



# Clackamas County Chatter July/August 2025



## Chapter Announcements

- **Open Gardens** – [Oak Grove Garden Club](#), a recipient of a Community Grant in 2024 will open [Risley Landing Gardens](#) on July 27 from 1-4. *Check the June Chatter for more about this amazing space. Scroll to page 3.* or visit their webpage: [www.oakgrovegardenclub.com](http://www.oakgrovegardenclub.com) Please contact Nancy Cutler and see our website for more information about participating in this fun chapter activity > [Open Gardens](#)
- **International Master Gardener Conference:** August 25-28, 2025.
  - Location: Online – join from anywhere in the world!
  - Early Bird Registration Rate: \$185. Register here: <https://www.imgc2025.com/registration/>
  - <https://www.imgc2025.com/> for more information.
- **Chapter Picnic**
  - Saturday, September 6 at 5:15pm – 7 pm
  - Milwaukie Center Picnic Pavilion. All are Welcome
- **Sara Hite Rose Garden Work Parties**
  - 10:00am to noon on Friday, August 8 and September 12. Bring your water bottle, pruners, weeder and bucket.
- **Chapter Housekeeping:** *Where will you make a difference this summer?* Click the links for more detailed information and join us at these chapter sponsored projects:
  - ❖ [Grow an Extra Row](#): Workdays on Tuesdays & Fridays
  - ❖ [End of the Oregon Trail Pioneer Garden](#): Workdays every other Wednesday
  - ❖ [Native Plant Garden at Hopkins Demonstration Forest](#): Workday on the third Monday of the month
  - ❖ [Gray & Norrene Thompson Community Projects Grants](#): Helping provide seed money for projects in the community. Check out their page for information about past grants, and to learn how to apply for funding.

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## Clackamas Master Gardeners *Nursery Tour and Social Event*

*Our third annual nursery tour at Hydrangea Plus in Canby was a blooming success!*

On a beautiful Monday evening 64 attendees gathered to explore the welcoming grounds filled with an impressive array of hydrangeas. The variety and quality of the plants were truly remarkable, exciting both new buyers and experienced collectors to add hydrangeas to their gardens. Guest leisurely strolled through the rows of vibrant blooms, enjoying lively conversation with fellow gardening enthusiasts. Refreshing beverages and a delicious spread of sandwiches and snacks added to the relaxed, festive atmosphere.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Kristen Van Hoose, the owner of Hydrangeas Plus, as well as her family for graciously hosting the event. Kristen's expertise in hydrangeas shone throughout the evening, as she generously answered questions and offered personalized guidance to attendees.

It was an evening full of inspiration, learning and community—an event that beautifully celebrated our shared love of gardening.





## "Flowers, Friends & Fun"

Summer is going by so quickly – now it is time to think about the Chapter Picnic. This year the picnic will be on Saturday, September 6th from 5:15pm - 7:00pm at the Milwaukie Center pavilion. We are looking forward to a yummy potluck with our Master Gardener friends. Join in the fun with games, a sing-along and more. Families and children are all welcome. *Be on the lookout for an Evite - your RSVP will help us to plan accordingly.* If you would like to help out please contact Jane Collier (email and phone number in the chapter directory). She is looking for help with set-up, take-down, food prep and more. Hope to see you there!

## Chapter Activities

### End of the Oregon Trail Pioneer Garden

The Pioneer Garden is starting up school programs in the fall with CCMGA volunteers leading the Thursday classes and tours related to the garden. If you are currently certified and would like to be trained to work with kids for program hours contact Marcia McIntyre or Rhonda Frick-Wright to be added to the list. 2025 dates are set for Sept. 25, Oct. 9, 23, and Nov. 6. We will need 6-8 people for each session. The activities are fun and easy to learn, so don't be shy. This will be a new adventure for all of us!



Volunteers are in the garden every other Wednesday during the summer. The gardens are all planted with historic plants and growing well now that summer is here. We did have a bit of a setback with a small furry pest. Rabbits are in residence on the grounds, and love to sample the tender seedlings: marigolds, calendula, spinach, peas, beans, corn and lettuces have all been victims. We have added chicken wire to our beds, which seems to be working. Even though it's not likely that the pioneers used this type of barrier we decided it was the best way to deter the young rabbits. If you have the time to walk through the gardens this summer, either during the Summer Concert Series for Oregon City, during the Festival of the Arts in August or just on a sunny day, take time to admire the beautiful supports and trellises handmade by the volunteers, and take in the large variety of vegetables and flowers the emigrants grew. For more info about this project: [End of the Oregon Trail Pioneer Garden](#).

