



# Douglas County Master Gardeners

## January 2014 Newsletter

### Volume 29, Number 1

## Winter 2014 Calendar of Events

### **Insect Committee**

Mon, January 6, 10 AM – noon

### **Botany I** (*John Punches*)

Tues, January 7, 9 AM – noon

### **Annual Potluck**

Tues, January 7, noon – 1 PM

### **Climate and Weather of Douglas County** (*Steve Renquist*)

Tues, January 7, 1 – 4 PM

### **Executive Board Meeting**

Wed, January 8, 9 AM

### **Botany II – Physiology**

(*John Punches*)

Tues, January 14, 9 AM – noon

### **Diagnostics Group**

Wed, January 15, 10 AM

### **Insect Committee**

Mon, January 20, 10 AM – noon

### **Pruning Trees, Shrubs and Vines** (*Steve Renquist*)

Tues, January 21, 9 AM – noon

### **Pruning Fruit Trees and Flowering Ornamental Trees @ the Discovery Garden**

Fri, January 24, 1 – 4 PM

### **Insects** (*Danielle Lightle*)

Tues, January 28, 9 AM – noon

### **Discovery Garden Work Day**

Wed, January 29, 9 AM – noon

### **Continuing Education Program**

Thur, January 30, 9 – 10 AM

### **Chapter Meeting**

Thur, January 30, 10 AM

### **Insect Committee**

Mon, February 3, 10 AM – noon

### **Pesticide Safety** (*Steve Renquist*)

Tues, February 4, 9 AM – noon

### **Vegetable Gardening**

(*Marjorie Neal*)

Tues, February 4, 1 – 4 PM

### **Discovery Garden Work Day**

Fri, February 7, 9 AM – noon

### **Plant Disease and Diagnosis**

(*Steve Renquist*)

Tues, February 11, 9 AM – noon

### **Plant Identification** (*Raini Rippey*)

Tues, February 11, 1 – 4 PM

### **Executive Board Meeting**

Wed, February 12, 9 AM

### **Insect Committee**

Mon, Feb 17, 10 AM – noon

### **Soils/Fertilization**

(*Steve Renquist*)

Tues, February 18, 9 AM – noon

### **Plant Identification** (*Raini Rippey*)

Tues, February 18, 1 – 4 PM

### **Diagnostics Group**

Wed, February 19, 10 AM

### **Pruning Shade and Ornamental Trees @ the Discovery Garden**

Thurs, February 20, 1 – 4 PM

### **Spring into Gardening @ UCC**

Sat, February 22

### **Pruning Roses @ the Discovery Garden**

Mon, February 24, 1 – 3 PM

### **Care of Urban Trees/Seed Saving** (*Tal Blankenship*)

Tues, February 25, 9 AM – noon

### **Weed Identification and Control** (*Shelby Filley*)

Tues, February 25, 1 – 4 PM

### **Continuing Education Program**

Thurs, February 27, 9 – 10 AM

### **Chapter Meeting**

Thurs, February 27, 10 AM

### **Insect Committee**

Mon, March 3, 10 AM – noon

### **Berry Crops** (*Bernadine Strik*)

Tues, March 4, 9 AM – noon

### **Composting/Cover Crops**

(*Joe Yetter, Steve Renquist*)

Tues, March 4, 1 – 4 PM

### **Pruning Shrubs @ the Discovery Garden**

Fri, March 7, 1 – 4 PM

### **Vertebrate Pests/**

**Waterwise Gardening**

(*Leo Grass/Steve Renquist*)

Tues, March 11, 9 AM – noon

### **Integrated Pest Management**

(*Steve Renquist*)

