

Douglas County Master Gardeners



DECEMBER 2011

Volume 26, Number 12



our own endowment fund. It is building and while it is a long way from being able to keep the extension office open on its own, it is creating a healthy base on which to grow. Donations to the endowment fund today create the mechanism to keep the extension doors open in Douglas County tomorrow. Earlier this month we all received a letter from John Panches showing us how to contribute. Donations are coming in and if you are one of the ones that have already given we thank

YOUR PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Tis' the Season of Giving

More years ago than I care to remember I would walk down the slush-filled sidewalks of Chanute, Kansas in total awe of the lights and sounds of the holidays. We were not a wealthy family. Being the family of a small town minister we had firsthand knowledge of what it meant to be "poor as a church mouse." But, in spite of it all, we were taught the joy of giving. Most gifts were made. Cub Scouts, church, and school all gave us the opportunities to make gifts for family and friends. Orange crates, nail barrels, and apple boxes provided the materials for dollhouses, rocking horses and even furniture.

We put ourselves into each gift that was given. I see a lot of that same spirit in the everyday lives of our master gardeners. Month in and month out we put ourselves into educating the community, keeping our association running and providing a garden of beauty for all to enjoy. The joy of giving is no stranger to Douglas County Master Gardeners. I have always said that if my giving does not feel good, I am probably not giving enough. I am sure that the master gardeners feel very good about their giving.

The holiday season rings out with calls to give. We see the bell ringers on corners calling us to share. We see those that are less fortunate and for some reason we feel more compelled to give around the holidays than later on in the year. Look around you and see where your community needs help. Is it at a shelter? Is it at the food bank? Is it through your local church or favorite charity? One place that I am going to ask you to consider is

you. If you are waiting or have misplaced your pledge form you can still write a check to the "Agricultural Research Foundation Account 8100" and mail it to the Extension Office.

Orchids this month go to all the people that baked and to those that stood in the cold to make our bake sale a success. Orchids go to the crew that worked in the Japanese Garden to complete the stone patio. And, finally, an Orchid to Marilyn Klingbiel who attacks the bitter crest not only with a fire in her heart but also in her hand.

Make this Christmas Merry by sharing with others. And, we wish this to be the merriest of all your Christmases.

---Larry Sutton

Calendar of Events

December 8	Mentor Meeting - 10 a.m. Extension Auditorium
January 3	New Class Begins - Potluck - Bring food and smiles
January 11	Executive Board Meeting - 9 a.m. Extension Office Kitchen
January 17	Great Gardening 7 p.m. Extension Auditorium
January 18	Diagnostics Group 10 a.m. Extension Office Kitchen
January 26	CE - 9 a.m. - Steve Renquist to present program
January 26	Chapter Meeting - 10 a.m. Auditorium

SPECIAL APPEAL

Extension Endowment Fund Status

When the tax measure to support Extension passed we had no endowment fund for the support of Douglas County Extension. At that point there was little to no income to support Extension from other than tax dollars. As the state and federal contributions have shrunk during the past three years our endowment fund has continued to grow. Unfortunately, it has not grown as fast as the cutbacks. From a start of Zero dollars we have grown to \$32,954.59. This shows that contributions are coming in at a higher rate than normally experienced in a startup fund, but at today's rates it would only produce about \$1200.00 a year for operating expenses. This is far short of what would be needed to support even one extension agent. Continued and steady growth is needed. A fully funded endowment fund is the most viable way to insure a stable and secure extension presence in Douglas County. Your help is needed and your tax-deductible gift should be made to the "Agricultural Research Foundation Account 8100." If you would like to include Extension in your estate planning, please contact John Panches at the Extension Office.

Vice-President's Column

What can we do with the bounty of fruits, veggies, and herbs we are inundated with during our very prolific growing season? Master Food Preservers, Kathy Linn and Geri Johnson shared their knowledge on food dehydration at our November meeting. Many MG's were milling around afterward with questions, which is always a good sign. Our thanks go out to Kathy and Geri for a great presentation.

