



Douglas County Master Gardeners

July 2013 Newsletter

Volume 28, Number 7

Calendar of Events

Tuesdays, 9 AM–12 PM
Discovery Garden Crew
Victory Garden Crew
Greenhouse Crew

Mon, Jul 1, 10 AM, Annex
Insect Committee

Wed, Jul 3, 10 AM, DG
Herb Garden Crew

Wed, Jul 10, 9 AM, Annex
Executive Board Meeting

Wed, Jul 10, 10:30 AM, Annex
Signage Committee

Thu, Jul 11, 9 AM, DG
Fri, Jul 12, 9 AM, DG
Stepping Stones
Workshop

Mon, Jul 15, 10 AM, Annex
Insect Committee

Wed, Jul 17, 10 AM, DG
Herb Garden Crew

Thu, Jul 25, 10 AM, Home
of Bonnie Courter
Chapter Meeting

Thu, Aug 1, various sites
Garden Open House

Have You Registered for Mini-College Yet?

See page 8 for program highlights, schedule and deadlines.



Fred Alley contributed this picture, taken last week in his garden. Check out Fred's garden in person at our annual Open House. In addition to Fred, Bob Brindley, Karolyn Riecks, Roger Sawyer, Betty Ison and Jim and Joni Leet will open their gardens to fellow Master Gardeners on Thursday, August 1st. See page 3 for details and directions.

Nitrogen Fertilization for Vegetable Gardens

Steve Renquist, OSU Horticultural Agent

This year I have had an unusually large number of calls from gardeners, and consulted with a number of farmers about plant growth issues that have in some way been connected to fertilization. Many of the problems go back to understanding the basics of how nutrients are created, converted from a non-available form in the soil to an available form, or supplied by gardeners at the right time when plants will take them up.

As Master Gardeners you are taught about the importance of building a healthy soil and we spend classroom time learning about soil fertility and plant nutrition. However, soil fertility is a pretty complex subject so I am offering a little review of the subject.

Children's Garden Stepping Stones

There will be a workshop at the Discovery Garden from 9:00 to 12:00 noon on July 11 and 12th to repair the Children's Garden stepping stones. Renee McElhatton and Judy Dake will need your help. Bring something to drink and wear work clothes. Any questions, call Judy at 541-459-1812 or e-mail jgdake@gmail.com.

Mini-College Silent Auction Donations

Rosemary Brinkley needs donations for the Mini-College Silent Auction by July 26th

OMGA Alternate Rep Needed

The nominating committee is looking for someone to run for this position. If you are interested, please call Larry Sutton, Mik Carlson, Leo Grass or Rosemary Brinkley

Did You Know?

Scotch broom seeds can survive for up to 80 years.

A single plant can produce more than 12,000 seeds per year.

Ants aggressively collect the seed and assist in dispersal.

An evergreen plant, it can live up to 20 years

In Oregon, costs exceed \$40 million annually in lost timber revenue

One problem that I see nearly every year is the heavy use of organic fertilizers like manures or various types of composts in gardens or farm fields. The philosophy of "If a little's good a lots better" is not always true, especially in the springtime. If you overload your soil with only partially decayed or composted material the microbes in the soil will tie-up most of the nitrogen and your crop will often be stunted and turn yellow. If you compost the organic material first and allow it to breakdown before applying it to the soil you can resolve some of these issues. This has been one of the larger issues in our area for people buying mulches from garden and farm stores. During the first year in the soil these products will not release nutrients efficiently. If you use these woody products give them one season on the soil before trying to grow vegetables in them. Long term organic additions to the soil are almost always beneficial.

Another issue similar to adding woody mulches is growing cover crops and not giving them enough time to decompose before planting your vegetable crops. The same process of tying up nitrogen by microbes is occurring with the cover crop residue until it breaks down and releases the nutrients. Try to give the cover crop nearly a month to breakdown before planting high nitrogen demand crops. You will need a little less time if you are growing legume cover crops since they are higher in nitrogen content. One of the reasons you need to give your cover crop so much time to decompose is that the soil is cold in the spring and the microbes involved in breaking down organic matter are not very active at that time. Gardeners and farmers who rely solely on organic fertilization need to remember that those microbes are not converting nitrogen to useable forms for most plants in the spring. If you remember organic matter must go through mineralization, the process of being converted from organic matter to ammonium and eventually nitrate. All these changes are slow in cold soil. If you notice your early season garden struggling to grow or looking a bit yellow what will help plants is a quickly available form of nitrogen like ammonium or nitrate. Adding more manure or pelleted organic forms of fertilizer will not help until the soil warms up. What you need to use in the early gardening season are soluble fertilizers that are mixed with water. There are many forms both organic and inorganic. Look at the labels to see what forms of nitrogen they contain. Remember that these soluble forms of nitrogen fertilizer have a greater tendency to leach through your soil if we receive heavy rainfall so watch the weather forecast when planning spring fertilization. If light rains are forecast then fertilize, if heavy rains are forecast hold off until they have passed.

