

# Douglas County Master Gardeners



AUGUST 2010

Volume 25, Number 8

## YOUR PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Hi All,

So much to tell, not sure where to begin.

First I am a new grandmother, Mackenzie Ann Huntley, arrived Tuesday, July 20, 8 lbs, 20 inches. She is healthy and mom and dad and grandma are very happy. I had my 3 year old granddaughter, Madison, for two days, 24-7. Wow!!! Haven't slept with a 3 year old for 32 years. Didn't get a lot of sleep for two nights. Everyone is home and doing well.

We missed many of you at the monthly meeting, July 22<sup>nd</sup>. A big thank you to Yvonne Henderson for her great hospitality. What a beautiful setting on the South Umpqua River and a fabulous yard full of all kinds of vegetation. As Yvonne said lots of work, but the love shows. Again thanks for hosting the meeting.

July has already been very action packed and I have not even gotten to Mini College, which is next week, Wednesday through Saturday. I spent a week in Central Oregon at the Sisters Stitchin Post Quilt Affair. Then I was home one day and off to Minneapolis, MN for my Epsilon Sigma Alpha International Convention for the next week. Both venues were very beautiful. As I approached Sisters everyday I could see 10 snow capped mountains. Then I would do quilting classes all day and evening, before returning to my motel. It was so wonderful. In Minneapolis I was able to take a river dinner cruise on the Mississippi. Also visited the Mall of America for a little shopping and a fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Hospital. Saw many friends from all over the US and had a few meetings. It too was wonderful. Got home on Sunday night and Mackenzie arrived on Tuesday. Couldn't ask for a better plan.

While in Sisters I was introduced to something that just blew my mind. I attended three days of lecture by a nationally known quilter, Ricky Tims. From this I acquired his magazine, The Quilt Life, which he writes with Alex Anderson another nationally know quilter. In their June issue was an article, written my Ricky, on social networking. He talked about Facebook, which I tried months ago and have not been back for some time. I remember being asked to join other friends sites and have them join mine. It got way too overwhelming for me, so I just haven't returned, mainly because of time.

In the article Ricky discusses the offering of these interactive games, especially FarmVille by Zynga. He explains: "It's a game about maintaining a virtual farm by tilling soil and tending to crops. According to GameZebo.com, FarmVille is the fastest-growing game of all time and has surpassed 56 million active players, probably way more by the time this issue goes to press. To put that in perspective, according to the Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), there were only 2.2 million real farms in the United States in 2009."

He tells: "In Farmville, you tend a plot of land by clicking to plow, to plant, and to harvest. You gain

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### 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

experience for doing the work, and the greater your experience, the more options you have in choosing which types of seeds you can purchase. You interact with your neighbors (Farmville friends) who are also playing the game. If you visit their farms and fertilize them, you get even more experience. As your experience grows and you get more virtual money, you can buy sheds, houses, villas, and farm equipment. But here's the challenge: planting a farm requires some scheduling because the crops take various lengths of time to harvest. Some take only hours, others take days.

This is where I said to myself, I can't believe people have so much time to do this. Ricky tells how he became so addicted that he was scheduling his time around when he had to harvest his crops. He even had to set his alarm to awake in the middle of the night to harvest strawberries. It seems that Farmville strawberries take only four hours to grow and you must harvest them quickly or they wither on the vine and all is lost. He planted his in the evening and then realized that if he waited until morning to harvest, they would die. Can you believe someone really does this!!!!

The reason that this article was in The Quilt Life magazine is that quilters are making their farms look like quilts by planning when to plant certain plants and where. A quote on Farmville, "It's been great experimenting with different fruits and vegetables to find the perfect color and fullness to make a quilt."

Again, I just can't image finding the time to do this, at least right now. I would rather be in my real garden and on my real sewing machine quilting, rather than on the computer playing with virtual plants. Have any of you experienced this game on Facebook? Would love to hear from you as to how you like it. Maybe during the winter months I could sign on to my Facebook site and type in Farmville in the search field and try it. Hey, a thought, maybe this could be a continuing educational for one of our winter meetings??