At this last week's meeting we were invited to pull our ostrich heads out of the sand in a very enlightening emergency preparedness presentation. Monte Bryan, Deputy Fire Marshall for the Roseburg Fire Department shared his expertise by outlining steps we can take to assure readiness for any number of

emergencies. A brief synopsis of what Monte shared, including websites referred to can be found at <http://www.cityofroseburg.org/departments/fire-department/emergency-preparedness/>

We do not have a meeting in December, but January's continuing ed will be sponsored by our own Horticulture Agent/MG, Steve Renquist. I have no doubt he will pull together an exciting, resourceful, awe-inspiring program which dare not be missed! Hope to see you there.

—Barbara Robinson

Community Outreach

Hearty Thanks this month to: Patricia Gilbert for two presentations for the Glide Garden Club, and the North Umpqua Garden Club. To Ken Hays for a compost class for the Douglas County Juvenile detention center. To Phil and Nancy Nessel for their help with the community garden project in Riddle. You are spreading sustainable gardening principles throughout Douglas County like honey and butter on a piece of warm toast.

—Thanks...Leo Grass

NOTES FROM THE CLINIC

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and will have a Merry Christmas.

I am happy to report that the Plant Clinic Calendar for the month of December is full. We will be open on Mondays. Our Alternate for December is Jim Leet.

We still need alternates and volunteers for January and since there is no December meeting, please call or stop by the Clinic and sign up. Again, we will be open on Mondays for the month of January.

Our Clinic Teaching Core will be returning intact for the 2012 class, so starting in February we will be open officially on Mondays and Wednesdays and we will also be open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for training purposes. On these days we will be taking any calls and walk-ins. This will expedite the training of the new class and we hope to be done by the 1st. of May.

Happy Holidays

*Judy Mercer
Plant Clinic Manager*

**OSU Douglas County Master Gardeners
Chapter Meeting
November 17, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by President **Larry Sutton** at 10:10 a.m. with 39 people in attendance.

There were no guests.

The minutes were approved as published in the October newsletter.

Agent Report: Steve Renquist received information on World Food Day, which will be held October 16, 2012. Gail Langellotto-Rhodaback suggests that every county include a food component. **Steve** suggested we might include the Victory Garden with an Open House. **Steve** also discussed the first presentation on the Great Gardener Series. The format may need to be revised and the program will resume in January. The monies collected for this program will need to be turned over to OSU Extension. The money will be deducted from the power bill at the Discovery Garden. The new member orientation went very well with 32 enthusiastic trainees signed up so far. **Steve** was very happy with the pre-class interview process and will use this for future classes.

Officer Reports

Membership: We currently have 285 members. Dues are due now and must be paid prior to 01/01/12.

OMGA Report: Debbie Haynes attended her first quarterly OMGA meeting in Albany. Mini College will be July 25 - 27, 2012 at Willamette University in Salem. The committee is looking for Mini College themes and ideas for desired classes.. Please email any ideas to **Debbie**. Contact **Debbie** for links to the new Horticulture website and the email address for adding events to the OMGA calendar.

Treasurer: Toni Rudolph reported \$17,739.64 in our various accounts. **Toni** also discussed overages that had been spent in various accounts. The USPS bulk mail account will be closed and increase the overall balance by \$136.96. **Toni** has also invoiced John Panches for the remaining cookbooks. The 2012 budget was presented in October and published in the October newsletter. **Toni** moved we adopt the 2012 budget with one change still leaving a \$789 surplus. **Judy Mercer** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vice President: Barb Robinson thanked Monte Bryan, Deputy Fire Chief for our CE program this morning on Disaster Preparedness. **Steve Renquist** will make the CE presentation in January. February will be a presentation on Mini College from some of the participants from July of this year.

Past President: None.