It is also very important to know the nitrogen fertilization needs of your vegetable crops to prevent feeble growth or leaching of excess fertilizer. Low nitrogen demand crops include bean, cucumber, pea, radish, spinach, and squash. Medium nitrogen demand crops include carrots, corn, garlic, lettuce, melon, onion, pepper, and tomato. High nitrogen demand crops are broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, and potato. It is easy to see why the high nitrogen demand crops might be more difficult for you to grow since most of them are planted in the early season. Remember to give them soluble fertilizer applications next spring.

If you have added a large amount of organic material to your garden soil over the years it will gradually be converted to available forms of nitrogen. During the summer months it is often not necessary to side dress vegetable crops in the low to medium nitrogen demand categories since microbial activity peaks when soil reaches 80-90 degrees F.

MG Garden Open House – August 1st

Betty Ison

A Summer MG Garden Open House is set for **Thursday, August 1, 2013**. The hours vary from garden to garden, please see times listed for each individual site. Come and visit beautiful gardens and stay as long or as little as you like. Also feel free to bring friends, relatives, or neighbors along. Hope to see you there, please come and support your fellow MG's!

Fred Alley: 430 SE Oakbriar Ave, Roseburg (9 am-4 pm)

{Small urban yard, special landscape features/terraced yard/dry river bed/raised beds, full auto drip system, borders Deer Creek with some open space}

From downtown Roseburg-OSU Extension, east on Douglas Ave, past two cemeteries on right side to Ramp Road. Right (south) on Ramp to first street on the left, Chinaberry. Turn left on Chinaberry, turn left on second street, Oakbriar. Oakbriar makes a circle. House is on the left side, small yellow with white trim.

Betty Ison: 1591 NW Keasey, Roseburg (9 am-4 pm, & 6:30 pm-8:30 pm)

{Lots of annuals and perennials, and a little bit of everything else, use some raised beds and containers, use soaker hoses in most of the areas}

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)

As a NoteThere 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).

Jim/Joni Leet: 149 Crystal Springs Lane, Roseburg (9 am-4 pm, & 6:30 pm-8:30 pm)

{A formal herb bed, large lavender production bed, two production hoophouses, 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

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.

Bob Brindley: 333 Locust, Oakland (9 am- 4pm)

{1945 Bungalow with English type garden and vegetables. Extensive use of soaker hoses and experimental self watering raised beds and pots. No Lawn}

Northbound I-5 exit at Exit 138. Turn right at bottom of the offramp. Follow Stearns Road into Oakland. Immediately after crossing the railroad tracks, turn left onto Hwy 99. Go two blocks, turn right on Locust (which is the main street in town). Go three blocks. Small yellow house is on the left on the corner of Locust and 4th St, will be a DCMG tour sign out front.

Southbound I-5 exit at Exit 140. Go over the freeway and follow Hwy 99 into Oakland crossing the bridge as you come into town. Go a few blocks, then turn left on Locust, go three blocks (see above).

From Sutherlin: It is not necessary to travel all the way back to the freeway to get to Oakland or vice versa. You can use old Hwy 99 by turning north on State Street in the center of Sutherlin. Follow the road for two miles, remembering to stay to the right when you come to the Y in the road. As you come into town you will see Bart's Market, go one block past Bart's to Locust Street (see above)

Karolyn Riecks: 234 NE Seventh Street, Oakland (9 am-4 pm)

{Perennial and annual beds surrounding the 1883 house and streetside in front of the house. There is also a vegetable garden}

Northbound: (follow directions above)-after turning left on to Hwy 99, go three blocks to Oak street. Turn right on Oak. Take Oak until you get to Seventh Street. Turn left at Seventh Street. The first house on the right is 234. Park in front.

Southbound: (follow directions above)-when coming into town turn left on Oak Street. (follow rest of directions immediately above).

