

Douglas County Master Gardeners



JUNE 2010

Volume 25, Number 6

YOUR PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

Newsletter Article May 28th

I had been struggling to come up with an idea for the newsletter article this month when on May 16th I read the Sunday newspaper and looked over President Obama’s message to the class of 2010. After reading this article I went on the web to the site of 25 other graduation speeches. I was trying to download Randy Paush’s, after reading his book, but had difficulty and ended up reading the one by Paul Hawken given to the University of Portland in 2009.

His opening statement went like this, “Let’s begin with the startling part. Class of 2009: you are going to have to figure out what is means to be a human being on earth at a time when every living system is declining and the rate of decline is accelerating. ...Basically, civilization needs a new operating system, you are the programmers, and we need it within a few decades.” He went on to say, “There is invisible writing on the back of the diploma you will receive, and in case you didn’t bring lemon juice to decode it, I can tell you what it says: You are Brilliant, and the Earth is hiring. The earth couldn’t afford to send recruiters or limos to your school. It sent you rain, sunsets, ripe cherries, night blooming jasmine, and that unbelievably cute person you are dating. Take a hint. And here’s the deal: Forget that this task of planet-saving is not possible in the time required. Don’t be put off by people who know what is not possible. Do what needs to be done, and check to see if it was impossible only after you are done.”

He goes on to say, “The living world is not “out there” somewhere, but in your heart. What do we know about life? In the words of biologist Janine Benyus, life creates the conditions that are conducive to life.And whenever we exploit the earth we exploit

people and cause untold suffering. **Working for the earth is not a way to get rich, it is a way to be rich.** (I thought this line was great, DCMG’s are very rich) ...Nature beckons you to be on her side. You couldn’t ask for a better boss. The most unrealistic person in the world is the cynic, not the dreamer. Hope only makes sense when it doesn’t make sense to be hopeful. This is your century. Take it and run as if your life depends on it.”

This speech spoke to me and if you want to read it in full log on to <http://www.up.edu/commencement>. It made me feel good that I was a Douglas County Master Gardener. I am not the new graduating class, but I am doing things I feel help this world. Volunteering and helping others is what we are all about. Examples: Elaine Moriarty and her crew who are making the Victory Garden a reality this year. They certainly are using their hearts to make something good for nature and their fellow humans. All of you who are learning about the Spotted Wing Drosophila and helping others to take care of this problem responsibly are helping Mother Nature. Master Gardeners who work in the Plant Clinic, Saturday, Kruse or Brosi Markets are doing their part. Building and maintaining the Discovery Garden is adding so much to our community and Mother Nature. We should all be proud of our contributions.

I thought this was very pertinent to the new class of Master Gardeners. This organization is yours. You might have hopes for certain ideas. Please feel free to discuss those with any of us and bring your thoughts and expertise to the group. We can always look for new direction in writing the next chapter to Douglas County Master Gardeners.

Judy Huntley
Douglas County Master Gardener’s President



Inside this Issue	
	Page
MG News	2
Notes from the Clinic	3
Treasurer Report	3
General Meeting	4-6
Spotted Wing Drosophila	7

OUR MISSION

- EDUCATE HOME GARDENERS IN THE DOUGLAS COUNTY AREA WITH THE MOST PRACTICAL AND SAFE HOME
- HORTICULTURAL PRACTICES BASED ON A PROGRAM OF KNOWLEDGE UPDATE AND REGENERATION, AND,
- CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF ENJOYMENT FOR ALL

Master Gardener News

2010 – 2011 Officer Nominations

At the last Executive Board meeting, a nominating committee was formed to find candidates for the next election of officers. The committee was composed of Karolyn Riecks, Julie Stanbery and Debbie Hesselstine.

