

**Meeting**  
**\*\*\*\*\*Location\*\*\*\*\***

**10761 se 240th PL**  
**Damascus, OR**

**6:30 pm social**  
**7:00 pm meeting**

**NOTE: Summer Meet**  
**at a member Home**  
**And EARLER TIME!!!**

**2011 Board of Directors**  
**Contact:**  
gardenclubpdx@gmail.com

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Tom Barreto

# The Practical Gardener



www.gardenclubpdx.org

August 2011

Volume 73 #8

## August 23 Meeting—Small Trees

Kathy, the owner of Flat Creek Garden Center, will discuss small trees for the garden and “specialty” magnolia and Japanese maples. She has always carried plants “for the Collector at Heart”. This is one of our favorite places to find unusual trees and perennials. And she will bring plants to sell.

Please come as early as 6 pm to wander around Jan’s incredible garden and enjoy food and refreshments.

Flat Creek Garden Center

30039 SE Orient Dr,

Gresham, OR 97080

www.flatcreekgarden.com 503-663-4101

## Directions to Jan Bell’s Garden

From I-84:

Take the 238th st.exit, going south into Wood Village. Stay on 238th, going up the winding hill, it becomes 242nd (Hogan Dr). Stay on 242nd going south (approx. 6.5—7 miles, you go through 8 signal lights). Take a right on Williams Place (dead-end gravel road), go right at the “T”(still gravel). At the 3 legged “Y” take the first left. Jan’s is the 2nd house on the left.

From Hwy 212/Hwy 224 in Clackamas:

Go east for approx. 7 miles, going through Damascus city limits, continue to left turn lane (signal light) for 242nd (Hogan Rd). go north on 242nd approx 3 miles, make a left onto Williams Place (dead-end gravel road). Follow directions as above.

Call Jan if you need help: Cell: 503-312-8791 Home: 503-658-4024

## President's Message

Greetings!

Summer has arrived and I hope you are enjoying the warmer days and your gardens. Below are some reminders about upcoming activities and club benefits that I hope you will take advantage of.



### Save the Date – Annual Wine and Garden Tour – Saturday, September 24

Ruth Hoard, Scott Southwell, Debbie Russell and Kathy Harrison are planning a great trip for us. We'll have information and signup sheets at this month's meeting.



### Potlatch – Tuesday, October 25

Granted that seems ages away but in reality we need your help now. In order to secure donations (gift certificates or an actual donation) we need to get our letters out now. Please bring a list of the three nurseries or garden centers that you frequent to the next meeting. We would like the business name, address and if possible a contact person (preferred but not mandatory). Elizabeth Newton will collect the information and forward a letter asking for a donation. Remember that this is one of our top two fundraising events we do every year. And, the more donations received the more goodies that you can win! We definitely need your help.

Speaking of Potlatch we are looking for a few good people to assist with picking up donations, setup and tear down...the board could really use your help. Please let me know if you are interested in helping out.

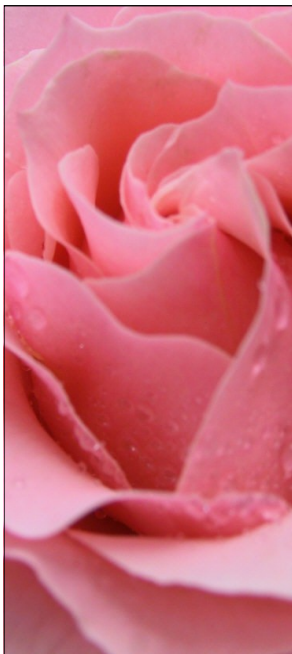
### 2012 Monthly Meeting Topics & Field Trip Ideas

It's that time of year again to begin gathering ideas for next year's monthly meeting topics, favored speakers and field trip ideas. We'll have a signup sheet at the next two meetings (August & September) and then post those at Potlatch so members can vote for their favorites. The top vote gathers win!

This year's summer meetings have had excellent participation by members and guests alike. So far we've been to Lake Oswego and the Skyline area. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at Jan Bell's home out near Gresham on Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>

Happy Gardening

Gregg Macy



## Tips From Tom

- Blossom-end rot (BER) is a malady of tomatoes. It is caused by irregular watering and calcium shortage. Grow your seedlings in compost laced with eggshells from your kitchen debris. When you set them into the ground, add another dose of eggshells. Using this approach, you should get nearly no BER and no damping off.
- During the winter, buy organic lettuce in clear plastic boxes and save the boxes. In the spring, direct-sow the delicate seeds (like lettuce or flowers) in the garden and cover them with one of those boxes, like a miniature greenhouse. Tilt it up to gently water the seedlings. The box traps the warmth of the sun and protects the seedlings from harm. As the seedlings grow, prop open the box to harden them a bit before completely removing the box.
- Did you know? The sphagnum moss grows on the surface of a bog, the older parts of the plant are submerged in oxygen-poor water. The lack of oxygen slows decomposition dramatically, preserving the moss and anything else that falls into the bog. Given enough time, submerged sphagnum moss forms the dense, absorbent material know as peat moss. Left alone, the process won't stop there. Although the transformation requires eons, undisturbed peat will eventually form coal. Peat is essentially young coal - a baby fossil fuel. And, like all fossil fuels, it is rich in carbon. When peat is mined, this stored carbon is vulnerable to release into the atmosphere, where it contributes to the problem of global climate change.
- To avoid a smelly kitchen compost bucket, crush lavender blossoms in the bottom of the bucket and add shredded paper as you add kitchen discards. You won't have to smell any nasty smells again!!