Roger Sawyer: 170 E Fourth Street, Sutherlin (only available 12 pm- 4pm)

{This garden is mostly edible, containing fruit trees, asparagus, strawberries, artichokes, etc. There is some seasonal vegetables. Very few ornamental type plants, but enough to add a little spring time color}

Very close to downtown Sutherlin. From the corner of Central Ave. (main street) and State Street go north counting the streets, First, Second, Third, Fourth. Turn right on Fourth. The house is in the first block, second house from the end. Best looking house on the block, can't miss.

Michelle Harding: 422 Backwater Loop, Sutherlin (9 am-4pm)

{This landscape began as a dirt lot in November 2012. It is a young landscape that uses water wise plants, trees, rock, and grasses. It does have lots of raised bed garden area for vegetables. Michelle has designed, installed, and landscaped the property herself, with the help of wonderful hired and bribed laborers when necessary. She says it's been a labor of love.}

Exit 138/136 Elkton/Reedsport. Head west for approximately 100 yards. Turn right at Dakota Street (Subway on right corner/Dakota Pizza on left corner). Head up the hill into Fairway Estates, pass gates and take the second right (Backwater Loop). Park anywhere, the house is the first house on the right.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture is restricting the use of 18 pesticide products containing the active ingredient Dinotefuran while it continues the investigation of a large kill of bumblebees in Wilsonville and Hillsboro in June. Master Gardeners are thus NOT to include Dinotefuran in any recommendation given to our clients. The list of products containing Dinotefuran is at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PEST/docs/pdf/DinotefLimitList06272013.pdf>

News from the Clinic

Judy Mercer, Plant Clinic Manager

Well folks looks like we're in for a long, hot, dry summer. We have already seen some drought stressed plants in the Clinic and others that are suffering for overwatering.

We're all going to have to be very water wise this summer and pass that information on to our clients.

We could really use some help filling the slots in the Clinic for July and August. I know we are all busy with our gardens but if you could manage at least one day a month we would be home free and it would give a break to our stalwart regulars.

Don't forget about Kruse Farms and Farmers Market.

Farmers Market Booth – Join the Fun!

Karolyn Riecks and Carol Bolt

The Umpqua Valley Farmer's Market is bigger and better this year with more vendors, more food and more variety. The Master Gardener booth has been busy and the volunteers have told me they have been enjoying the experience. Thank you to all of you who have been manning the booth.

We hope to keep the booth open through September 28th. So, we need your help. If you would like to work a Saturday at the market, please sign-up on the Plant Clinic calendar. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you can't get to the Clinic to sign up, you can call either Carol Bolt or Karolyn Riecks and we will be happy to make sure your name gets on the calendar.

President's Report

Larry Sutton

A good time was had by all. The weather was near perfect; the people that came out were ready to learn and ready to have a good time. This was our third year for our study of viticulture and how to recognize the output of the business. Each year keeps getting better and better. This year we actually had a chart that showed the various tastes or bouquets. Even with that in hand it still took some work to put the new memory muscles to work and capture the essence of the drink.

We are so blessed to have an expert like Steve that can walk us through the process and make it fun at the same time. By the time we reached the break point in the evening we had all been introduced to or reacquainted with six different types of grapes and had a better appreciation for the information found on the bottle label. While it was serious learning and Steve was answering a lot of in-depth questions, we all had a good time.

At the break all eyes turned to the three tables filled with pot luck goodies. As usual Master Gardeners outdid themselves with the goodies they brought to share. My personal favorite was the pulled pork and coleslaw that was good enough to make the Memphis Barbeque vender wake up and take notice. Just thinking about the spread that appeared in the pavilion had made my mouth water in anticipation of the coming summer meetings with pot lucks. What a great benefit to us all that the potluck idea has been passed down from year to year. Breaking bread with other Master Gardener friends really puts the relationships into perspective.

And to answer the question that has been repeated over and over for the past two weeks; yes, Leo has promised to make a return to the garden in August to cover hops and how we use them. We are shooting for mid-month, on a Wednesday evening and once again at 6:00 p.m. Start making plans now and get your voices ready to join as Leo leads all in a bit of outdoor singing.

In closing I would like to thank all of you for your kind cards, thoughts on prayers. Mom lived to a very respectable age of 102.5 and really appeared happy through until the end. She passed away peacefully in her sleep early Memorial Day morning. She and Dad are now resting peacefully on a knoll in Owasso, OK about a mile from where she was born and where they were married. I know my Dad is happy,

because mom is now with him and right across the cemetery fence someone has built a brand new Charlie's Chicken Restaurant. For the last years of their lives Charlie's Chicken was their favorite restaurant.