The candidates that the committee will nominate for election are:

President – Judy Huntley
Vice President – Leo Grass
Secretary – Debbie Hesselstine
Treasurer – Toni Rudolph
Membership Director – Barbara Robinson
OMGA Representative – Maureen Benice
OMGA Alternate Representative – Debbie Haynes

The election will be at the July General Meeting and the candidates will come from the nominations made by the Nominating Committee and from nominations submitted from the floor.

The elected officers will be installed at the August General Meeting.

Nominating Committee

WEDDING INVITATION

Elaine Moriarty and Robert (Bob) Mallory are inviting all Master Gardeners (and guests) to share in the joy of their wedding on July 24th at 4:00 pm under the Pavilion in the Discovery Gardens. No gifts please!! (we have enough stuff already) Bring a dish for potluck, chairs, tableware, etc. and we'll have a party after the ceremony.

Dress is casual (I might be barefoot!!) The Pavilion is reserved until 8:00 pm, if you want to stay longer than that, you're on your own!!

We hope you all can make it (save the date!) No RSVP necessary

Elaine
efmoriarty2@gmail.com

GREENHOUSE/VICTORY GARDEN CREWS MAKE TRIP TO EUGENE



On Thursday, May 20th, thirteen Master Gardeners braved the rainy weather and drove to Eugene to visit a two acre community garden in Eugene. We all came away with many good ideas for growing vegetables including soil amendments, staking, water techniques, and harvesting.

This community garden has been in existence for several years and is called Grassroots Gardens and is maintained by volunteers of all ages. It is supported by a local church, Lane County Food Bank, and Lane County Extension Service (who recently lost their ballot measure and their future is unknown, sadly to say).

Last year, they harvested and donated an impressive 63,000 lbs of food to the local food bank. They were so generous to us in devoting their time and the knowledge they have gained.

A large THANK YOU to Tasha King for arranging this trip.

Elaine Moriarty

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Elaine
efmoriarty2@gmail.com



NOTES FROM THE CLINIC

We are heading into the busy time of year for all of us and it starts getting more difficult to fill the slots in the Clinic and our outposts. It is also the time when our clients need us most. June still has several openings for both veterans and apprentices. What I would like to ask of you is to sign up for at least 1 day a month. If we can get wider participation we will have no problem being fully staffed. Either stop by the clinic or call in and we will be glad to sign you up.

There are still a few apprentices who have not had either of their training sessions in the clinic. If you are having problems getting in please feel free to contact me and I will assist you in any way I can.

There was an excellent training session on the Spotted Winged Drosophila this month. We received some new material which I have added to our files. The OSU office is also well stocked with all of the information.

D C Farm supply and Coastal are making every effort to have the recommended pesticides in stock and are making their employees aware of what is going on. I am visiting the local Nurseries and giving them copies of our hand outs to show their employees.

I am asking everyone working the clinics to ask all of their clients, (regardless of their initial question) if they have fruit crops, and if they do then tell them about the fruit fly.

The alternates for the month of June are as follows:

V Pat Galloway V Susie Robbins V Gayle Ward
Happy Gardening

Judy Mercer
Plant Clinic Manager

Treasurer's Report As of 5/27/2010

Account Balances

CD - Reserves - \$4,247.05
Checking - \$6,343.23
Money Market - \$15,620.59
Money Market Reserves - \$100.00
Reserves - \$300.00
Bulk Mail - \$129.65

Total \$26,740.52

-Other income besides the \$23,413.70 reported previously for the plant sale, was \$115 for soil testing and \$100 for compost tea.

Expenses for the month came primarily from the \$1,834.00 purchase of a new lawnmower for HLC. The Extension Service will be reimbursing us for half of the price of the mower.

Karolyn Riecks, Treasurer



DCMG GENERAL MEETING

May 27, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President **Judy Huntley** at 10:20 AM. Approximately 50 members were in attendance.

