

Can You Dig It?

By Schann Nelson



Another spring, another plant trade, another celebration of life. Years ago we did the plant trade at Jenelle Wiggins house and planted her garden as she and her family struggled with breast cancer. She passed away on the following New Year. This year we marked the passing of our mentor, Irene Siedleman. She was radiant and very pleased about the beautiful invitations honoring her and her sister, Jennie.

However, while only a few of the group at the trade on Saturday knew Irene, her plants were very well represented and will live on.

Of course, this is at least partly because many of the plants she traded away had become like weeds in her yard...and now are like weeds in my yard. A weed, in this case, being defined as any plant growing, usually better than anything else around it, that you don't want where it is. Lupine, lemon balm, veronica, geraniums, violets, and many others are lovely where you want them, but can overgrow their allotted space and/or invade where they are not wanted.

Kudos to Mike, of Mike's Hardy Perennials in Cornelius, who helped us identify some plants. The perennial blue herb commonly known as a bachelor's button is actually a centuria (I think, but I don't have time to look it up 'cause my darling editor wants this column yesterday!). Also, thanks to Penny Costley, who not only brought plants to the second Vernonia Country Market but also brought plants to trade.

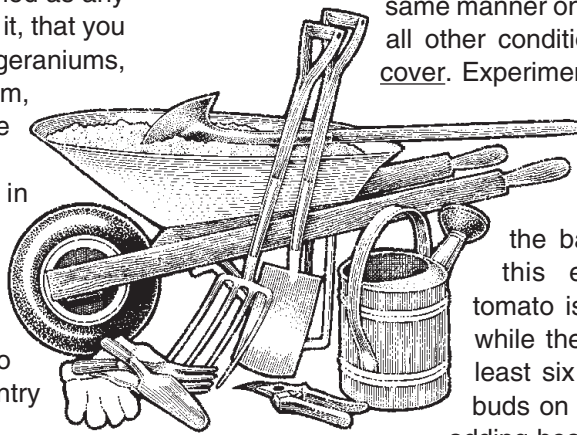
The plant trade now has a permanent home at the second market of the season, and will continue to be a memorial to the spirit of sharing and cooperation.

Today, during the garden research portion of this column, I actually managed to pick a substantial salad. This would not be remarkable if I had intentionally planted salad greens. However, with the exception of the surviving four lettuce plants that stayed in their six-pack for over a month, I did not plant salad greens. What I did harvest were a few young dandelion greens, borage and parsley leaves (self-seeded in the garden), a small amount of lovage, some chive flowers and mustard flowers, and a bunch of the tips of the Australian peas. These last, I threw out as green manure in late fall, they have grown all winter and are now about two feet high. I plan on serving the whole bunch with a bacon and onion dressing as a wilted salad.

I still don't have any peas planted but anticipate having some time to work in the garden this week. I want to plant peas (and hope the variety I bought is enation resistant), then green beans, corn and maybe a few other odds and ends.

I do have one experiment I must report. This year I bought all of my tomato plants at the county Master Gardeners' Sale (which was the same day as Vernonia Clean Up). I love Sun Gold, a cherry tomato, so I bought two. When I went to plant all ten of my tomatoes (I'll put the list in next time) I realized that I must have tossed some of my clear plastic hot caps because I only had nine. So, all of them except one of the Sun Golds went under cover, and have remained pretty much covered, except for a few nice days, since then.

Not surprisingly, the covered tomato is much taller than the uncovered one. This is an accurate experiment because both plants were grown by the same grower and planted in exactly the same manner on the same day. This maintains all other conditions the same except for the cover. Experimenting in your garden can be a



lot of fun, and the more accurate records you keep, the more you will learn, but it is important to remember the basic principles of science. In this experiment, the uncovered tomato is just about three inches tall, while the one under the hot cap is at least six inches tall and has blossom buds on it. This is another example of adding heat to your garden.

Get outside and enjoy! Soon it will be too hot for us moss-backs.

More hands are needed for the 2004 Jamboree

The Jamboree Committee board of co-Presidents Mark Hall and Garrett Abney, co-Vice Presidents, Paula Hansen and Ron Wright, Treasurer Randy Parrow, and Secretary Janet Holcomb will be busy this year.

The 2004 theme is "Hug a Logger, Hug a Tree, Vernonia Friendship Jamboree 2004." Entries for the Theme Design Contest will be accepted through June 8. Entries may be left in the Vernonia Sentry video department or mailed to Jamboree Committee Theme Design Contest, P.O. Box 244, Vernonia, OR 97064.

Events still needing volunteers include the Fun Run and the Parade. Join in to make a spectacular 2004 Jamboree.

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 27, 6:30 p.m. at the Buckhorn Restaurant. In June, meetings will be on the second Thursday at Leonetti's Pizza and the fourth Thursday at the Buckhorn, at 6:30 p.m.

Church Directory

VERNONIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Grant Williams, Pastor
957 State Avenue
Vernonia, 503 429-6790
Sunday Breakfast 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
*B.L.A.S.T. w/Nursery 11:00 a.m.
*Bible Learning and Scripture Training
Youth Group 6 -8:00 p.m.
(Jr. & Sr. High)
Wednesday
Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

GRACE REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

D.J. Dickey, Pastor
Grant & North Streets
Vernonia, 503 429-1919
Sunday Services: Adult Prayer & Children's Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:15 a.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.
Evening Service will change to 3:00 p.m. on Sept. 7, 2003
Wednesday Service:
All Family Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Darwin Harvey, Pastor
662 Jefferson
Vernonia, 503 429-4615
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Bible Study, Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Youth & Kids, Thursday 7:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

John Cahill, Pastor
359 "A" Street
Vernonia, 503 429-1161
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship
Saturday, 6:00 p.m.

NEHALEM VALLEY BIBLE CHURCH

Gary Taylor, Pastor
500 California Ave
Vernonia, 503 429-5378
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Nursery available
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastoral Associate Juanita Dennis
960 Missouri Avenue
Vernonia, 503 429-8841
Mass Schedule
Sunday 12:00 Noon
Religious Education
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Kevin Reiner, Pastor, 543-2254
2nd Ave. and Nehalem St.
Vernonia, 503 429-8301
Sabbath School 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wed. 7:00 p.m.

ST. AUGUSTINE (CANTERBURY) EPISCOPAL CHURCH

375 North St. (Vernonia Grange Hall)
Vernonia, 503 795-2173
Sunday Services 10:00 a.m.

VERNONIA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Jim Kirby, Evangelist
410 North Street
Vernonia, 503 429-6522
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Every Wednesday:
Ladies' Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Ladies' Worship 10:00 a.m.
Children's Choir 3:00 p.m.
Family Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

VERNONIA FOURSQUARE CHURCH

850 Madison Avenue
Vernonia, 503 429-1103
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Jeff Cheney, Branch President
1350 E. Knott Street
Vernonia, 503 429-7151
Sacrament Meeting, Sunday 10 a.m.
Sunday School & Primary 11:20 a.m.
Relief Society, Priesthood and Young Women, Sunday 12:10 p.m.



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