Vice President's Report

Fred Alley

Our first of three summer Master Gardeners meetings, hosted by fellow Master Gardeners was a great success. Master Gardener Renee Coen hosted the June meeting at her and her husband Rick's home at 222 W Riverside Drive in the Laurelwood Historic District. The 1932 home, on two acres, is nestled on the north side of the district with Laurelwood Park in front and the North Umpqua in the back yard. Renee and Rick have done a wonderful job over 23 years of renovating the home, redesigning and developing a beautiful home and yard. Thanks Renee and Rick for the special treat.

Master Gardener Bonne Courter and her husband will host the July meeting at their home in Dixonville. Bonnie has sent me directions to her house from three different approaches, from Roseburg, from the South and from Winston. One week before the meeting I will forward an e-mail to all MG members which will include all three directions. In the meantime, these are the directions from Roseburg. "Go east on Diamond Lake Blvd. (Hwy 138) about 5 miles until you see the sign on the right side of the Hwy for "Buckhorn Road" – "Dixonville" 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 will cross a green bridge of Deer Creek (Hatfield Bridge) and our driveway is on the right. They have a white vinyl fence out front. The address: 15476 (numbers are on the mailbox). The house is blue with red shutters.

Bonnie has indicated parking is limited, so car-pooling would be a great idea. You could meet at the parking across from the library, or the Umpqua Valley Christian School's parking lot, as you turn right onto Dixonville Road.

The summer meetings are always a great way to visit other Master Gardeners' homes and learn different ways to garden, find different types of plants and many times just get you enthused and excited about a new project you think of while visiting a host home. I know I was impressed with Renee and

Rick's yard and garden. Since I live on Deer Creek, I too have plenty of deer to deal with. I have fenced my backyard along Deer Creek, but the front yards, throughout the neighborhood, are at the mercy of the deer.

During the last several weeks I have been taking photographs of the garden and yard. I have plants that attract bees, hummingbirds and butterflies. The butterflies love my daylilies. I have included a close-up photo of a rather large yellow and black butterfly enjoying a daylily. [See page 1.] Sandy, my wife, and I spend a lot of time relaxing (working) in the yard and enjoy what wonders of nature. Backing onto Deer Creek, just adds to the variety of plants and animals. I'm constantly making changes or adding special landscape features. At the June Meeting I volunteered to list our home on the Home/Garden Tour on August 1st. Our home is five years old, is relatively small, and sets on a small 100'x100' lot. The lot backs onto Deer Creek, which gives you the immediate impression the lot is twice the size. We have a nice terraced back yard and I use a lot of native rock throughout the landscape. We have lots of flowers, trees, raised garden and a complete automatic irrigation system, including all our many pots. If this sounds like a place to visit, please drop by in August.

June 2013 Chapter Meeting Minutes

The OSU Douglas County Master Gardeners chapter meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM on June 27, 2013 by President **Larry Sutton**. Fifty one members were in attendance. The agenda was accepted as written. The minutes of the May 2013 chapter meeting were approved as written.

HORTICULTURE AGENT – Steve Renquist reported that Gary Groth, Douglas County Land Department, has proposed that the Master Gardeners help develop a long-term management plan for the trees at River Forks Park. A representative of the Oregon Department of Forestry will provide one day of training, followed by one or two days of surveying trees in the park. Contact Steve if you are interested.

Barb Robinson has suggested that we consider purchasing the on-line interactive version of the Sunset Western Garden book for the Plant Clinic's computer.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR – **Vicki McAlister** has updates to the membership roster available at the meeting and at the Plant Clinic. The latest

membership roster will be distributed via e-mail within the week.

OMGA REPRESENTATIVE – See page 7.

TREASURER – See page 7. **Toni Rudolph** noted that Umpqua Bank will require a \$1,000 minimum balance per account, or else a \$10/month service charge will be applied. This should not be a problem, but should be tracked. Toni is concerned that we under-budgeted the electric and water costs. She is recommending that we delay considering donating \$1,000 to the endowment fund until November.

The membership approved the motion to fund \$1,000 for greenhouse capital improvement.

The membership approved the motion to pay \$850 (to be matched by OMGA), to send Judy Mercer to the International Master Gardeners Conference this September.

VICE PRESIDENT – **Fred Alley** thanked **Renee Coen** for hosting today's meeting. July's meeting will be at **Bonnie Courter's** home in Dixonville. Fred has received a number of suggestions for future Continuing Education sessions, and is soliciting more.