Agent Report: **Steve Renquist** reported that there is now an OSU alert page on the Spotted Winged Drosophila (SWD) and it is updated weekly. It is linked from the DCMG website. He showed how to make a bait container out of a plastic cup. He said to place it near fruit where the SWD might appear. He said to examine the trap once a week and if there are any male SWD to contact him. Right now the fruit that should have traps are blueberries, cherries, strawberries. The information can also be emailed to Gail Longolotto. He said the Garden Grant Contest deadline is May 31st. He reported on a discussion he had concerning the closing of OSU Extension in Lane County and how DCMG will probably handle students from Lane County and work with the MGs from there.

Officer Reports

Membership: **Mik Carlson** said there are 288 current members. Corrections to the roster will be emailed and they are on small papers on the table in front as are the MG cards for your wallet.

OMGA Representative: **Carolyn Register** asked everyone to think about possible \$25 raffle and door prizes for Mini College. They are tax deductible.

Treasurer: **Karolyn Riecks** reported that the Overall Total funds are \$27,639.52. Plant Sale Income and Expenses totaled were reported.

Vice President: **Liz Zamba** thanked **Steve Renquist** for his presentation on crop forecasting. She said next month's General Meeting will be at **Steve Renquist's** home/garden. The July meeting will be at **Yvonne Henderson's**. A meeting place is still needed for August. The summer meetings are potlucks so bring your chair, table setting and a potluck item. The meetings start at 10:00AM as there is no Continuing Education before the summer meetings.

Committee Reports

Community Outreach: **Leo Grass** said **Ken Hays** gave a talk on composting. There was a discussion about the DC Fair in August and the need for possible booth themes.

Plant Clinic: **Judy Mercer** reported that the June Plant Clinic calendar had several slots to be filled. She has notified several bigbox stores in Roseburg about the SWD and has given them information flyers so they can pass the information to their customers and have the appropriate controls in the stores for their customers to use if they get SWD. She requested Plant Clinic workers to ask clients if they have fruit crops and if they do to notify them about SWD.

Discovery Garden: **Julie Stanbery** said the diver has not been in the river to clean out the footpump so please use Umpqua Basin water if you need to water. The gates to the DG have been left open so she asked everyone to check the gates before leaving the garden area. She said that there has been a lot of work done in the garden and it looks beautiful. Doctor Wilson donated 3 Japanese maples which are now planted in the Helleck Hall garden. Garden Heads: if you need river rock for your garden please let her know as she is making an order. She informed the members that a new mowing tractor has been purchased with funds from the Capital Reserves, \$900 and that **John Punches** is paying another \$900. The old pump will be sold and the money from the sale will be put into Capital Reserves. A vote was called for and it passed. If you plan to use the new tractor contact **Fred Muir** for training. The KMX pine tree in the garden is coming down Tuesday, June 1st. at 8:00 AM. Cowboy Tree Service will chip the wood and anyone who wants larger pieces may have them. Bring chainsaws, or other cutting tools to help clean up the area.

Plant Sale: **Gloria Amorde** thanked everyone for their help on the Plant Sale. The sale went really well. We

continued on next page

need new plant starting material so anyone who may have cuttings please contact **Tasha King** or **Gloria Amorde**.

Awards: **Betty Ison** had nothing to report.

Hallmark: **Linda Thames** said there was a good MG attendance at **Bill Maule's** service. She received a card from **Marge Millroy**. She also sent a "congratulations on your engagement" card to **Elaine Moriarty and Bob Mallory**.

Mini College Chapter Display: **Judy Huntley** said **Teresa Sayler** will do the display.

Victory Garden: **Elaine Moriarty** reported that everyone attending the tour to the "Grassroots Garden" in Eugene last Thursday learned a lot. The garden there contributed 63,000 lbs. of produce last year to the Lane County Food Bank. The Victory Garden has 13 new rows that can be planted and straw has been contributed to keep the weeds down. The peas are almost ready to harvest. There was a discussion about the trellising of the peas using apple branches which are sprouting.

There was a reminder to everyone to turn in their hours.

