damage overall, just a few broken limbs from the weight of the ice.

Roxce Stavney visited the garden during the ice storm. She shared her photos with us, and described the experience:

“Curiosity drove me to the gardens and wonder held me.

A thousand shades of green were amplified by a frosting of ice following the silver storm.

Fern, leaves, heather, trees were glazed, burdened and some broken.

Red twigs and tiny buds were enhanced.

Delicate pink petals, magnified like glass ice ornaments, were upright and holding strong.

I departed inspired by the fragile, tough beauty, and grateful for this year-round paradise.”



Starting with Seeds

~ Joan Erlanger

The seed catalogs have been rolling in with photographs to entice us to get started growing plants. Starting from seed is a great way to learn to recognize plants in their seedling stage that you may have been tempted to weed out of your garden.

Here's a few tips that may lead to successful seed starting:

- 1) Start with clean pots.
 - 2) Use a sterile medium. Seedling mix is usually a fine mix of peat and perlite.
 - 3) Good drainage is essential.
 - 4) Planting medium should be damp, not soggy. Watering from the bottom will help in deterring damping off that causes stems of seedlings to wither at ground level. A light application of sand to the soil surface also helps keep the stems dry.
 - 5) Some seeds require light to germinate; others need to be lightly covered with seedling mix. Be sure to read the seed package. For light dependent seeds, just lightly press them onto the surface of your planting medium. For seeds that require a cold period, plant your trays, cover with a plastic bag and refrigerate for the recommended period of time.
 - 6) Covering your flats or seedling trays with a clear plastic dome will assist in maintaining even moisture. It is best to remove the dome once germination has occurred.
 - 7) Temperature: room temperature of 65-70F is fine for most varieties for germination. After seedlings have emerged, lower temperature, 55-65F will yield stronger seedlings.
 - 8) Large seeds such as sweet peas and lupines benefit from nicking or presoaking to soften the seed coat before planting.
 - 9) Be sure to thin your seedlings to promote better air circulation.
 - 10) Remember to acclimate your new plants to the great outdoors before transplanting into your garden. Gradually get them used to the outdoors after being molly-coddled by setting them outside for an hour or two, preferably under cloudy conditions. Gradually increase exposure over a period of several days.
- Best of luck to all you intrepid seed starters!



Lincoln City Quilters Show and Sale

The Art Gallery in the Connie Hansen Garden is now presenting a show and sale of beautiful wall hangings and bed quilts designed, pieced, and sewn by the Lincoln City Quilters.

"We are the Lincoln City Quilters we get together every Tuesday and Thursday at Senior Center. We do charity quilts, and donated eleven to the Hope Center at Xmas. We made quilts for the hospital newborns, and have donated quilts throughout the community. We also work on our own individual projects.

Our oldest quilter, Laura Martin, 92, has a quilt in this show; Nancy Cross is showing several pieces that she intricately quilted on her home sewing machine; Phyllis Pianka's quilts display her originality. One large quilt in this show, "Day at the Beach"(shown above) was worked on together by the entire group. We hope you enjoy seeing them, they are all for sale."



PETAL HEADS ARE COMING!

March 2, 2024 at 1:00

We are so excited to re-open the Garden House this year to Petal Heads Nursery. This popular event is always a great way to welcome Spring. Dave and Annilese Dolittle are experienced horticulturists who give a fun slide show of the plants they are bringing, complete with pictures of what each plant will look like in full bloom, and how to care for it.

They always bring a truck load of the latest and greatest plants that will do well in the coastal climate, to sell on our back patio after the presentation. As their website states, "This is a Nursery for Hortiholics, Plant Nerds and Garden Gurus". You won't want to miss it!



Hellebore Love

~Cheri Rice

On a recent walk around the garden, I was pleasantly surprised by the blooming hellebores. During the dreary days of February, it's nice to see flowers putting on quite a show.

Sometimes called Lenten Roses for the time of year that they bloom, hellebores are becoming more prominent in winter gardens. Many garden centers and nurseries carry this plant and it comes in a plethora of colors and forms. It's easy to grow and is resistant to deer. Petal Heads Nursery will bring some of their favorite Hellebores on March 2 when they come.

Connie Hansen Garden has Hellebores of many colors: white, pink, yellow, deep red, and multicolored. Come visit the garden and see for yourselves how versatile and pretty this plant can be.



Hellebores are one of the few plants that provide nectar to honey bees in February. The honey bee in the flower to the left was visiting the blossom in February.

Tea Party May 11th



Our ever-popular Tea Party will be on Saturday, May 11th, the day before Mother's Day. We have two seatings, at 11:00 and again at 3:00. The price this year will be \$30 per seat. Reservations can be made starting April 1 by calling Jenny at 541-992-4567. The price will be \$30 and we always sell out!

Thank you, Members, Volunteers and Contributors!

The Connie Hansen Conservancy is entirely run by volunteers. We meet every Tuesday, weather permitting, to maintain this garden for the public to enjoy. The pleasure of seeing the result of our efforts is a reward that keeps us going.

It seems that no matter how much we do, there is always more that needs doing. Consider dropping by on a Tuesday between 10:00 and 2:00 and meet the crew, see how your own abilities and energy could give you the chance to feel that this is the place for you.

So many ways to help:

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. Come and talk with us.

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 _____

Email Address _____

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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