PAST PRESIDENT – **Judy Huntley** reminded everyone that the annual Awards Banquet will be September 28, 2013.

PRESIDENT – **Larry Sutton** reminded everyone that the deadline for Mini-College scholarships is today. He read a thank you card from the Growing Healthy Kids program. Larry thanked everyone for their condolences on the recent passing of his mother.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – **Leo Grass** is at 4H camp.

PLANT CLINIC – **Judy Mercer** distributed the sign-up calendar for the Plant Clinic. **Diane Twete** distributed the Kruse Farms sign-up calendar – only three slots need to be filled. **Karolyn Riecks** distributed the sign-up calendar for the Umpqua Valley Farmers Market.

DISCOVERY GARDEN – **Julie Stanbery** explained that John Panches thought we might be able to locate new mowing equipment via a web site listing surplus equipment owned by the federal government. **Dennis Moore** volunteered to track this web site.

While Gary Groth (Douglas County Land Department) does not have funds to purchase gravel for the road, his department will donate the equipment and labor to spread the gravel that John PUNCHES has agreed to purchase. The work will be done at the end of the summer

Julie thanked a number of people for their recent work in the garden. See her report on page 10.

DISCOVERY GARDEN SIGNAGE – Karen Glatz reported that they are working on four signs for the Xeriscape garden, as well as the main entry sign.

VICTORY GARDEN – Mik Carlson reported that they've delivered 288 lbs of produce from the Victory Garden to UCAN, along with 62 lbs from Master Gardeners' own gardens. The Victory Garden crew took a tour of UCAN, and was reassured that their produce is being distributed within a day. This has been a bad year for pea weevils and flea beetles in the Victory Garden. Half of the tomato plants had to be replaced due to herbicide damage of unknown origin.

AWARDS – Betty Ison reported that **Karen Glatz** and **Kay Rogers** have received their 60-hour swinger bars.

PUBLICITY – Bonnie Courter sent out public service announcements for Mini-College. She is getting new banners for next year. **Julie Stanbery** thanked Bonnie for her recent article in the News-Review, thanking contributors to the Plant Sale.

HALLMARK – Linda Thames announced that **Rose Estrada** had hip surgery, and **Barb Robinson** has had one of two surgeries for carpal tunnel. We received a thank you card from **Larry Sutton** for the condolences card Linda sent.

NEWSLETTER – Jen Bailey reminded everyone the deadline for the newsletter is tomorrow

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – See page 9.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – Betty Ison announced the Garden Open House on August 1st. Information will be published in the newsletter.

SHOW-AND-TELL – Judy Huntley asked **Steve Renquist** about bees dying off from spray. Steve cautioned that systemic insecticides and fungicides should not be applied until after flowering. A foliar application to trees lasts one week, and systemic

applications last three to four weeks. **Bob Brindley** showed cardboard packing material from a shipment he received from Ireland, that could make good compost material. **Judy Mercer** thanked everyone for making possible her trip to the International Master Gardeners Conference.

Treasurer's Report

Toni Rudolph

INCOME 5/30/13 – 6/25/13

Dues-interest/donation	\$6.34
Soil Testing	\$75.00
Plant Sale – pre-sale	\$80.00
Plant Sale – post-sale	\$448.50
Compost Tea	\$242.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$851.84

EXPENSES 5/30/13 – 6/25/13

M&G - Hospitality	-\$3.00
DG – Butterfly	\$205.13
DG – Electric/Irrigation/Water	\$163.45
DG – Rock Garden 2012 grant	\$962.10
DG – Orchard/Sun Garden/Xeriscape	\$183.91
HLC – Greenhouse Supplies/Maint	\$131.66
Plant Sale – Electrical/Water	\$317.81
Plant Sale – Plants/Supplies	\$316.34
Plant Sale – Vendor Costs	\$351.36
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,628.76

Breakdown of our accounts

Checking	\$2,808.91
Money Market – Reserves	\$6,659.10
Money Market	\$35,077.87
Ending Balance 4/23/13	\$44,545.88

OMGA Report

Rosemary Brinkley, OMGA Representative

The OMGA quarterly Board Meeting was held in Pendleton. Marie Madison was elected to serve as secretary.

Katherine Johnson, Treasurer, reported that all chapters have received the 2013 PNW Handbooks. The Ray McNeilan Scholarship recipients each received \$1000.00 this year. There are 2 being given this year.

All checks of \$1000.00 or more requires a second signer (either President or Vice President of OMGA)

Chapter Reports have been revised to a mandatory written report from each local chapter and the option of giving an oral report at quarterly meetings.