Saturday Market/Kruse/Brosi: **Judy Huntley** said there has been a request to start a booth in Elkton.

Compost tea: **Shirley Purcell** said the compost tea business has been brisk.

Old Business

Plant Sale: **Judy Huntley** reminded everyone that Mini College is in Corvallis at Oregon State University on July 28-31. The General Meeting for July is changed to July 22nd. She has made copies of the registration/class information and they can be picked up from her. Registration is online or snail mail. If there are online problems contact **Larry Sutton**.

New Business

Calendar in the Newsletter: **Roger Sawyer** said that the Plant Clinic calendar he works up and sends to the editor of the newsletter each month does not serve any purpose since workers are called the day before they work or workers can call into the Plant Clinic for information. The alternates are listed in the Plant Clinic news section of the newsletter. So the calendar will no longer be in the newsletter.

Nominations Committee: **Karolyn Riecks** reported that a slate of officers has been created by the Nomination Committee. The committee was composed of **Karolyn Riecks, Debbie Hesseltine and Julie Stanbery**. Anyone who wishes to be an officer may be nominated from the floor at the July General meeting. The slate of nominees will be published in the newsletter and be voted on at the July General meeting. Installation is at the August meeting.

Candidates that the committee will nominate for election are:

President – **Judy Huntley**

Vice President – **Leo Grass**

Secretary – **Debbie Hesseltine**

Treasurer – **Toni Rudolph**

Membership Director – **Barbara Robinson**

OMGA Representative – **Maureen Benice**

OMGA Alternate Representative – **Debbie Haynes**

Philece Humphrey announced that the Awards Banquet will be held September 25th. at the 1st. Methodist church on Harvard Ave.

Show and Tell/Good of the Order:

Bob Brindley talked about the BBQ Taste Off being held after the meeting. He discussed the procedure for the Taste Off and some of the BBQ sauces.

Elaine Moriarty invited everyone to the wedding on July 24th. at 4:00 PM at the Pavilion. Please, no gifts and it's a Potluck Party.

Announcements:

Newsletter Deadline Saturday May 29th. at 12:00 noon

Executive Meeting June 9th. 9:30 AM Annex kitchen

Chapter Meeting June 24th. 10:00AM **Steve Renquist's** home ... bring chair, table service, potluck dish

Diagnosis Class June 16th. 10:00AM **Jack Wright's** house*

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45AM

Respectfully submitted:

Maureen Benice – Secretary

* Directions to the Diagnosis Class are below.



More views of the Grassroots Gardens in Eugene



Direction to the Diagnosis Class:

From Freeway I-5
Garden Valley Exit
Garden Valley Road to River Forks Market
Take Fisher Road (right)
approximately 1 mile to Hemlock Lane (right)
approximately 500 feet to
224 Hemlock Lane.
DO NOT park on Hemlock Lane

The Plant Clinic Calendar is no longer being published in the Newsletter. For more information, please see “New Business” in the Minutes of the General Meeting in this issue. Ed.



Spotted Winged Drosophila, SWD *Drosophila suzukii*



WHAT BACKYARD FRUIT GROWERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SWD

3-29-2010ajd

The Spotted Winged Drosophila (SWD) is a new, invasive pest that can be found in Oregon, California and Washington. SWD may infest a variety of fruits (Box 1) that are grown in Oregon backyards. Infested fruits are ruined due to the damage caused by fly maggots as they consume the fruit and accelerate the rate of rotting. This fly also has the capacity to inflict great economic losses to Oregon's vibrant small and stone fruit industries. The fact that SWD favors intact, ripening fruit that is still on the plant, as opposed to favoring overripe and fallen fruit on the ground as in other drosophilid vinegar flies, makes *suzukii* a particularly nasty problem.