Judy Huntley  
Douglas County Master Gardener President

## **Ideas for Reducing Water Use in Your Landscape**

During May and June it seemed like we were going to have a year without summer. But as July arrived so did the hot weather and the need to turn on the irrigation was close behind. If you attended the winter training session on water wise gardening you will recall the dramatic difference between monthly water use in Roseburg between winter (4 million gallons/day), and summer (10.5 million gallons/day). About 6 million gallons of treated water a day are going on our landscapes around Roseburg. If you included properties on wells, on rivers, and with their own ponds you probably would add another 1-2 million gallons of water a day being used for irrigation. As our regional population continues to grow, water being used for irrigation will become a critical resource. If we don't want to see our area have water wars between cities and farmers, like California, we need to all start practicing wise water use.

Let me review with you the seven most important steps that will help your landscape become more efficient.

Steps 1 and 2 include planning and plant selection. The best way to have the greatest impact on irrigation water use in the landscape is to design or renovate the landscape using low water use plants, often natives. Natives of course tolerate the wet winters and dry summers of our Mediterranean climate. During the planning stage for a renovation or a new landscape think about putting the natives and drought tolerant plants around the perimeter of your property, and keep the greenest area near the part of your yard where you produce food or where you relax. When planning think about the drainage, topography and light around the property.

Step 3 focuses on soil improvements. We all know a fertile soil with high organic matter content will allow a plant to thrive under wet or dry conditions. This type of soil will also absorb water during winter and retain moisture longer into summer. Adding organic matter each year through compost or cover crops is ideal.

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## Agent's Report continued from the previous page

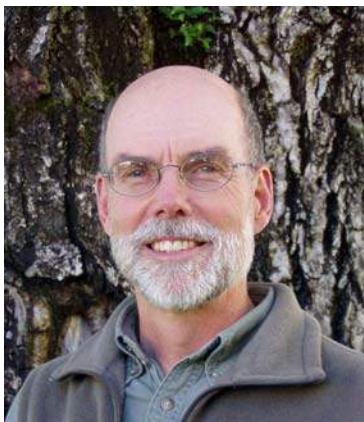
Creating practical turf areas is step 4. Limiting the size of your higher input lawn is a good start. If you like that green turf near your home, keep it small. Allow some turf areas to dry out during summer. Think about using drought hardy turf like Tall fescue instead of moisture loving perennial rye. Use ornamental grasses in some areas as a substitute.

Step 5 is to use efficient irrigation systems. Install soakers or drip and lessen sprinkler head use. When using in ground systems make sure you use them when needed. Don't just set them up to come on in the spring and turn off in the fall. This spring I saw many systems operating during the midst of our wet May and June. Set up your landscape to capture winter rainfall to recharge your ground water and soil by using rain gardens and swales. These features help reduce overall irrigation needs.

Mulching is step 6. Mulching of course is great to protect your soil from erosion during winter rainfall periods and it helps to prevent compaction from long periods of heavy rainfall. In the summer mulching keeps the soil cool and slows evaporation loss from soil and evapotranspiration from plants. Organic mulches keep a steady supply of organic material going into the soil. Mulch can also control weeds that compete for water resources.

Step 7 is to maintain your landscape in a fashion that minimizes water use. In the midst of summer don't over fertilize. Vigorous plants use significantly more water and attract more pests. Monitor pest problems. Healthy plants are more drought tolerant. Try adopting these ideas for your landscape and share them with your neighbors and others while working in the plant clinic.

Steve



## DG report:

Our irrigation project marches on and on and on.....Noel spends a lot of time doing repairs and we are very lucky to have him and his team (Dave and Jim) working on this project. Getting in the river to clean the intake was interesting and exasperating. This has been a really strange year, never have we started the pump so late in the season, and now the moss/algae is giving us a challenge keeping the filters clear, so we are spending a good bit of time monitoring and cleaning filters.

