Myrl Bishop
Myrl grew up on the Texas coast. She married and had a son and a daughter, while going to college. She taught high school biology and marine science for 27 years. She attended several National Science Institutes, one of which was a three-year program leading to a Masters degree. After retiring in 1994, Myrl took the San Patricio County Master Gardener class and joined the Aransas Pass Garden Club. In 1996, she completed a program in landscape design offered jointly by Garden Clubs of America and Texas A & M. In 1999, she and Peter moved to Ashland; she then enrolled in the Jackson County Master Gardening program in the class of 2000.

Myrl’s Master Gardening experience has evolved over the years. She kept a demonstration garden at the Extension Center for three years; she organized and worked in the Ashland Grower’s Market Plant Clinic for three years; she wrote gardening book reviews for The Beet for three years. Most recently, she has developed programs for gardeners and garden clubs, starting with “Vines for the Rogue Valley”.

Program Descriptions

Vines for the Rogue Valley- Part I
Perennial vine types, placement in a garden, evergreen and deciduous species suitable for the Rogue Valley, handouts summarizing names and characteristics, bibliography. 1 hour 15 min. PowerPoint presentation (PPT).
Vines for the Rogue Valley - Part II
Emphasis on vine growth and placement in the garden, leaving species list as a handout. 35 min. PPT

Annual Vines for the Rogue Valley
Annual vines suitable for one growing season, handouts summarizing names and characteristics, 30 min. PPT.

Clematis for the Rogue Valley
Characteristics and cultivation of clematis vines, handouts of types and blooming season. 1 hour 15 min. PPT.

The Other Clematis
Clematis types less known and used, which can provide almost year-round color. 30 min. PPT.

Art in the Garden
How members of the Ashland Garden Club use art in their gardens, highlighting some of the does and don'ts. 30 min. PPT.

Fundamentals of Garden Design
The elements of traditional garden design, with examples - color, texture, shape, etc.

The Chinese Garden Scholar's Garden
An overview: history, evolution, characteristics, and symbolism. 1 hr. 15 min. Photos from the Chinese gardens in Portland, Pasadena, Sydney, Shanghai, Wuhan.

Portland's Chinese Garden, Lu Shan
Traditional characteristics of a Chinese Garden will be explored. Less emphasis is on history and evolution, but still with Lu Shan’s specific use of symbolism, plants and architecture. 30 min.
Mediterranean Climates and Gardens
A scientific clarification of what a Mediterranean climate is, with maps, climate details, roles of aspect and calories, definition of the climax vegetation, the chaparral with plant adaptations. How our Rogue Valley climate is different. An overview of the characteristics and types of a Mediterranean garden will be provided with suggestions on how to create a Mediterranean garden style in the Rogue Valley. 1 hr. 15 min.

Mediterranean Garden Style
Less emphasis on climate and science, more on Mediterranean garden styles and how to adapt a backyard to the style. 30 min.

Mediterranean Climate
Emphasis on the science, characteristics and locations of the Mediterranean climate. 45 min.