



Clackamas County Chatter October 2023

Chapter Meeting – Monday, October 9 at the Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr., Milwaukie.

Meet and Greet 6:30 – 7:00

We are celebrating another great season from our “Grow an Extra Row” program with a party to thank Nancy Muir and Eve Freeman who will be handing off their trowels after 20 total years of leadership. Come to enjoy some refreshments as we honor their amazing work.

Program 7:00

Growing and Propagating a Bevy of Begonias & Gesneriads, *Ann Amato, president of the Mount Hood Gesneriad Society*



Begonias are one of the most beautiful plants in our homes and gardens, and gesneriads are members of a large family of flowers with pretty blooms. Cultivation tips will be shared for both beginners and advanced growers. *Plants will be available for purchase.*

Ann Amato is a horticulturist; she propagates for two legendary local nurseries: Cistus Nursery (Sauvie Island) and Secret Garden Growers (Canby). Ann has appeared on “Garden Time TV,” was interviewed for The Planthunter in Australia as well as for the podcast Horticulture Rising.

www.amateurbotannist.com Follow the link for more information on this talk: [Lecture Series](#)

Greetings Clackamas County Master Gardener™ Volunteers,

As we look forward to “putting our gardens to bed” over the winter, we also anticipate changes in the chapter’s Committee leadership positions. The 2023 CCMG Handbook has a list of existing Committees, and their current chairs and vacancies (page 23). If you are interested in taking on a position, please contact Amelia Wilbur, Priscilla Robinson, or Wendy Wilson. You can get an idea of the activities each of the committees has been involved in in past email announcements, listed here: <https://clackamascountymastergardeners.org/members/2023-email-announcements/>

The Program Committee will be meeting in early November, and if you are interested in participating in selecting speakers for the nine meetings in 2024, you can also contact Amelia Wilbur, Priscilla Robinson or Wendy Wilson.

November's chapter meeting will be held on Monday, November 13, 2023, 7 p.m.

The business agenda will include election of officers and adoption of a budget. Chapter members will be presented with the slate of officers and proposed budget at the October meeting, and the elections will be held at the November meeting.

Summary from the 2023 Annual Clackamas County Master Gardener Picnic, *Priscilla Robinson, Vice President*

CCMG members and guests enjoyed glorious weather at this year's picnic held September 11th at the Milwaukie Community Center, Picnic Pavilion. Aloha was this picnic theme, with festive decorations, live music, and Island worthy food. Beautiful fresh banana leaves, pineapples and leis decorated the tables. A "Plate Lunch" favorite of Huli Huli Chicken, rice and Mac Salad were prepared by Committee Members. An assortment of delicious "Pot Luck" sides and desserts shared by CCMG faithful, rounded out an amazing spread of food. It was quite evident that many dishes had been prepared with home-grown vegetables and fruits. Never miss a Master Gardener Potluck. We know how to grow, cook, and eat!

Fifty-two people signed in, but the numbers seemed greater: with so much joyful chatter and laughter. As longtime members arrived there were hugs, hoops, and hollering. For some it was their first picnic. Most attendees were surprised by the festive ambiance with a Trio of Ukulele Musicians and tropical decor. The non-stop Hawaiian music and "Oldies" worthy of humming along to, filled the evening.

Activities set up for the young and old provided opportunities to meet new people and put names with faces. Amelia Wilbur addressed the group, to bring them up to speed about CCMG's return of "Fall into Gardening", October 7th at the Milwaukie Community Center 8:30-Noon. She was happy to have so many together again, for the beginning of a new year in chapter meetings, missions, and events.

Rhonda Frick-Wright wrote original lyrics set to John Denver's Country Roads. As she played the guitar, the group joined in a sing-along "Aloha Summer Gardens". (Lyrics follow.) Priscilla (Robinson) expressed many thanks to the committee members who cooked, set up, provided supplies/support, and helped take down. She welcomed the return of this CCMG event and community effort despite the pandemic lapse. There were many sighs of relief that the event had not gone forward during the heat wave and 106 degrees of August. The Executive Board is considering scheduling the Annual Picnic on the 2nd Saturday of September. This will allow guests, families, and children to attend and forego the hot August temperatures. If you were unable to attend this year, you were missed. "Save the Date" *We hope you will join us September 13, 2024.*

Aloha Summer Gardens, Set to John Denver's Country Roads by Rhonda Frick-Wright

Almost Autumn, mid-September
Days are shorter, leaves begin to fall
Say good-bye to dahlias, corn and beans,
Rain makes irrigation, lawns will soon be green.



Chorus:
Say Aloha to summer gardens, Time to rake leaves, and clean or tools
Master Gardeners need some rest time, Say Aloha to summer days

Summer memories still surround us,
Open gardens, picnic at the Wilbur's
Summer pruning, farmer's market clinics
Answering neighbor's questions, "What's wrong with my plants"

Chorus

I hear the office can still give helpline hours
GAER and Pioneer Gardens, they will always need our help
Webinars, garden talks, re-cert-if-i-ca-tion
So much still to do...today

Chorus

Please note: the contact phone number for Amelia Wilbur and John Wilbur listed in the 2023 CCMG Directory should be 971-275-3588. Please correct your directory (page 49).

Amelia Wilbur, Chapter President

CLACKAMAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER™ ASSOC. PRESENTS:

Fall into Gardening

October 7, 2023 • 9am to noon

Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive in Milwaukie

Learn How to Do-It-Yourself with Master Gardener™ Volunteers

Free & open to the public • doors open at 8:30 • www.cmastergardeners.org

9:00 Getting Started with Succulents

10:00 Slugs & Snails

11:00 Pollinators & Native Plants to Attract Them

- * **Soil Testing (9 – noon):** We will test your soil pH & give advice on amendments. Up to 4 samples per client. For step-by-step instructions download “Testing Soil pH” handout at www.cmastergardeners.org under the “10-Minute University™” tab.
- * **Let’s talk Plants (8:30 – noon):** Master Gardeners will be on hand & eager to talk all things plants, diseases, pests & insect issues. Bring your questions, samples and/or pictures.
- * **Educational Displays:** Three dimensional displays covering timely garden subjects.

For more information on the event: [Fall into Gardening](#)

President: Amelia Wilbur • Vice President: Priscilla Robinson • Secretary: Laura Oldenkamp
• Treasurer: Rhonda Frick-Wright • Assistant Treasurer: Vaughn Marable
• Advisors: John Wilbur, Wendy Wilson, Kelly Welch • Newsletter: Kris LaMar