The mowing work is greatly improved with our new mower. Thanks to all who have spent a good deal of time weedeating and mowing the Pitchford area as well as the HLC.

Special mention to Mary Lou Davidson who comes from Oakland each Tuesday to tend to the Helleck Hall garden. She has the garden looking lovely, and has had compliments from brides-to-be who will use the garden for their wedding photos.

The boxwoods in the HH garden need to be pruned with our electric shrub pruner. If anyone would like to tackle this project please let Julie know.

Each garden head should monitor their area for adequate irrigation. Let us know if there is a problem.

Neal and Hank will be taking on the task of cleaning out the small tool room, marking and hanging everything in neat and tidy order. That and the rest of the "honey-do" list will keep them busy for a while!!

Check with fellow garden heads before purchasing supplies to try to keep our expenses down. One example is if we need Sluggo or Escargo, we can reduce the cost by purchasing a larger bag and sharing within the garden. Please remember that we need to keep all chemicals to a minimum, refer to Steve or the IPM section of your handbook if you have questions. Because we have such a large population in the garden every day, we should not use any toxic chemicals, including mole/rodent poisons.

Finally, gates are being left open daily and not by the public! Please take personal responsibility for closing any gate you see open. MGs who sponsor use of the pavilion need to be the last to leave to ensure the gates are closed. Kudos to Irene for noticing the open gate in the greenhouse area and getting it closed.

Larry has volunteered to powerwash the pavilion floor this week. The baby birds are still in residence so Elaine should add party of three (mom and the kids) to the guest list.

We will water VERY early on Fri to allow the area to dry quickly for the decorating team and if it is as hot as predicted, I will run the entire system on Sunday. If you are the Sunday nursery waterer, please contact Julie.

We need to see some more of our new class mates in the garden this summer. The big project that needs work is grubbing out the weeds in the ornamental garden and then moving in the rest of the chips and leaf mulch to control future weed growth.

Thanks to all, see you next Tues at 8!!

## Master Gardener News

### MG GARDEN OPEN HOUSE-AUGUST 12th

A late summer Garden Tour is set for **Thursday, August 12, 2010**. There are two different sessions being offered. The hours are **9 am-4 pm** and **6:30 pm-8:30 pm**. Please feel free to attend either session. Please note the hours exception to the last garden listed. Also feel free to bring friends, relatives, or neighbors along. Hope to see you there! All participants have granted permission to have their names and addresses posted in the newsletter.



#### **Betty Ison: 1591 NW Keasey, Roseburg**

At the YMCA turn at the light onto Harvey Ave., then take an immediate right on to Keasey or from Stewart Parkway turn onto Valley View Dr. (by Staples), then turn left onto Keasey. (cream colored house, chainlink fence, diagonally across from Colony Market)  
[Lots of annuals and perennials, and a little of everything else]

\*\*\*As a Note\*\*\*There is **NO** longer any on street parking on Keasey---they replaced parking with bike lanes. I recommend parking on Calkins or Moritz streets. I will not be responsible for any tickets written if you park in the bike lane (trust me they do write tickets). You can also park on Rachel---see next garden below. Tricia and I are within walking distance of each other.

#### **Tricia Creswell: 1532 NW Rachel Ave., Roseburg**

Follow Directions to Betty's (see above). From Harvey Ave directions, turn left onto Rachel just before getting to Betty's house. From Valley View directions, just past Betty's and turn right on Rachel. Second house on the right. [Beautiful perennial beds]