Tues, March 11, 1 – 4 PM

### **Executive Board Meeting**

Wed, March 12, 9 AM

### **Discovery Garden Work Day**

Fri, March 14, 9 AM – noon

### **Insect Committee**

Mon, March 17, 10 AM – noon

### **WT14 Class Graduation**

Tues, March 18, 2:30 PM

### **Diagnostics Group**

Wed, March 19, 10 AM

### **Discovery Garden Work Day**

Tues, March 25, 9 AM – noon

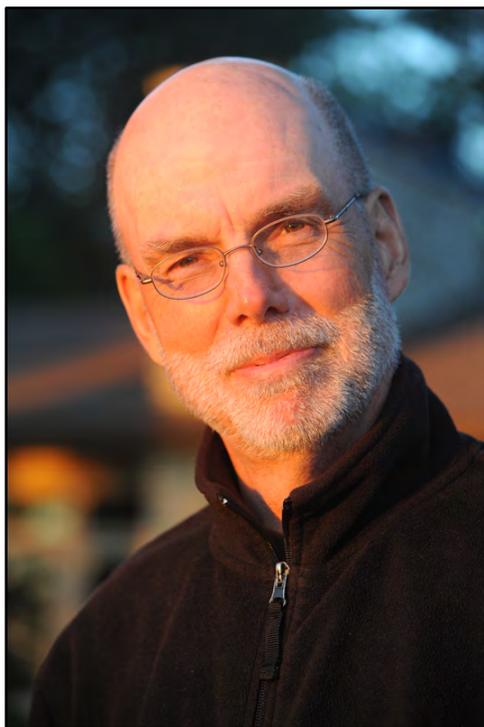
### **Continuing Education Program**

Thurs, March 27, 9 – 10 AM

### **Chapter Meeting**

Thurs, March 27, 10 AM

*What happened to the idea of gardeners taking the winter off!?!?*



## Agent's Welcome 2014

Steve Renquist

Welcome to the class of Master Gardeners™ 2014. Every year in January Oregon State University and the Douglas County Master Gardener Association have an opportunity to welcome a new group of gardeners from around Douglas County into our program. Our program has three major components, classroom education, hands-on education and outreach to the community.

The classroom education comes when you enter the winter training class. Experienced instructors will share their gardening knowledge with you for eleven weeks. Then when you begin your volunteer time in the plant clinic you will be able to work alongside veteran Master Gardeners solving problems for others in Douglas County. This time in the clinic will be where you really reinforce all that you learn in the classroom.

The hands-on education segment of our program begins during the winter training classes. Many of our lectures are supported by demonstration and lab work. You will also be asked to take several pruning classes during January and February. If you look at the class schedule you will notice we have two sessions planned for the greenhouses at our Horticultural Learning Center (HLC). These classes will teach you how to do vegetative propagation and seeding. On the day you learn at the greenhouse you will be introduced to our Discovery Garden. The Discovery Garden is a teaching and demonstration garden for the public located at the HLC. You will be impressed with all the interesting theme gardens you can learn from and help develop. You will also have classes on raising tree fruit at the Discovery Garden. We encourage the class of 2014 to have a hands-on volunteer project too at the Discovery Garden or in the Victory Garden. The Victory Garden is a project at the HLC which produces vegetables for donation to UCAN.

The final component of our program is what we call our outreach to the community. This portion of the program consists of taking our sustainable gardening message to other groups in Douglas County. We give presentations and demonstrations wherever we can. Maybe you know a few groups we could reach. We also have a Master Gardener booth at Garden Shows, the County Fair, Earth Day and other gatherings around the county that you will be recruited to join. This is a great way to tell our story to others and recruit new trainees.

I am really looking forward to our year ahead together. We have thirty five people signed up to join us. When you come into our classroom you will be assigned a table and a mentor. Make sure that you ask your mentor to introduce you to all that our program has to offer, including social activities, "Spring in to Gardening" a day-long seminar, organizational committees, and mini-college, a statewide gathering of Master Gardeners.

We challenge you to study hard, and to have fun learning. You will be representing Oregon State University when you volunteer as a Master Gardener™ so we ask you to accept our gardening ideas and philosophy of sustainability when you reach out to the public. You will soon see that the energy and enthusiasm of our veteran Master Gardeners is infectious and we look forward to you joining our organization.



## President Michelle Harding-Olson

Welcome to 2014! I hope your holidays were all you hoped for and that you survived our unusually hostile weather conditions. Another productive DCMG year has ended, and as an organization it is time to look at what the New Year brings. We have a new Trainee Class with approximately 30 future Master Gardeners to welcome, and I invite all of you to greet them whenever you have the chance. We are a friendly bunch and full of knowledge and good cheer, so I also encourage anyone new to the organization to take advantage of us.

