



2015

January 12, 2015

Birdening - Attracting Birds to the Garden: Linda Beutler

Wild birds are your best ally when establishing an organic garden, whether for edibles or ornamentals. Birds need food, water, shelter, and cover. This talk will provide suggestions for meeting the necessities of a wide variety of birds.

Linda Beutler is a fearless gardener who grows a great number of plants on a simple, flat 50' x 100' city lot in the Sellwood neighborhood of Portland, Oregon. She was a professional florist for over 20 years, and her first love in her own garden was growing flowers and foliage for cutting. Linda has been an instructor of horticulture at Clackamas Community College for 16 years. Her classes include Herbaceous Perennials (summer term) and The Flower Arranger's Garden I & II (autumn and spring terms). Linda is the author of two books, *Gardening with Clematis* (Timber Press 2004) and *Garden to Vase* (Timber Press 2007), both now sadly out-of-print.

Linda's other concurrent career is as curator of the Rogerson Clematis Collection, a position she has held since 2007. Starting in June 2013, Linda is the first American, and first woman, to hold the position of President of the International Clematis Society, of which she has long been an active member. Linda continues to speak nationally on numerous gardening topics including clematis selection and cultivation, growing cutting gardens, selection and cultivation of "old garden roses," and "birdening," selecting plants that attract birds to the garden.

February 9, 2015 (Scott Buley was ill so our own Clackamas County Master Gardener Ken Lister filled in with a beautiful Scotland Gardens slideshow)

Rain Gardens: Scott Buley *MG education credit.

March 9, 2015

Iris Demystified: Chad Harris, Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm *MG education credit. www.mtpleasantiris.com

All plants do better in an environment that suits their needs. Irises are no different. Bearded irises tend to be less demanding in their requirements, but different classes and varieties can need distinct care. Beardless iris, like Siberian and Japanese iris, can vary widely in their growing needs, with Japanese iris being the most demanding.

Specializing in wet-land-loving iris of Asia, Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm also grows other iris species and garden test many newer bearded iris that require less water. Currently he and a handful of hybridizers worldwide are using Iris ensata to create a new iris hybrid that is longer blooming and more tolerant of cultural needs.

Chad Harris of Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm has been growing many different species of irises in southwest Washington for over 30 years. He is respected in the iris world as a Master Judge with the American Iris Society and for his work with Iris ensata of which several of his introductions hold National Awards. He also enjoys working with the Asian water species Iris laevigata. He also writes articles and gives presentations on Japanese iris judging and culture.



April 13, 2015

The Challenge of Weeds:Chip Bubl *MG education credit.

This weed presentation will cover identification and management of some of the more challenging garden and home landscape weeds; a look at the effectiveness of organic herbicides; and a brief discussion of ornamental plants that wander too easily.

Chip has been an agricultural Extension agent with Oregon State University for over 30 years. His areas of interest include horticultural crops/landscape and invasive weed management, vegetable production, and vertebrate pest management. He has taught in the MG program since the mid 1980's.

May 11, 2015

The Wonderful World of Hardy Fuchsias: Ann Detweiler, Fry Road Nursery *MG education credit www.fryroadnursery.com

Ann Detweiler will present information on the care, culture, and varieties of hardy fuchsias. Not to be confused with their tender hanging basket relatives, hardy fuchsias are able to withstand our winters, and become permanent, substantial contributors to the outdoor landscape. When Ron and Deb Monnier closed their nursery, Monnier's Country Gardens, in 2009, their hardy fuchsia collection was purchased by Fry's Road Nursery in Albany. Ann Detweiler and Mark Leichty founded this nursery in 1987 and offer a large array of plants including hardy fuchsias and tropical plants.

June 8, 2015

Perennial Combinations: Tom Fischer, Timber Press www.timberpress.com

Every gardener wants to create breathtaking designs with color, form and texture. But perennial combinations present challenges: How do I know all plants will bloom at the same time? How do I pick plants that have interest in each season? Most perplexing – which plants look good together in the first place?

Tom Fischer will shed light on this topic, drawing ideas from his book, *Perennial Companions*, and local gardens. In addition, Tom will highlight outstanding plants that are good "mixers".

New gardeners will learn how to create simple pairings with two plants, and gardeners with a bit more experience will find complex arrangements with four or more plants. Whether you want to create a small-scale sanctuary, a welcoming path, or a bewitching border, you'll find an abundance of inspiration in this talk.

Tom is an editor of a publishing company of horticultural and other books. His talks are always delightful, with great information, and illustrated with vivid images.

September 14, 2015

The Mystery of Terroir in Oregon – the Relationship of Geology, Soils, and Climate to Wine Dr. Scott Burns, Professor Emeritus of Geology & Past-Chair of the Dept. of Geology at Portland State University *MG education credit.

Dr. Scott Burns will speak on the relationship of geology, soils and climate to wine, using examples from the Willamette Valley. This should enlighten all gardeners about soils and site choice, even if you are not interested in wine. For those wine conisseurs, he will explain "The seven factors that affect differences in wine, and the five of these factors that make up what the French call terroir, "the taste of the place".

Dr. Burns has been teaching for 44 years, with past positions in Switzerland, New Zealand, Washington, Colorado and Louisiana. Scott specializes in environmental and engineering geology, geomorphology, soils, terroir and Quaternary geology.



October 12, 2015

Creating Wildlife Habitat in Your Backyard: Gaylen Beatty, Columbia Land Trust *MG education credit.

There are many reasons to garden for wildlife and recent research shows urban/suburban gardens can play an important role in the preservation of wildlife. In fact, 2,100 residents of the Portland metropolitan area are doing their parts through the Backyard Habitat Certification Program.

Gaylen Beatty will make creating a wildlife habitat in your home garden easy. She will share proven techniques such as meadowscaping and native hedgerows. These practical ideas will add food and shelter for area wildlife.

Galen is the Manager of the Backyard Habitat Certification Program with Columbia Land Trust. In 2006, she founded the program and now co-manages it in partnership with the Audubon Society of Portland.

November 9, 2015

Cool Plants and New Trends: Dave Doolittle, Petal Heads Nursery www.portlandpetalheads.com

Dave and Annilese Doolittle launched petal heads™ in the summer of 2008 with the vision of offering unique plants, both annual and perennial, to other plant enthusiasts. They wanted to create a nursery that was a destination for some of the most sought after plants, as well as a location where fellow petal heads™ could experience the intimacy of hearing the "story behind the plants." To this day Dave and Annilese still share this eagerness to have their customers go home with plants they can connect with.

Dave spent 14 years of his career working for 2 of the nation's premier breeders and propagators specializing in annuals, perennials, succulents, flowering shrubs, and ornamental grasses. During this time he was able to travel the world in search of cultivars that are not typically found in garden centers, and befriended a network of breeders that hybridize the finest genetics in the horticulture industry. Annilese has collected plants since her adolescence, has a degree in horticulture from the university of Illinois, and has worked in the industry for several years. She has a keen eye for cool plants and enjoys predicting trends and profitable plant ventures.

December 14, 2015

Walks on the Wild Side: Grant McOmie

Grant McOmie will be sharing some of the many wildlife adventures featured in his, 2015 book, "Walks on the Wild Side." Grant McOmie is the reporter and producer of the outdoor series, "Grant's Getaways" that air weekly on KGW News Channel 8. A native Oregonian, he is a journalist, author, and teacher who writes and produces special programs about environmental issues, people, places, and outdoor activities in the Pacific Northwest.