#### **Jim/Joni Leet: 149 Crystal Springs Lane, Roseburg**

Take Garden Valley to Melrose Rd. Melrose to Melqua Rd (approx 2 miles). Up Melqua approx 6 miles to Woodruff Mountain Road (just after Milepost 14). Take a right on Woodruff and in 0.6 miles it Y's with Crystal Springs Lane going to the left. They are the first place on the right. Please park through gate in field.  
[A Formal herb bed, large lavender production bed, a production hoop house, and an acre in fenced veggie/fruit production. Also an exotic weed exhibition, interspersed with other stuff]

Check out their farm website: [www.linneamariefarms.com](http://www.linneamariefarms.com)

#### **Gayle Ward: 2726 W Oriole Dr, Roseburg** **\*\* (NOTE HOURS: 10 am-1 pm only) \*\***

Go west on Harvard past Harvard Furniture, turn right on Broccoli St. Go to the end of Broccoli, turn left on Oriole Dr. It's the first house on the right. There is a long driveway to the garage.  
[Lots of trees, shrubs, roses, and other flowers]

Hello Master Gardeners!

First I would like to thank Yvonne for hosting the July meeting, I'm so sorry I couldn't make it. Leo, thank you for taking over my duties.

The August Chapter Meeting will be hosted by Pat Kastrop, at Rosewood Gardens and Nursery 721 Cole Rd Oakland. The meeting will take place next door under the trees. More information will be provided as the date gets closer. I have attempted to provide a google maps link. Hope it works!

[http://maps.google.com/maps?d&source=s\\_d&saddr=courthouse+roseburg,+or&daddr=rosewood+gardens,721+cole+rd+oakland+or&geocode=Fe1XkwIdtfal-CGPmGTPUASZxSmjC1XnJSPEVDEUBgxYpdaQVw%3BFRkelgldzyyl-CG34X1DFiHYmCkx214z1hzEVDHoXWOaXxm-qA&hl=en&mra=ls&sl=43.393697,-123.363934&sspn=0.064864,0.208569&ie=UTF8&z=11](http://maps.google.com/maps?d&source=s_d&saddr=courthouse+roseburg,+or&daddr=rosewood+gardens,721+cole+rd+oakland+or&geocode=Fe1XkwIdtfal-CGPmGTPUASZxSmjC1XnJSPEVDEUBgxYpdaQVw%3BFRkelgldzyyl-CG34X1DFiHYmCkx214z1hzEVDHoXWOaXxm-qA&hl=en&mra=ls&sl=43.393697,-123.363934&sspn=0.064864,0.208569&ie=UTF8&z=11)

Liz Zamba  
541-496-4736

If you have trouble with this link, you can enter the address into GOOGLE MAPS, like this:

721 Cole Rd, Oakland, OR (commas separate the street, town and state) Ed.



## **Treasurer's Report** **As of 7/24/2010**



### **Account Balances**

CD - Reserves - \$4,247.05  
Checking - \$2,006.15  
Money Market - \$15,621.00  
Money Market Reserves - \$100.00  
Reserves - \$300.00  
Bulk Mail - \$250.00

**Total \$22,524.20**

-Income for the month was \$395. \$290 came from compost tea sales and \$105.00 from soil testing. Expenses for the month were \$1,509.17 with \$250.00 coming from Scholarships, \$129.33 for Discovery Garden irrigation, \$1,113.98 for HLC and \$145.19 for Plant Sale.

Karolyn Riecks, Treasurer

### **DCMG GENERAL MEETING**

July 22 , 2010

The meeting was called to order by President **Judy Huntley** at 10:09 AM at **Yvonne Henderson's** home. Approximately 28 members were in attendance.

The agenda had no additions.

**Agent Report:** **Steve Renquist** thanked **Maureen and Ted Benice** for hosting the diagnosis class at their house. He explained the basis for the Diagnosis Class and invited members to join in. The class is the third Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise notified. The DC Fair and Extension's part in it are going to be in his email newsletter and his News Review article this week.

### **Officer Reports**

**Membership:** **Mik Carlson** said there are 288 current members. There are printed roster changes and the changes will also be emailed.