5 applications for the Search for Excellence were received. Each applicant will present Friday morning at Mini-College. (innovative projects and youth)

First Vice President Report – Mary Mellard: Mini-College Aug. 7-9, 2013. It will be July 11-13 in 2014, at OSU.

Registration for Mini-college can be found at www.oregonmastergardeners.org/MiniCollege2013.htm. 16 classes are being offered. Cookies and water will be provided at breaks

State Program Leader Report – Gail Langellotto-Rhodaback: The PNW weed handbook is being edited to include chemicals home gardeners can use based on what is available for purchase on store shelves.

Gail received tenure at OSU. Goals she has set for herself: 1) Finish the update of Sustainable Gardening Handbook, co-hosting the International Master Gardener Convention in 2017, She is co-chairing a task force to develop national guidelines for information about recruitment, selection and placement of MG volunteers. 2) Development and retention of volunteer leaders (middle manager). 3) Program evaluation.

Past President Report – David Rugg: Service bars for Master Gardener veterans with 20 years or more. To be given at the Banquet on Friday night at Mini-College.

Motion made and granted: In the event a chapter is selected to present at the International Master Gardener Conference Search for Excellence, OMGA will award a scholarship that matches the chapter's contribution. The scholarship will apply to the cost of registration and lodgings for the conference, not to exceed the budgeted amount (\$850). OMGA will require proof of attendance and presentation and that the chapter has contributed also.

The September issue of the Gardeners Pen is titled "Fantastic Fall". Deadline for submission is August 10. A new section is a garden book review. Send your review or other submissions to GardenersPenNewsletter@gmail.com

OMGA Mini-College

Rosemary Brinkley

The big emphasis from OMGA this month is Mini-College August 7-9 at OSU.

For our new members: Mini-college is an educational event on gardening information suitable for all levels of gardeners. This event is open to the public, so encourage your non Master Gardener friends to come with you and join in the fun. Wednesday, the 7th, is Leadership Day. Thursday and Friday (8th and 9th), there will be 16 classes going on, of which you can choose 5 to attend. Here are some examples of 3 classes being offered. Check out the rest on the OMGA website, www.oregonmastergardeners.org.

1. What are those noises? by Chip Bulb, OSU extension agent. The biology and management of rats, mice, squirrels, raccoons, birds and bats will be discussed
2. Pollinator-Friendly Garden Design and Maintenance by Gail Langellotto, OSU Department of Hort. This class will teach about Oregon's butterflies, birds and bees and the principles and practices to help attract and conserve them in our gardens.
3. How to Work in the Garden without Trashing Your Body! By Bob Denman, Red Pig Tools. Learn how to distinguish between poor quality and high quality tools for the garden. Then learn how to dig, hoe, rake, and cultivate with minimal stress to muscles and joints.

Now that I have whet your appetite here is some more information:

July 8 Last day to reserve a room at the Hilton and receive their discount for Mini-College attendees

July 17 Last day to receive an early bird discount for Mini-College

Stay in the dorm for \$43.50 for a single or \$ 36.50 for a double each night (breakfast included). Last year we brought wine and snacks and had a great time getting to know chapter members, as well as others though out the state.

July 26, Last date to order tickets to the Friday Night Banquet.

Hear our quest speaker Dan Heims, a plantsman, speaker, collector, breeder, new plant namer and

dreamer at Terra Nova Nurseries. Dan describes himself as a mushroom, you know a fungi. Expect to learn while being entertained with humor.

Learn who earned Search for Excellence Awards, who will be the next State Master Gardener (**Larry Sutton** received this last year) and who will be the State Master Gardener Behind the Scenes (**Leo Grass** received this last year)

Honor members who have contributed 20 or more years to the Master Gardener Program. Douglas County has 10 members with 20 or more years. They are **Nicolette Abrahamson, Valerie Beckenhauer, Janice Bunyard, Betty Ison, Carolyn Lee, Sam Lee, Roger Sawyer, Julie Stanbery, Jack Wright, and Diana Young.**

So please join Michelle and me at the 30th Annual Mini-College August 7-9, 2013 at OSU in Corvallis. There is so much more to do and see. Please check out that website. In fact do it right now: www.oregonmastergardeners.org. We wouldn't want you to miss out on the early bird discounts for this year's Mini-College.