For the new trainee and the seasoned veteran this issue of our Newsletter brings important information about the opportunities available to you within the organization. Each Officer and Committee Head has been asked to provide a description about their area. If you notice something that looks of interest, or is an area you can contribute to, please make note of it and contact the responsible person, or me ([michelleharding02@gmail.com](mailto:michelleharding02@gmail.com)). We all possess skills and talents that can be used to enhance our program and I encourage every Master Gardener to get involved or branch out into new areas of involvement.

This year along with our regular activities we have a few new fun activities planned. A Camera Group has formed and welcomes both seasoned and novice photographers. Several of their meetings will include local professionals, so be watching for details of when and where they will meet. This group will also include Master Gardeners from our new Photography Team (led by Fred Alley), these MG's are responsible for taking the many images needed to advertise our events and good works throughout the year, as well as record our historical presence. A big THANK YOU to Maureen Benice who has managed this task single handedly for many years!

Camille Simon will be coordinating several interesting Field Trips for us in 2014. Our schedule tentatively includes: Pittock Mansion, Miller Hazelnut Farm, Legends Pottery/Kathy Allen Nursery, The Village Green/Territorial Seeds, the Oregon Gardens, Kruse Farms-Behind the Scene, Roseburg Walnut Farm, and Shore Acres Botanical Garden. If you have other suggestions please email Camille directly, and please also feel free to help Camille if you'd like. Dates/Times will be announced as soon as trips are confirmed. Many of these trips will include educational tours conducted by someone from the location and be considered Continuing Education. Everyone is welcome!

And, last but not least, we will add a few new parties to our busy social schedule. In addition to our fantastic AWARDS BANQUET and WINE/BEER TASTING events we will hold a 100 MILE BBQ at the Discovery Garden in July, a MARDI GRAS party in February/March and a SOWI Harvest Party in November. Details forthcoming.

The position of Chapter President I hope is of interest to some of you! This year I am the one who presides at both the monthly Executive and Chapter Meetings. I develop committees as needed and am the focal point for official chapter business. I also provide new ideas and assess old ones, and I am responsible for writing newsletter articles and other correspondence on behalf of the Chapter. Please feel free to email me anytime ([michelleharding02@gmail.com](mailto:michelleharding02@gmail.com)) with your questions, suggestions, or criticisms. Again, welcome 2014 Trainees to the Douglas County Master Gardener Chapter, and welcome Veteran Douglas County Master Gardeners to another productive year of all things gardening! Be fruitful, Michelle



## Vice President

Fred Alley

As the Vice President, I welcome each of you, the 2014 class of the Douglas County Master Gardeners (DCMG). Each of you has embarked upon a new venture, one that I truly believe you will find very enjoyable and rewarding. After I retired I joined the DCMG in 2011. I never envisioned I would run for Vice President, be a Mentor for three years, and work on some incredible projects at the Discovery Garden. Meeting new people and greatly expanding my knowledge of horticulture, yes that I expected. My message, DCMG truly has a place for everyone. During my three years I have found several different ways to volunteer my time, talent and skills. While I like to be challenged, I even surprised myself in developing new skills,

completely foreign to me. I have completed several concrete sculptures at the Discovery Garden, and in turn have meant a number of incredible people.

If you like the outdoors and sustainable gardening, the Discovery Garden will be a great fit for you. During your class you will visit the Discovery Garden several times. You will see the different gardens and will visit the Chairs of each garden and may, like I did, find you want to join a special garden. I personally like the Japanese garden and the Children's' garden. What is great is you choose your level of participation, your place within the organization. You will be amazed with our volunteerism, individually and collectively.