**OMGA Representative:** **Judy Huntley** asked everyone to give \$25 raffle and door prizes for Mini College to **Maureen Benice** to take to Mini-College next week. They are tax deductible. The new OMGA Strategic Planning Team (SPT) is to meet at Corvallis at 8:30. **Jack Wright** will attend. Email him with any changes. **Roger Sawyer** said that after the meeting some of the veterans who have been members of DCMG for a long time will get together and go over the OMGA requirements and address them.

**Treasurer:** **Karolyn Riecks** reported that the Overall Total funds are \$22,549.00. There was \$295 INCOME AND \$1384 Expenses.

**Vice President:** **Judy Huntley** said next month's General Meeting will be at the home of **Pat Kastrop** in Oakland. Directions will be in the Newsletter and emailed.

### **Committee Reports**

**Community Outreach:** **Leo Grass** said several groups have toured the Discovery Garden and some tours have been spontaneously directed by a MG who happens to be there at the time.

**Plant Clinic:** **Leo Grass** said the Plant Clinic calendars were here for signups and August could use a few more volunteers.

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## **General Meeting** continued from the previous page

**Discovery Garden:** **Barbara Robinson** read **Julie Stanbery's** report. The report is in the Newsletter.

**Hallmark:** **Linda Thames** said she sent a few cards.

**Victory Garden:** **Elaine Moriarty** said **Mik Carlson and Loreen Robinson** will head the Victory Garden (VG) next year. She asked for a volunteer to make a scarecrow for the VG. The hoses are all hooked up and working. One did leak, but it has been fixed. The sign on the fence says that the produce growing in the VG is being donated to UCAN. There is a lock on the gate. Many of the seeds for the plants in the VG were donated by "Johnny Seed". So far there have been 219 pounds of produce from the VG donated to UCAN.

**Judy Huntley** said she received a forwarded email from Ron Eggleman of OMGA requesting Discovery Garden pictures and information for scrapbooks for Mini-College. The timing of the emails did not give much time to gather the requested items. **Maureen Benice** will copy the Discovery Garden PowerPoint CD and give it to Bonnie White at Mini-College.

**Compost tea:** **Barbara Robinson** said that reservations for compost tea are necessary as it gets sold out each week.

### **Old Business**

**Mini College Report:** **Judy Huntley** said that all of the scholarships are filled and that four people from our chapter are going to the Wednesday Leadership events and the ten others are going to the full conference. The Chapter display will be done by **Teresa Saylor**. There is a need for door prizes and silent auction items. Give door prizes/auction items to participants.

**DC Fair:** **Leo Grass** explained the format of the Extension booths. Each Extension group will have their own booths but they will all be in the same area and near the entrance of the building. MG booth theme is insects... good and bad. He requested insects to be displayed. He would like to have some live, timely insects such as the crane fly or cucumber beetle. Bring them in to the fair during fair week. He will have fair tickets for MG workers midweek. The office staff will not be in the office during the fair as they are working at the fair. He hopes to set up Monday. There is a request for small hands-on demonstrations/presentations of less than 20 minutes. Contact him if you would like to present.

**Newsletter Article Deadline:** **Ted Benice** explained an error in the last Newsletter concerning the article deadline for the August Newsletter and the possibility of changing the deadline from July 31<sup>st</sup> to either July 24<sup>th</sup> or August 7<sup>th</sup> (after the fair). There was a discussion. It was decided to make the deadline July 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon to keep the deadline consistent with the past deadlines.

### **New Business**

**Cookbook:** **Maureen Benice** reported that the Master Gardener/Master Food Preserver cookbook is finished and available for \$18. They must be purchased from MG/MFPs who have them stored. An email had been sent earlier concerning this. A "Contact" sign along with a cookbook should be displayed at the fair as we cannot sell anything at the fair due to our "non-profit" status. The cookbooks are not being sold at the Extension office. They are being sold at Kruse Farms.