President: Larry Sutton did a survey and there will be no meetings in December. There have been some issues with chair people not being available (sick, traveling, etc.) to approve expenses for their gardens. To handle the issue, **Larry** presented the following:

Each committee will have a primary and alternate signatory. In the case of absence or incapacity of the primary signatory, the secondary signatory may sign after verifying that money is available in the account. In no case are the signatories authorized to exceed their budget without prior authorization from either the executive board or membership.

Richard Johnstone moved we accept this motion. **Judy Mercer** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Newsletter: January 2012 articles are due by December 14th.

Community Outreach: **Leo Grass** thanked **Patricia Gilbert** for her several presentations to the Glide Garden Club. **Phil & Nancy Nesset, Leo**, and a great teacher from the Riddle area have met to put together a community garden/teaching children garden. Thank you so much to **Phil and Nancy** for stepping forward to help in an outlying area. The Saving Grace project is on hold. **Leo** is looking for some 48" diameter concrete pots with a 36" of planting depth. **Debbie Hesseltine** suggested contacting the Job Corps located near Glide to see if their concrete program can fill the need.

Plant Clinic: **Judy Mercer** was so happy to let us all know the calendar is full until January 2, 2011. In December, the clinic will only be open on Monday. The idea adopted last year of having a teaching core to give all new members/veterans a constant and consistent approach for teaching and learning in the Plant Clinic was such a great success the program will continue for 2012. So, beginning in February, the clinic will be open Monday through Friday.

Discovery Garden: **Julie Stanbery** thanked **Marty Katz, Chris Rusch**, and all their helpers for completing the patio in front of the teahouse in the Japanese Garden. It looks like a work of art! **Marilyn Klingbeil** has been busy burning bitter cress. This should help all of the gardens this next season. **Julie** also spotted an elf working in the Children's Garden cutting grasses. We have also received bark mulch, leaves, and gravel. **Larry** was happy to report that **Bonnie Courter** has stepped up to coordinate information on the gardens for the web page on the Discovery Garden.

Awards: **Betty Ison** has certificates available for members who participated in any projects in the Master Gardener program this past year. Please contact **Betty** to pick up your certificate. Also, be

sure to get your hours up to date and turned in. Hourly swinger bars are only handed out in January for the prior calendar year.

Publicity: **Bonnie Courter** has sent out PSA's for the Bake Sale. **Bonnie** is also looking for someone familiar with Facebook. She is trying to draw attention to the younger crowd by using a Facebook presence for Master Gardeners.

Plant Sale: No report.

Winter Training: There were over 20 new trainees that showed up for the New Member Orientation. The next mentor training will be December 8th at 10 a.m. at the Annex.

Hallmark: **Linda Thames** sent a thank you to Brad Johnson at Umpqua Basin Water for the use of tractor repair equipment. **Yvonne Henderson's** mother recently passed away. **Janice Bunyard's** husband, Mike, has had several recent complications including shingles. **Noel Groshong** had a knee replacement. Linda had many thank you's to the following people for pie filling for the Bake Sale: **Shirley Purcell, Janice Bunyard, Cindy Rich, Neal Meyer, Rusdee Chastain, and Richard Johnstone.**

Old Business

None

New Business

Bake Sale: A big thank you to **Steve Renquist** for picking apples at the Discovery Garden and donating them for the Bake Sale. A photo is floating around the internet showing the elves (or work crew) making 20 pies from those apples for the sale. Thank you to all!

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Hesseltine
Secretary

Announcements

Bob Brindley announced there are Oakland

Calendars for sale at Bart's Market and several other locations in Oakland.

The MFP Lane County has fresh almonds for sale. Check with the MFP office.

Karolyn Reicks announced the Oakland Wine Walk will be this Sunday, November 20th noon till 4 p.m.

Diagnostics will be the 3rd Wednesday in January.

Toni Rudolph will be working with SHEBA at the Library providing education to Seniors - November 28th and December 5th.

**Time Sheets Due!!
Deadline 13 January, 2012.**

O.K. You worked a *bunch* of hours in 2011. You got dirt under your nails, you pulled weeds, you helped to get little plants off to a good start, then helped to sell them at the Plant Sale.