Nominating Committee Report

Rosemary Brinkley

President: Michelle Harding-Olson

Michelle began the Master Gardener Program in Riverside California. Both her parents are prolific gardeners and her dad maintained an urban veggie garden for as long as she can remember. Michelle was the first trainee to participate in DCMG Executive Committee and is now serving as the OMGA Alternate Rep. She has served on a variety of boards in both her private and professional lives and values the collective exchange of ideas and shared governance process. Michelle has worked in the Victory Garden and is interested in veggie gardening, orchid growing, and the sustainable landscape – especially grasses.

Vice President: Fred Alley

Fred took the winter training in 2011. He is currently service as Vice-President and the Continuing Education Program Coordinator. Fred retired as Community Development Director after 37 years, living in Montana, Wyoming and moving to Oregon in 2005. He enjoys outdoor activities including garden/yard/ landscape design. Loves to design and create landscape/yard art. He is an avid hiker, explorer and loves his special 1991 Jeep Wrangler

Secretary: Janet Parkerson

Janet moved to Roseburg in 2009 from Mesa Arizona, where she had lived for 30 years. She and her husband have 8 children between them. Janet also has 2 grandchildren that live in Seattle. Before leaving AZ she worked as a Technical Support Engineer, assisting clients with all facets of their computers. She also worked for Bank of America. Gardening has always been a daily joy. But gardening in AZ is a whole different world than here in Douglas County, so she decided to become a Master Gardener to educate herself about gardening here. She says she has gained a great education as well as having the pleasure of working with the most wonderful, dedicated, friendly and absolutely the best bunch of people with whom she share her passion of gardening with.

Treasurer: Vicki McAlister

Vicki was a member of the 2012 class. She moved to Roseburg from Long Beach, Ca. in Sept. 2011. Vicki is currently the Membership Director, and is a victory garden worker bee.

Membership: Ruth Stafford

Ruth grew up on a Nebraska farm and that started a life-long love of gardening. She and her husband moved to Oregon in 1978 and raised their two sons on 5 acres in Days Creek along with a few animals and lots of vegetables. She retired from teaching in 2004 where she had been the librarian and high school English teacher.

Ruth's hobbies are reading, gardening, hiking, and traveling. She took part in the 2010 MG class and says being part of the MGs has been a real joy. She loves the Discovery Garden and being part of the Victory Garden crew.

OMGA Representative: Rosemary Brinkley

Rosemary is a native Oregonian who has lived in Douglas County for 55 years. She and her husband live in the Melrose area where they tend 6 acres. She has recently returned to gardening after her retirement from the Roseburg School District. She appreciates all the hard working and dedicated people she has met in the Master Gardener Program. She looks forward to serving as the OMGA Representative

OMGA Alternate Rep: TBD. Please contact Larry Sutton, Mik Carlson, Leo Grass or Rosemary Brinkley if interested.

In the Garden

Julie Stanbery, Discovery Garden Coordinator

Projects are getting done as so many great volunteers are stepping up to help with our never ending maintenance jobs.



After finishing the living roof on the dog house in the xeriscape garden, Neal Meyer and Hank Krohn removed our diseased and dying trees. Well done, fellas.

Janet and Karen, our friendly and reliable irrigation team, are doing a great job for us. They are keeping an eye out for dysfunctional sprinklers and helping us to regulate water usage.

As part of the sustainable theme of the DG, the xeriscape garden has considerably reduced water usage. We are working with other gardens to improve water conservation. Lots of hose repair and better placement of sprinklers have reduced puddles and overwatering of pathways.



Noel Groshong and Dave Hopkins dug up and replaced the valve at the power pole. New valve, less plumbing issues, much happier volunteers. Thanks guys!!!!

With Gale on the tractor, a crew of 7 women weeded the old raised bed area, dumped and raked MANY wheelbarrows full of chips in front of the hedgerow and around the reconfigured raised beds. More weed control, less herbicide, less manual labor. A good morning's work.



The Japanese Garden has been tended to by Neal Evans and Judy Murphy. They have weeded and raked and pruned. The result is a very lovely, peaceful area. Coming next is the installation of the sign honoring Chiaki Koyama and finishing the irrigation at the east end of the garden.

Teams are out weekly working on the entry garden, butterfly garden, compost area, children's garden, xeriscape and container gardens.

Great strides have been made in just a few short weeks on the new rock garden. We see lots of interest from the public as they watch the area develop.

Special kudos to Mary Lou Davidson, who is doing such a great job keeping the Helleck Hall garden looking so inviting.

We should be in great shape for summer visitors and Show & Shine which is held on the weekend of July 13.