THE PEST

Adult SWD flies resemble the common small fruit or vinegar flies, frequently seen in your kitchen or on fallen fruit, outdoors (Box 2). At 2-3 mm in length, SWD are slightly larger than the common vinegar fly, but both have red eyes and a yellowish-brown-colored body. Key characteristics which distinguish SWD from other fruit flies are the black spots near the tips of adult male wings and the saw-like ovipositor that females use to insert their eggs into ripe fruit.

RECOGNIZING THE DAMAGE

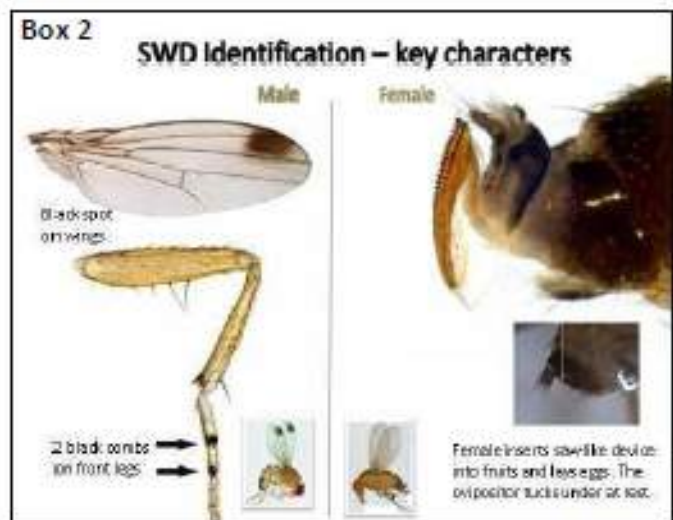
After a female lays 1-3 eggs in a fruit, a tiny scar or spot appears on the fruit. Each egg has 2 fine 'hairs' that stick out of juicy fruit that are adapted to breathe. You can see the hairs on the surface of the fruit. The female has the potential to lay up to 350 eggs over her lifetime (avg. 20-30 days). The fruit will begin to appear collapsed, bruised, or wrinkled after 2-3 days and then will mold in the area where the egg(s) were laid and the larva is feeding (Box 3). The larvae will feed inside the fruit for about 5 to 7 days, until they are ready to pupate. The brownish-yellow pupa is a non-feeding stage lasting 4-5 days. They often remain inside of fruit until the adult fly emerges from the pupae. The adult fly will then mate and begin a new generation of pests.

MONITORING IN YOUR BACKYARD

TRAPPING ADULT FLIES

A heavy plastic 16 oz. or 32 oz. cup with lid can be used to make a trap for capturing and monitoring adult flies. Here is how to make a trap:

- Drill six, 3/8 to 3/16-inch size holes on the sides of the cup, keeping 3 inches of pour space on side of cup for changing bait solution.
- Place a yellow sticky card loosely arched or hung near the top of cup
- In cup, add $\approx 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inches of apple cider vinegar.
- Hang the trap near fruit level or place on ground in cool shady area.
- At least once a week, remove yellow card and count male flies.
- Use a 30x magnifying glass or hand lens to identify the male flies with spots near the tip of wing
- Replace yellow sticky card and apple cider vinegar once a week.



(For more information, go to the OSU website: www.oregonstate.edu. and search on “SWD”. Ed.)

**Douglas County
Master Gardeners
Newsletter**

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OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

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Executive meetings: second Wednesday, 9:30am, kitchen conference room; Chapter meetings: last Thursday, Jan thru May: 10am, annex auditorium; June, July, August: member's gardens, 10am; Sept:Pavilion, Discovery Garden, 10am; Oct, Nov: 10am, annex auditorium; (no December meetings)

Douglas County Master Gardeners of
OSU Extension Service

Important internet links:

Website: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/mg>

Discovery Garden: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/discovery-garden>

MG Plant Clinic Email: douglasmg@oregonstate.edu

Steve Renquist Email: steve.renquist@oregonstate.edu

Articles for the July 2010
Newsletter are due Noon
Saturday, June 26th
Please email articles to
Ted Benice
((tbenice@douglasfast.net)