You baked. You sold at the Bake Sale.

You mentored. You worked in Clinic. You harvested vegetables in the Victory Garden.

O.K.: "Just one more thing." Now it's time to be sure you get credit, and to be sure that the system knows all the good you have done. Turn in your timesheets.

Be sure to include your name. Pam Barrows tells me she is not psychic. And be sure to total up the sums in the right-hand column.

If you have questions, email Pam.

Bake Sale Results!!!

My fellow Master Gardeners,
What a day!! Saturday was our ANNUAL BAKE SALE. Thank all of you who BAKED because without you we would have no ANNUAL BAKE SALE. And thank you for your punctuality to bring everything early for PRICING. This gave us the time to PRICE, to

organize, and for us SELLERS to become familiar with the diversity of flavors and fabulous faire.

Thank you to my helpers for SETTING-UP, PRICING, (compiling a price list—what a great idea--I'm on it!!), for SELLING, CASHIERING, and CLEANING-UP!! Thank you to my husband for being away so that I could BAKE and leave the mess for continuation each day and for designing our quilt stand.

OH—Silly me! How much did we make? We did amazingly well, given the downtrodden economy. We made \$1196.16.

In comparison:
2010 1462.80
2009 1154.00
2008 557.50
2007 488.69



Thanks to Sherm's for their doorstep and to our community for their support!

—Yvonne Henderson
Master Gardener

Willing Workers on Organic Farms

"WWOOF" is a network of national organizations that brings together volunteers that want to learn about organic properties with farmers and ranchers that need laborers. Each national or regional group is separate and independent and can be found online at www.woofinternational.org.

In Australia the general exchange is 4 to 6 hours of labor per day for the room and board provided by the WWOOF host. It is not a taxable exchange and workers do not need a work visa for Australia, a tourist visa is adequate. The membership fee of approximately \$ 65.00 in Australia Dollars also covers a limited amount of workers'

compensation.

When planning our stay in Australia, we posted the locations and time frames we would be available for work on the WWOOF web site bulletin board. We included a summary of our farm and construction skills and let them know that we were MAW's (Mature Aged Woofers). Since we traveled by train, we also explained that transportation to the railway stations needed to be available. Within days we had the two responses from hosts that we accepted.

We stayed at one organic farm near Kendall, Australia where our duties included building a retaining wall for a garden, adding a storage tank for irrigation, mulching a garden and harvesting about .25 acre of Daikon radishes. On our day off, our hosts took us on a 50-mile tour by gravel roads to a spectacular waterfall and subtropical forest. They supplied three wonderful meals each day and we had a nice 3 bedroom house next to theirs all to ourselves.

Our next stay was at a 2,500-acre cattle ranch about 40 miles west of Grafton, Australia. Our duties there were pouring a cement slab in a horse stable, planting a garden, building fences, and tending the cattle during calving season. We stayed in the hosts' camper and shared with the cooking and other kitchen duties. We worked along side a young couple from the United Kingdom who were using the WWOOF position to qualify for a work visa and eventually immigration.

The WWOOF experience allowed us to know the people and land of Australia in a personal manner that would not have been possible for us as tourists. At both places we were involved in interesting conversations about farming, politics and traveling. The hosts were able to benefit from our skills and knowledge and we learned about subtropical and tropical fruits and vegetables and received some good tips on marketing.

We will soon join the United States division of WWOOF, as both the hosts and workers. We hope to follow our Australian hosts' example to give workers as rewarding an experience as we

have had.