**Master Gardener Open House(s):** **Betty Ison** said that on August 12<sup>th</sup> there will be four gardens to tour. All of the information will be in the Newsletter and emailed.

**Audit:** **Roger Sawyer and Toni Rudolph** will have the audit report for the Executive Meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Election of Officers for 2010-2011:** **Karolyn Riecks** read the nominating committees' nomination:

President: **Judy Hunley**

Vice President: **Leo Grass**

Secretary: **Debbie Hesseltine**

Treasurer: **Toni Rudolph**

Membership: **Barbara Robinson**

OMGA Representative: **Maureen Benice**

Alternate OMGA Representative: **Debbie Haynes**

There were no nominations from the floor and nominations were closed. A motion was made by **Betty Ison** and

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## General Meeting continued from the previous page

seconded by **Judy Weaver** to accept this slate of officers. The motion was voted on and passed.

**Good of the Order:** **Judy Huntley** will not be at the next General Meeting as she will be traveling to Ireland. **Liz Zamba** will be asked to preside.

**Steve Renquist** said that the Extension Service meeting will be online tomorrow (Friday). It is a budget conference. He also said that Jackson Country is working to get a funding ballot measure on the ballot. DC may be asked to help them. The Spotted Winged Drosophila traps need to up on peach, plum, fig or any soft fruit trees as the SWD count has spiked.

### Announcements:

Newsletter Deadline Saturday July 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon

Elaine Moriarty's Wedding July 24<sup>th</sup> 4PM at the Pavilion in the Discovery Garden. Potluck so bring food item, chairs, place settings

Executive Meeting August 11<sup>th</sup> 9:30AM

Chapter Meeting August 26<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM **Pat Kastrop's** home ... bring chair, table service, potluck dish.

Directions emailed and in Newsletter

Diagnosis Class August 18<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM **Bonnie Courter's** house

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20AM

Respectfully submitted:

**Maureen Benice** – Secretary



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### Directions to the Diagnosis Class:

The next Diagnosis Class will be held at my house on Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 to 12:00. I'm so looking forward to having you! Here are directions to my house:

From Roseburg: Go east on Diamond Lake Blvd. (Hwy. 138) about 5 miles until you see the sign for "Buckhorn Road" - "Dixonville" on the right. Turn right, then immediately turn left onto Buckhorn Road. Drive past Pine Grove Community Church until you come to an intersection where Dixonville Store sits. Turn right onto Dixonville Road and drive 3 miles. You'll cross a green bridge over Deer Creek and our driveway is on the right. We have a white vinyl fence out front.

The address is: 15476 (numbers are on the mailbox). The house is blue with red shutters.

From the South: From I-5 going north, take Clarks Branch Road (Exit 113). Turn right. Stay on this windy road until you come to a "T" intersection - turn right onto Roberts Creek Road. Stay on Roberts Creek Road until you come to another "T" intersection. Turn left onto Dixonville Road. We're the first house on the left with the white vinyl fence.

From Winston: Simply turn right at the Green intersection onto Roberts Creek Road and stay to your left (stay on Roberts Creek Rd.), past the Clark Branch Road intersection, until you come to the "T" intersection, then left onto Dixonville Road.

(For map, just go to [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com) and punch in my address)

Parking is limited, so car-pooling would be a great idea (plus more FUN). Bring your MG expertise and ideas - I'll be picking your brains!

Hope to see you there!

Bonnie Courter

541-672-3071

15476 Dixonville Rd. Roseburg

**Douglas County  
Master Gardeners  
Newsletter**

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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)

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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](mailto:douglasmg@oregonstate.edu)

Steve Renquist Email: [steve.renquist@oregonstate.edu](mailto:steve.renquist@oregonstate.edu)

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Articles for the September 2010  
Newsletter are due Noon  
Saturday, August 28th  
Please email articles to  
Ted Benice  
([tbenice@douglasfast.net](mailto:tbenice@douglasfast.net))

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