Thanks to all for your effort and energy.

See you in the garden!

Western Gardening Hints for July 2013 from OSU Extension

Planning

- Construct trellises for tomatoes, cucumbers, pole beans, and vining ornamentals.

Maintenance and Clean Up

- Prune lilacs, forsythia, rhododendrons, and azaleas after blooming.
- Fertilize vegetable garden 1 month after plants emerge by side dressing alongside rows.
- Harvest thinnings from new plantings of lettuce, onion, and chard.
- Pick ripe strawberries regularly to avoid fruit-rotting diseases.
- Use organic mulches to conserve soil moisture in ornamental beds. An inch or two of sawdust, barkdust, or composted leaves will minimize loss of water through evaporation.
- After normal fruit drop of apples, pears and peaches in June, consider thinning the remainder to produce a larger crop of fruit.
- Make sure raised beds receive enough water for plants to avoid drought stress. If a green lawn is desired, make sure lawn areas are receiving adequate water (approximately 0.5 to 1.5 inches per week from June through August). Deep watering less often is more effective than frequent shallow watering. Measure your water use by placing an empty tuna can where your irrigation water lands.
- (Mid-June): If green lawns are being maintained through the summer, apply 1 lb. nitrogen per 1,000 sq.ft. to lawns.

Planting/Propagation

- Plant dahlias and gladioli.

Pest Monitoring and Management

- First week: spray cherry trees for cherry fruit fly, as necessary, if fruit is ripening.
- First week: spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees, as necessary. Continue use of pheromone traps for insect pest detection.
- Continue monitoring blueberry, strawberry, cherry and other plants that produce soft fruits and berries for Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD). If SWD are present, use an integrated and least toxic approach to manage the pests. To learn how to monitor and manage SWD, visit <http://swd.hort.oregonstate.edu/gardeners>.

- Learn to identify beneficial insects and plant some insectary plants (e.g. Alyssum, Phacelia, coriander, candytuft, sunflower, yarrow, dill) to attract them to your garden. Check with local nurseries for best selections. See PNW 550 (**Encouraging Beneficial Insects in Your Garden**) for more information.
- Monitor azaleas, primroses and other broadleaf ornamentals for adult root weevils. Look for fresh evidence of feeding (notching at leaf edges). Try sticky trap products on plant trunks to trap adult weevils. Protect against damaging the bark by applying the sticky material on a 4-inch wide band of poly sheeting or burlap wrapped around the trunk. Mark plants now and manage root weevils with beneficial nematodes when soil temperatures are above 55°F. If root weevils are a consistent problem, consider removing plants and choosing resistant varieties (See <http://bit.ly/oDOScK> for list of rhododendrons exhibiting resistance to adult root weevil feeding.)
- Blossoms on squash and cucumbers begin to drop: this is nothing to worry about. Cherries may also drop fruit: this is not a major concern.
- Control garden weeds by pulling, hoeing, or mulching.
- Control aphids on vegetables as needed by hosing off with water or by using insecticidal soap or a registered insecticide.
- Watch for 12-spotted beetles on beans and lettuce and cabbageworms or flea beetles in cole crops (cabbage, broccoli, brussel sprouts). Remove the pests by hand or treat with registered pesticides.
- Spray peas as first pods form, if necessary, to control weevils.
- Birch trees dripping a sticky fluid from their leaves means that aphids are present. Control as needed.
- Use yellow sticky traps to monitor for cherry fruit fly. About 1 week after the first fly is caught, spray cherries at appropriate intervals.
- Last week: second spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees, as necessary.

Houseplants and Indoor Gardening

Move houseplants outdoors for cleaning, grooming, repotting and summer growth..

Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: Deadline for August 2013 newsletter is July 26th. Mail submissions to jen@skylondaranch.com.

Web Site: extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/douglas-county-oregon-master-gardeners

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/pages/Douglas-County-Master-Gardeners/251882398200487

Horticulture Agent: extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/horticulture, e-mail: steve.renquist@oregonstate.edu

OSU Douglas County Extension Service: extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas

OSU Gardening – web site: extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening, monthly gardening calendar: extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/calendar, monthly newsletter: extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/enews

OSU Master Gardeners – web site: extension.oregonstate.edu/mg, Facebook page: www.facebook.com/OSUMG

Oregon Master Gardeners Association – web site: www.omga.org, newsletter: www.omga.org/GardenersPen.htm, Mini-College: www.omga.org/MiniCollege.htm



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