The Vice President's job includes a number of responsibilities: assisting the President in conducting meetings, act as Program Chairperson, serve as parliamentarian for the chapter and presiding at chapter meetings in the absence of the President. Interestingly, the most exciting responsibility is to "Provide the Continuing Education Program for the Chapter". We have a one hour educational program before every monthly meeting. It is open to all Master Gardeners, their guests and friends, We have had a variety of education program in the past, including fungi/mushrooms, food dehydration, drip irrigation, bee pollen production, physical therapy practices for the gardener, Bees in the Garden, just to name a few. As Vice President, I'm always seeking new program ideas, so if you have a particular topic, please feel free to call me or e-mail me. As a new member you will have a new set of eyes and we want to address your needs and we want to hear your ideas and thoughts.

As a class mentor again this year, I look forward to meeting all of you and especially the two students that I will be mentoring. Each and every time I mentor I earn something new. It's a great way for me to meet new students and continue expanding my knowledge. See you on January 7th. I can be reached at 541 733 6232 or [ffhasla@msn.com](mailto:ffhasla@msn.com). Please feel free to contact me.

### Continuing Education – Pruning Classes at the Discovery Garden

**Fruit and Flowering Ornamental Trees** (January 24<sup>th</sup>) – Work with prune, peach, cherry, apple, pear, Asian pear, fig trees. Ornamentals include cherry, plum, snowbell, crape myrtle, dogwood.

**Shade and Ornamental Trees** (February 20<sup>th</sup>) – Know the proper pruning form to use with each type of tree, and how to make good pruning cuts.

**Shrubs** (March 7<sup>th</sup>) – Focus on natural pruning to retain the plants natural form (mounding cane, upright), and how to know the right time of year to prune each type of shrub.



## Past President

Larry Sutton

One of the first relationships that you form when becoming a Master Gardener is with your assigned mentor. Later on in your training you will be mentored in the plant clinic by one of the plant clinic core group trainers. When you go to the Discovery Garden you will be mentored by one of the garden heads or another veteran working in your area of choice.

Do you see a pattern emerging here? Master Gardeners are always mentoring no matter what activity they are involved in. Which brings me to the position of Past President. As the person with the most recent experience in being President I am available to mentor the President or the members of the executive board if and when needed. As one of the voting

members of the Executive Board I provide continuity from the past administration to the present one and hopefully steer the board through the rough waters that can develop in any group.

For the class of 2014, we welcome you. You have chosen to don the mantle of one of the most successful chapters in the Oregon Master Gardener Association. Wear it well and do not hesitate to reply on any of us to answer the questions that will make your stay more meaningful.

For the returning veterans we welcome you back. I look forward to spending another year with you.



## Secretary

Janet Parkerson

Welcome Class of 2014! You are about to embark on one of the most rewarding adventures of your life. Becoming a Master Gardener provides personal enrichment, knowledge, confidence, and friends, all while having a lot of fun!

As a Master Gardener for 3 years, I have been part of an organization that not only knows how to nurture and assist in gardening, they have done the same for me! I had only recently moved to Roseburg and was looking for an ongoing way to immerse myself in my new community. I became a Master Gardener and achieved that goal.

As Secretary, I participate in making the decisions that benefit our community and organization. I attend both General meetings and Executive Board meetings where I record the Minutes. I then prepare the Minutes and disseminate them to the appropriate individuals. The General Meeting minutes are sent to the publisher of the Newsletter, while the Executive Board Meeting minutes published copies are sent to each Executive Board member and attendees of the Executive Board meetings. Both meetings' minutes are posted in the Plant Clinic.

Master Gardeners has enriched my life with new friends, education, resources and most of all, the opportunity to work with the best group of people I have ever known.



## Treasurer

Vicki McAlister

The Treasurer's job is to maintain the financial records of the chapter. This includes: assisting in the development of the chapter's budget, tracking income and expenditures, paying bills and depositing money, providing financial information to members at monthly executive board and general meetings and in the newsletter, and providing a year-end report of the chapter's finances to the state OMGA Treasurer to be used in our federal income tax filing. Any financial questions you

may have should be directed to the Treasurer at [vmcalist@csulb.edu](mailto:vmcalist@csulb.edu) or 541.637.0563



## Membership Director

Ruth Stafford

As Membership Director it is my responsibility to collect dues and keep the membership document current. Membership dues are due by January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year but as trainees, you will not pay until we collect for 2015. The roster contains each member's contact information including name, address, phone number and email address. It is updated as soon as we are notified of contact changes. Each spring we use the roster information to produce a hard copy version that each active

and trainee master gardener receives. Updates are sent to members by email or, for an extra fee, mailed out as a hard copy. In addition to these duties, the Membership Director serves as a member on the Executive Board and attends monthly chapter board meetings. I look forward to meeting the 2014 trainee class and know you will enjoy the Master Gardener classes and becoming a part of our great organization. If you have questions or want to update your information, contact me at [mikeruth@frontiernet.net](mailto:mikeruth@frontiernet.net) or see me at any chapter meeting.



