

Produce

Next General Meeting 10 AM at Reinhart Volunteer Park – B of A Pavilion

September 3rd General Meeting Presentation: Walking Presentation by Park Forester

October 1st Presentation: To Be Announced

Message from the President

September General Meeting at Reinhart Volunteer Park – B of A Pavilion – Potluck Brunch (or Brown Bag, if you'd rather). An abbreviated business meeting will be held, Raffle and a wonderful walking tour of the area with a county Park Forester. If you don't want to go on the tour, you can stay at the pavilion and visit. Coffee, water and tableware will be provided. Bring your goodies to share (and utensils for serving your goodies).

You can bring a chair or a cushion to set at the picnic table benches if you want. Hope to see you all there!!!

Birthdays are a new start, a fresh beginning, and a time to pursue new endeavors with new goals. Move forward with confidence and courage. You're a very special person. May today and all of your days be amazing!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Carlene Honeychurch | 11. CarolAnne Durante |
| 2. Tom Houghton | 19. Lilly Radbourne |
| 3. Sharleen Brasher | 20. Carole Genovesi |
| 3. Barbara Booth | |



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

4. Donna Rewick
8. Lynda Demsher
17. Curtis Hall

Remembrance – by Donna Rewick

If you wish to have our club membership informed of any illnesses, deaths or other concerns please contact me by e-mail dlrewick@gmail.com or phone (808) 220-9477. I will submit this information for mass e-mailing on your behalf. If you know of a member who may be uplifted by receiving a card, Please let me know.

2025 – 2026 Club Directory

We will soon be starting work on the 2025-26 Club Directory. If you are a new member (since our previous directory came out), we would like to take your picture to add to our members' section. Please see Lynda Demsher so she can get your photo. Also, If you didn't like your old picture, see Lynda for a new photo.

Our Sept. 3rd picnic meeting will be your last chance to have Lynda take your Photo.

Welcome to our two newest members: Cathy and David McGinnis.
We are so happy to have you joining us in the Grants Pass Garden Club!!!

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Two July 10, 2025 Garden Tours

Submitted by Donna Rewick

Thursday, July 10 was a very fun day for those who did the tours. The first tour, at the lovely property of Peggy Della Maggiora had many attendees taking in the beauty of both the front and backyards. The expansive property with its landscaping and gardens elicited countless oohs and aahs from all there was to view. With a big Thank You to Linda Price for organizing the tours.



The second tour that day had the attendees enjoying themselves seeing all the beautiful areas that Joan Giles has throughout her very large property. Whimsical signs and yard art amongst the areas brought delight for everyone as they weaved through seeing gorgeous plants and flowers, especially her colorful hydrangeas. At this tour, many attendees brought lunches and were able to relax in the shade. Joan provided ice cream and all kinds of toppings including her delicious blueberries handpicked from her fruit and vegetable garden. What a treat to beat the heat!



Lucy Saldana Tour

On Monday, August 11th, Lucy invited the GPGC members to visit her property, she and her husband, Craig, took from an empty lot to a beautiful property with their home and outstanding landscaping!



Lucy's Tour Continued:



Digging Up History

By Lynda Demsher

One of the reasons the Grants Pass Garden Club has endured for nearly 100 years may be because it has always been about love; love of gardening, love of beautiful flowers, love of knowledge, love of creativity, love of nature, love of community and of course the love of just having fun.

The Club was organized in 1926 by a group of women who promptly started off with programs about horticulture, birds, wildflowers, conservation, flower arrangement and corsage-making. They held meetings at the Riverside Park in the summer and the city library in the winter. They held plant sales, flower shows, garden tours and summer picnics.

The first president of the club, Marguerite Riddle, known in club publicity as Mrs. George R. Riddle. She was born in Kerby in 1872 and died in Grants Pass at the age of 60 in 1932. She loved flowers and wanted others who shared her passion to have a place where amateur gardeners could acquire knowledge and share experiences. She also encouraged civic plantings, garden-related community projects and promoted the protection of native plants and birds. At one point, Mrs. Riddle made friends with staff members at the Oregon State College arboretum in Corvallis and obtained hundreds of young trees, such as elms, cedars and birches for free distribution in Grants Pass.

Some of those planted in people's yards and around town may still be providing shade. The Garden Club also took part in Gladiola festivals that promoted the local bulb crop. Charter members of the Club's launch include Mrs. M. Allen, Mrs. C.H. Demaray, Mrs. George Eaton, Mrs. Myron C. Gaston, Mrs. T. Miller, Mrs. Stanton Rowell, Mrs. Earle Voorhies, Mrs. W.A. White and Mrs. Riddle (formal identity for women in the 1920s was by their husband's name).

The Josephine County Fair in the Floral Building

Set up / Intake / Judging Days – July 27, 29 & 30





REMINDERS FOR THE CARE OF HYDRANGEAS IN LATE SUMMER AND FALL

Macrophylla Hydrangeas

Now is the time to do some work with your macrophylla hydrangeas (mop heads, lace caps, etc.)—especially if you want to prune them shorter or smaller. You can cut off the “fading blooms” and shorten some of the branches—try to not shorten more than 1/3 of the plant/season—remember that these plants grow flowers on old wood, and if you cut off a lot of the existing (old) wood you may not have many flowers next year. Try to do this pruning by August 31st, to give the plants time to perhaps grow a little more wood this season, and that maybe could be “counted” as old wood for next season.