***Our Summer Meetings are held at member's homes. This is a great opportunity to see some great gardens and enjoy a summer evening in good company!  
Enjoy all of the different styles of gardens — June at Marta Lansing's wild sort-of cottage garden style, July at Tom Barreto's elegant terraced wonder off of Skyline, and August see Jan Bell's park-like beauty near Damascus.***

**We start earlier - 6:30 for social time and 7:00 for the meeting and sit outside near the garden.**

## 2011 Monthly Speaker's Topics

March	Clematis	
April	Container Gardening	
May	Hardy Orchids	
June	Fruit Trees/Plants	(Marta's home)
July	Evergreen Shade Plants	(Tom's home)
August	Small Trees	(Jan's home)
September	Unusual Spring Bulbs	
October	Potlatch	

Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday each month at the Subud Center unless noted differently - June, July & August meetings are held at member's homes



## MGCP Patrons, Supporters & Speakers

### 2010 Speakers



#### January - Organic Pests

Naomi Montacre  
 Namoi's Organic Farm Supply  
[www.naomisorganic.blogspot.com](http://www.naomisorganic.blogspot.com)  
 (503) 517-8551

#### February - Early Blooming Flowers

Sue Barr  
 Sues Landscape Design  
[www.sueslandscapedesign.com](http://www.sueslandscapedesign.com)  
 503-984-3969



#### March - Hardscape Design

Vanessa Gardner Nagel  
 Seasons Garden Design  
[www.seasonsgardendesign.com](http://www.seasonsgardendesign.com)  
 (360) 546- 2746 or (503) 621-2746

#### April - Urban Chickens

Robert Litt  
 Urban Farm Store  
[www.urbanfarmstore.com](http://www.urbanfarmstore.com)  
 (503) 234-7733



#### May - Year Round Gardening

Tim Lanfri  
 Community Garden Creators  
[www.communitygardencreators.org](http://www.communitygardencreators.org)  
 Contact: [cgc.org@gmail.com](mailto:cgc.org@gmail.com)

#### July - Curb Appeal

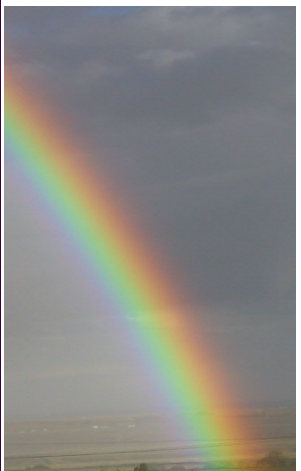
Brian Bauman  
 Bauman Farms  
[www.baumanfarms.com](http://www.baumanfarms.com)  
 (503) 792-3524

#### August - Rare & Hard to Find Plants

Dave & Annliese Doolittle  
 Petal Heads, LLC  
 2625 Dillow Drive,  
 West Linn, OR 97068

#### September- Great Fall Plantings

Lynn Snodgrass  
 Drakes 7 Dees Nurseries  
<http://drakes7dees.com>  
 (503) 256-2223



### 2011 Speakers

#### January - Drip Irrigation

Cindy Webb  
 Right Irrigation Supply, Inc.  
[www.rightirrigation.com](http://www.rightirrigation.com)  
 (360)696-1831

#### February - Good Soil

Claudia Groth  
 Consultant at Communication for the  
 Horticulture Community

#### March- Clematis

Linda Beutler of Friends of the  
 Rogerson Clematis Collection.

#### April- Container Gardening

Annilese Doolittle of Petal Heads  
[www.portlandpetalheads.com](http://www.portlandpetalheads.com)

#### May - Hardy Orchids

Sean McMillen from Hana Farms  
[Hanafarms.com](http://Hanafarms.com)

#### June—Fruit Trees and Plants

Jim Gilbert from One Green World  
[www.onegreenworld.com](http://www.onegreenworld.com)

#### July—Evergreen Shade Perennials

Angela Jones from Cornell Farms  
[www.cornellfarms.com](http://www.cornellfarms.com)

#### August — Small Trees

Kathy from Flat Creek Garden Center  
[Www.flatcreekgarden.com](http://Www.flatcreekgarden.com)

### Local Area Merchants Offering Discounts to MGCP Members

Dennis' 7 Dees Nursery  
 Drake's 7 Dees Nursery  
 Rain or Shine  
 Little Baja  
 The Yard Center  
 Concentrates, Inc.

## Mission Statement

Metropolitan Garden Club of Portland is devoted to the promotion of the aesthetic appreciation of gardens. To develop the love of growing plants and promote general interest in individual and community gardens through membership networking, education and civic activities.

## Membership

Get a membership form from our website: [www.gardenclubpdx.org](http://www.gardenclubpdx.org)

- Sign up by mail, or better yet, come to the next meeting! And bring a friend!
- Snail mail address: PO Box 69114 Portland, OR 97239

## Plant of the Month—Mukdenia (Crimson Fans)

Mukdenia's maple-like green leaves are etched in a bronzy-red that turn red as the season warms and changes again in the fall.

Mukdenia injects just the right amount of color boost while retaining a fresh look from spring-fall. Crimson Fans provides a refreshing alternative to Pachysandra where attractive foliage and good cover are desired.

Mukdenia is at its best performance in a moisture-retentive soil in shade to part shade. It makes a great groundcover for shady areas.

Combine colorful Mukdenia with bold textured hostas, red leaved heucheras and ferns.



## Wine and Nursery Tour - Saturday September 24



Save the date!! We will be doing our annual, Funtastic! Wine and Nursery tour. Come to the next meeting to get details. This is always a great adventure.