## OMGA Representative

Rosemary Brinkley, Roger Sawyer (Alternate)

As the Oregon Master Gardener Association Representative and Alternate Representative, Roger and I meet quarterly with the other representatives from Master Gardener Chapters across the state and the OMGA Executive Board. We help make decisions that will set OMGA policies and to develop goals and objectives for OMGA. We have the opportunity to share what Douglas County MG is doing with the rest of the state and to hear what projects the other chapters are participating in at their local area. We also provide verbal and written information to our local chapter on the activities of OMGA.

So what is OMGA?



OMGA and the county chapters were created in 1983 to support and supplement O.S.U.'s Master Gardener Program. OMGA is tax-exempt, and serves to unify and support Chapter programs and horticultural education. When you complete the Master Gardener Program, membership in OMGA is automatic the first year. After that, membership requires annual dues. Services that OMGA provide are:

- Educational outreach via Mini-College. This year it will be held in Corvallis, July 11 - 13, 2014.
  - The Gardener's Pen, a quarterly newsletter
  - The PNW Handbooks used by our plant clinic
  - Scholarships to an OSU horticultural student and scholarships to help send attendees to Mini-College
  - Grants to assist Chapters fund special projects. Douglas County was awarded two grants in 2013.
- Search for Excellence Award - Recognizes outstanding projects by Chapters that can be adapted by other Chapters. Douglas County won the Search for Excellence in 2012.
  - Select and honor the Oregon State Master Gardener of the Year. Douglas County Master Gardeners who have received this award were Karl Carlson, Clint and Emogen Atherton, Betty Ison, Julie Stanberry, Jack Wright and Larry Sutton.
  - Select and honor the "Behind the Scenes" Master Gardener of the Year. Douglas County Master Gardeners who have received this award were Robert Modenhauer, Dorothy Roberts, Stew Avery, Richard Johnstone and Leo Grass.

Roger and I look forward to getting to know the Master Gardener Winter Training Class with the rest of the membership. If you have any questions about OMGA please ask us. Our next quarterly meeting will be held in Clackamas County on February 1, 2014. Would you like to go with us? You are more than welcome to join us.



## E-Mail Communications

Shirley Purcell

As the person in charge of communications, I send out informational emails that relate to Master Gardener activities. If you have provided your email address to the organization, you will hear from me one or more times a week. Please add my email address, [hopover@gmail.com](mailto:hopover@gmail.com), onto your accepted list so my emails are not routed into your spam box.

The MG Executive Board has given me permission to send out only those emails relating directly to MG activities. Therefore, please do not be offended if I cannot help you rent your house, advertise a garage sale, sell your craft items, etc.

If my emails are not getting to you in a timely manner, please let me know. Also, if you change your email address, call or email me as soon as possible. My phone number is 541. 673.3818. Thank you for helping spread Master Gardener news to all.