Sam and Terry Noonkester



Sam & Terry Noonkester, as WWOOFers Tony and Annie Lydon, WWOOF hosts, and their children Bottom row; Abby and Stella Lydon near Grafton, Australia

**So: You got a plant you need identified?
There's an app for that!**



Leafsnap is the first in a series of electronic field guides being developed by researchers from Columbia University, the University of Maryland, and the Smithsonian Institution. This free mobile app uses visual recognition software to help identify tree species from photographs of their leaves. It's new, it focuses on the East Coast right now, but it will grow! (visit leafsnap.com, or google *iPhone leafsnap*)

Note from your Treasurer, Toni Rudolph

Submit 2011 Invoices by Friday, December 30, 2011

Please, verify your budget has available funds prior to submitting your remaining invoices for 2011. Make sure all signed "Expenditure Authorization Forms" are submitted by Friday December 30, 2011. You can leave this at the Plant Clinic in the "Treasurer" inbox OR mail it to me at: Toni Rudolph, 1686 NW Apache Dr, Roseburg, OR 97471. Be sure that I receive it by December 30, 2011 for reimbursement using 2011 funds. All invoices received after that date will be charged to 2012 Budget.

Budget Responsibilities of a Committee Chair

A balanced budget has been passed for 2012. Having a balanced budget means that all of us need to stay within our approved budget. It is the responsibility of Committee Chair/s to ensure funds are spent appropriately and that you stay within your approved line budget for the year.

Requests for additional dollars need to be in person or writing to the Executive Board. Requests include an explanation of what the need/purpose is, what will be purchased and the total funds required. The Executive Board and general membership (when necessary) will process your request. The Executive Board will notify you of the outcome of your request.

Toni Rudolph, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report as of 11/17/11 Toni Rudolph

INCOME 10/27/11 - 11/17/11	
Interest - Umpqua Bank - MM	\$3.17
Soil Testing	\$35.00
Plant Sale - Post Sales	\$125.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$163.17
EXPENSES 10/27/11 - 11/17/11	
Awards & Banquet	\$466.19
OMGA Travel & Dues to OMGA	\$77.80
Supplies for Exec Board	\$12.07
CE - Greenhouse	\$236.99
Library & Soil Testing	\$95.47
DG - Compost & Irrigation	\$129.76
DG - Lily Bed & Maintenance	\$92.88
HLC - Green House & Maintenance	\$297.37
HLC - Propane	\$1,879.48
HLC - Victory Garden	\$97.51
Plant Sale	\$1,097.25
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,482.77
Breakdown of our accounts	
Checking	\$3,028.10
Money Market - Reserves	\$5,659.10
Money Market	\$9,052.44
Bulk Mail	\$136.96
	\$17,876.60
Ending Balance 11/17/11	0

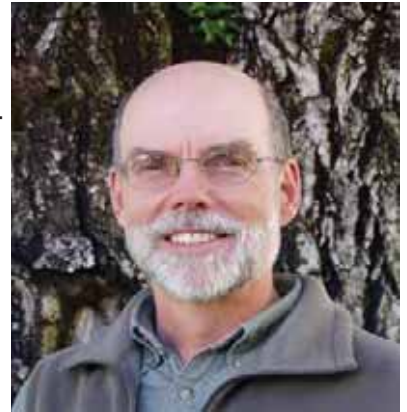
DUES

Don't forget to pay your dues for 2012. They are due before 1-1-12. Dues are \$10 per person and \$20 per couple. You will receive your newsletter on-line. If you choose to have it mailed, you need to pay an extra \$5 to cover postage. Please make checks out to DCMG. You can drop off your completed form and payment to the plant clinic's dues drawer or mail to me. The form is included in this newsletter. Checks won't be deposited until after 1-1-12. Thanks to those who have paid their dues for 2012.

*Cindy Rich
Membership Director*

Final Growing Degree Days in 2011 for Roseburg Area

The following chart shows how cool a growing season we had in 2011. We were very fortunate to have a nice October or many of our crops would not have finished well. You can see that it only takes a drop of 2-3 GDD per day to add up to a very cool season like we have had in the past two years. To drop 2 GDD per day means that our daytime highs or lows need only fall about 4 degrees below our long term average daily temperatures. That's what happened in 2011. We lost about 4 actual degrees every day on average during the whole season.



Steve Renquist
OSU Extension Agent

Here is the process of calculating Growing Degree Days if you have forgotten. The formula is $GDD = \frac{\text{max temp} + \text{min temp}}{2} - 50$. The system of tracking heat units called "Growing Degree Days" is calculated by adding the daytime high temperature with the daytime low temperature and dividing the sum by 2 (getting a daytime average).