### Native Plant and Ornamental Gardens at Hopkins

The gardens are a beautiful destination in our own backyard! If you have never been there, make time this summer for a visit - you won't be disappointed. The newly planted ornamental garden at Everett Hall is very welcoming, and the pathways, signage and native plant garden have been enhanced by the hard work of our chapter. Many thanks to our own Laura Eyer who did the ornamental garden design, oversaw the installation and even wrangled boy and girl scouts to distribute the woodchips last year. To read more about this project, complete with photos, check out the article in the [November 2024 Chapter Chatter](#). If you are interested in helping in these gardens, the work crew meets on the third Monday during the growing season. Contact Janna Christenson to be added to the email list and join the fun. [More info via this link: Native Plant Garden at Hopkins](#).



### Grow an Extra Row



Summer's bounty is in abundance right now – and the volunteers at Grow an Extra Row (GAER) are working hard caring for 2175 square feet of vegetable beds. The past two weeks have seen harvests of over 200 pounds of fresh food for donation to the Oregon City - First Baptist H.O.P.E. Pantry and First Presbyterian H.O.P.E. Pantry. Master Gardeners are also encouraged to drop off donations from their own gardens to add to the bounty. Please bring your cleaned produce to the gardens by 9:30am for delivery to the food pantries. In all, we have donated an impressive 1132 pounds so far this year. And that's without potatoes or tomatoes! Keep it growing everyone! *Would you like to stop by and lend a hand?* Volunteers are in the garden for summer hours right now. Until further notice, work begins at 8:00 am on Tuesdays and Fridays. This should allow time to finish by 11:00, before the weather gets REALLY hot. As always, you are welcome to arrive at any time that is convenient for you on those days. For more information about this project check out this link: [Grow an Extra Row](#)



## Note from the Desk of Priscilla Robinson

**This Summer make a difference for yourself and others.** What does this look like? You could attend a conference to satisfy your curiosity, and acquire some education hours for recertification, or you could explore one of the many volunteer opportunities available – there are projects for all abilities and interests. The results of your volunteer hours may put food on the table for those in need, bring awareness of our natural wonders or even help gardeners make smart choices for their garden and the environment. Many projects offer “just show up” and help. Others require some preplanning by signing up ahead of time. These offers frequently come in emails from Marcia at the Clackamas County Extension office, or you can [browse CERVIS](#) to see what is available. Our [CCMGA Website](#) has a wealth of information too. The bottom line is, when you make a difference for others, you are also making a change for yourself and our chapter.

### **Recertification Reminder (Priscilla)**

The “new” online submission of your volunteer and continuing education hours is available 24/7. It is recommended that you submit hours as you accrue them, and not wait until the deadline. This allows you to see where you stand and those approving hours a wider swath of time to get the job done. Here is the link for the Volunteer Reporting System (VRS) [https://metromg.org/sec\\_Login/](https://metromg.org/sec_Login/) All the details about hours needed to recertify are on this webpage. You are always welcome to contact Extension if you have any questions.

**Priscilla Robinson** CCMG President

## .....10-Minute University News .....



- ✓ **Summer in the Garden articles are now live!** [2025 Articles](#)
- ✓ **Webinars from 2025 are available for recertification credit:** [2025 Webinars](#)
- ✓ **10-Minute University June newsletter** Stay in the know: [sign up here for the newsletter](#).

## .....Happening in August & September .....

- ❖ **August 25th** - Executive Board Meeting, Extension Annex, 2:00p.m. All are welcome
- ❖ **Saturday, September 6** – Annual Chapter Picnic 5:15pm to 7pm at the Milwaukie Center Pavilion Area
- ❖ **September 17** – Meeting for planning the 2026 Spring Garden Fair at the Extension Annex, 7 pm. *All are welcome to attend.*
- ❖ **September 30** - Executive Board Meeting, Extension Annex, 2:00pm. *Meetings are open to anyone wishing to attend.*

[Click here for the complete 2025 calendar \\*subject to change](#)

President: Priscilla Robinson • Vice President: Jane Collier • Secretary: Judy Fulton • Treasurer: Paul Baker

Assistant Treasurer: Rhonda Frick-Wright • Advisors: Wendy Wilson, Kelly Welch, Amelia Wilbur • Newsletter: Laura Eyer