Paniculata Hydrangeas

Paniculata hydrangeas (cone shape flowers) are now coming into their “glory”! Just enjoy them, and watch the flowers change into lovely shades of pink and fiery ruby red! These flowers are really lovely to dry, so cut them probably later in September or October. To dry them, cut the flowers leaving a longer stem on them (I cut the flower stems about halfway down to where that stem connects to another stem), remove the leaves, and put them in vases about ½ full of water. Just enjoy them inside, and they will dry beautifully there (this is called “water drying”). I cut back all the stems about halfway back even if they have no flowers on them to reduce the “weight” for winter weather (snow, rain, etc.). Then in the early spring I cut each branch back to 2 or 3 nodes to shorten up the branches—this is because these hydrangeas bloom on NEW wood, so if you do not shorten the branches you will have next year’s growth laying on the ground! They grow so much new wood starting in the later spring—it is amazing!

No fertilizing is needed until next March and June.

Happy gardening,
Joan Giles



Donna Rewick, Community Director Report
Grange Garden, Riverside Gardens, Three Rivers Community Seed Library,
VA Chapel and Hospice Flowers:

Grange Garden:

With great appreciation to Debbie Crook, Chair who oversees the garden and coordinates volunteers. Also, to Mike Zerwer a thank you for always helping at the garden. The July volunteers were Jaime Kammann and Lucy Saldana. Thank you to both of them, and to others who happen to pitch in with picking up litter when seeing it needed to be done. If you would like to help with the maintenance of the garden, please sign up on the clipboard provided by Debbie.

Riverside Park Gardens:

Chair, Bonnie Shaw stops by the gardens frequently to weed, pick up litter, and also to stay apprised of how the area is doing if needing supplemental watering. On one of her visits she was delighted to find this below beauty. Thank you, Bonnie!



Three Rivers Community Seed Library:

Chair, Dorit Brown continues to manage the sites where packages of seeds are available for community residents to select. It's also time to save seeds for yourself and to share. Please contact Dorit at equidentbrown@icloud.com if you would like information about seed saving. In mid-September, she and volunteers will conduct a seed giving at the Growers Market.

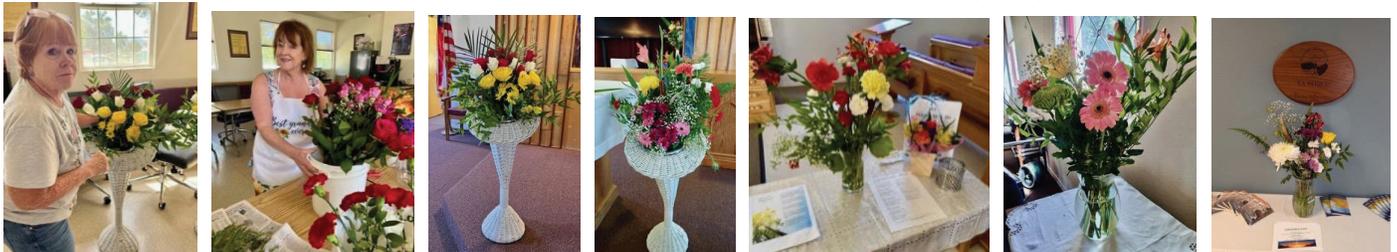
VA Chapel

A huge thank you to the volunteers who created lovely floral arrangements for our outreach to the Chapel at the VA Medical Center in White City.

This year the volunteers provided flowers the last three Fridays of July. The Rev. Joe McMahan provided the flowers for the 4th of July, Friday.

The Veterans always enjoy and appreciate having the beauty of flowers when they attend Chapel services. The team volunteers:

*Lynn Montgomery & Lilly Radbourne *Don & Pamela Davies * Julie Clark, Joy Firquain & Bonnie Shaw



**Lastly, but not least . . . for the Community Director Report:
Hospice Outreach Donated Flowers**

Thank you again for the flowers provided at the July 2025 General Meeting. Here are some pics of the arrangements Kay Nielson and her volunteers made from the generosity of your giving. November 2025 will be the next month to bring flowers, and I will send an email reminder. From the heart is joyful giving . . .



Thankful for our GPGC members and all you do . . . truly, we are making a positive impact for our community.

REGARDING FRESH SUMMER FRUIT SALADS

Ingredients

The best fruit salad features diced fruit, whole fruits, and a mix of juicy, sweet, and small pieces of something tart that make your mouth water with every bite.

- **Berries:** blueberries, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries.
- **Juicy & Sweet:** grapes, peaches, pineapple, or mango.
- **Citrus and tart:** orange, mandarins, kiwi.

Using frozen fruit

Most frozen fruits, such as berries, retain a lot of water and lose some of their texture after thawing, so I don't recommend them for making fruit salad. Diced mango, peaches, and pineapple chunks are the exception because they hold their texture well.

Avoid any fruit that browns

Apples, pears, and bananas brown fast, so try to avoid them if you're not serving the fruit salad immediately. If using, add a little pineapple juice or lemon juice to slow down the browning process. There are also fruit salad dressings.

Let it chill

Fruit salad is best enjoyed cold, so make it at least 1 hour in advance to allow it enough time to chill. You can keep it in the fridge for up to 2 days.





PHOTOS & FLOWERS – Nena Heitz

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