Then subtract 50 from the sum. The only adjustments you need to make is to remember that the maximum temperature you can record for any day is 86 F.

Why? Because plants are not growing better at temps over 86 F, they are transpiring more than growing and using their energy to cool off. Why subtract 50 from the daytime average? Because plants are not growing under 50 degrees either so you eliminate those degrees.

Here is an example of GDD. The daytime high is 86, the low is 60. We add the two numbers to get 146 and divide by 2. Our average temp is 73 minus 50 degrees giving us 23 GDD accumulated on this day.

This data is calculated by using the weather.com agriculture site calculator at the following link:

<http://www.weather.com/outdoors/agriculture/growing-degree-days/97470>

Year	Apr 1 - Nov 1	Deficit from avg.	Avg GDD/day
2011	2450	-342	11.39
2010	2530	-262	11.76
30-yr Average	2972	—	12.98

(Editor's note: This was reprinted from Hort News, which is always a good read. It makes a nice follow-up to material Steve already presented on these pages earlier this year. Substitute your own zip code for the last five digits for a more precise location.)

For some reason, the link above does not always work well. If you have trouble, start off with: <http://www.weather.com/outdoors/agriculture/growing-degree-days> and plug in your information.)

Eat Your Weedies

One solution to the problem of weeds and invasive organisms: Eat Them!

Purslane (*Portulaca oleracea*) grows without—and despite—our best efforts, and has an omega fatty acid profile that is superb for heart health. Wild mustard (blooming *again*, right now, along the roads) just won't quit, and it's tasty and good for your heart and GI tract. Miner's lettuce, *Claytonia perfoliata* (a.k.a. Winter Purslane), will be coming up in a few short months. Ditto nettles!



Feral pigs taste a lot like bacon. At least, they do in Texas. Yum.

You can get more information, and recipes, by starting with: <http://motherjones.com/blue-marble/2011/11/recipes-invasive-plants>—and following the links. Then, google away! Have a [Euell Gibbons](#) day.



Here is Thoreau (in "[Walden](#)"): "I have made a satisfactory dinner, satisfactory on several accounts, simply off a dish of purslane (*Portulaca oleracea*), which I gathered in my cornfield, boiled and salted." I personally think he should have added a couple of wild-pig pork chops.

—Joe Yetter, editor

Date: _____
Check No. _____

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER 2012 DUES **(Due BEFORE Sunday, January 1, 2012)**

PLEASE complete ALL information below EVEN if nothing has changed:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

You will be receiving the Master Gardener Newsletter online.

If you choose to have it mailed to you through the post office, you will need to check the line below AND PAY AN ADDITIONAL \$5 TO COVER POSTAGE.

____ Please mail my newsletter. I have included an EXTRA \$5 to cover postage.

The 2012 dues are **\$10.00 PER PERSON or \$20.00 PER COUPLE**. Checks should be written to: **DCMG**.

» **Drop your payment AND completed form in the MG office/plant clinic's dues drawer.**

OR, mail to: Cindy Rich, 1666 NW Apache Dr., Roseburg, OR 97471



**Douglas County
Master Gardeners
Newsletter**

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Articles for the January 2012 Newsletter are due Noon Wednesday, December 14.
Send to:
(joeleeyetter@yahoo.com)
as an attached file.
PC users: Word for Windows
Mac users: Pages
Font: Arial 12pt
Include "Newsletter" (one word) in subject line. Include permission if you want your telephone, email, etc., published. Include hyperlinks.

Executive meetings: second Wednesday, 9:30am, kitchen conference room; Chapter meetings: last Thursday, Jan thru May: 10am, annex auditorium; June, July, August: members' gardens, 10am; Sept: Pavilion, Discovery Garden, 10am; Oct, Nov: 10am, annex auditorium; (no December meetings). **Chapter Meeting November 17!**

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