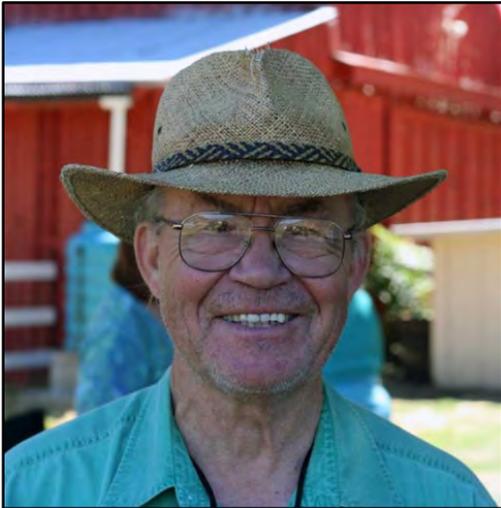


## Publicity

Bonnie Courter

Welcome to the Class of 2014! As Publicity Chair for the Douglas County Master Gardeners, my job is to inform our local communities about upcoming events and fundraisers we sponsor throughout the year by working with the media. That entails writing Public Service Announcements (PSA's) to newspapers, radio and TV. I may also write news stories highlighting special events, awards, projects, or anything that may showcase our organization and its value to the community. A large part of my job is centered on our biggest fundraiser, the Plant and Garden Expo, which is held the first Saturday in May. I coordinate and design paid advertising for the sale, as well as fliers and bookmarks to distribute around the community. I attend Executive Board and Chapter meetings to keep up-to-date on what's happening. If you have a good idea for an article, or possibly a TV or radio spot,

please let me know. You can reach me at [rbcourter@gmail.com](mailto:rbcourter@gmail.com), or by phone at 541-672-3071. Enjoy your new adventure in gardening!



## Community Outreach

Leo Grass

Welcome new Master Gardeners, class of 2014. You have joined what I believe to be the greatest volunteer group in Douglas County. You will meet a lot of very nice people, learn many new gardening skills, and engage in lots of interesting group activities. While you are learning about your new organization, keep in mind that everything we do is focused on our fundamental mission; to distribute sound, research based information about all aspects of gardening to the people in our community. While everyone in our organization works to accomplish this goal, the committee most directly engaged in this effort is the Community Outreach Committee.

As chairman of the Community Outreach Committee, I am the primary contact between Master Gardeners and the good folks of our community. The simplest way of teaching good, sustainable gardening skills is by teaching them directly. We do demonstrations, and teach classes to a wide variety of people from pre-school to senior centers, and everyone in between. We have information booths, and demonstrations at events like the Douglas County Fair, and Earth Day. We lead informational tours through our Discovery Garden. If teaching others about sustainable gardening sounds like your idea of a good time, let me know.



## Plant Clinic

Judy Mercer

Welcome to the Plant Clinic.

My job is to coordinate all Plant Clinic and satellite clinic activities. I also consult with our librarians on the resource materials; keep our resource files, office forms and time sheets replenished as needed. I coordinate our Clinic training program.

The Plant Clinic is where the objective of the Master Gardener Program really comes to life. We are able to take the knowledge that we have gained and pass it along to the home gardener. We diagnose plant diseases, identify insects, answer general gardening questions and give information on controlling vertebrate pests. At the same time, we are continuing to learn. It's exciting and fun and I hope you will enjoy it as much as I do. I look forward to working with you in the coming year.



## Insect Committee

Bob Brindley

Nearly 25% of the calls to the Plant Clinic concern possible plant damage from or problems with insects and other arthropods. With over 1 million identified species of insects worldwide and an estimated 15 million possible species total, this would seem an impossible task but an analysis of Plant Clinic data for Douglas County shows that 90% of the insect questions involve only about 50 insects and spiders.

While most Master Gardeners have no problem identifying the usual bugs brought into the clinic, the job of the insect committee is to supply aids and books to help with this task. The committee also identifies those uncommon insects that occasionally show up.

We are looking for additional people to help us produce material that would make insect identification and treatment recommendations even easier for Plant Clinic volunteers. Plus, we can always use help in identification.

We welcome new members; no experience required. The committee meets on the first and third Monday of every month from 10:00 AM to noon if needed. And for those of you who are new to the Master Gardeners program, you can use insect committee time to help fulfill your clinic hours obligation.

I would be happy to tell you more about the committee. Please contact me at 459-7897 for more information.



## Victory Garden

Mik Carlson

Greetings to the Master Gardener Class of 2014. The HLC's Victory Garden has had four great years, and we are already looking forward to a fifth. There are three major goals.

First, the Victory Garden offers Master Gardeners an opportunity to put into practice techniques taught in our winter class such as succession planting, crop rotation, leaf mulching and vertical gardening. There is always plenty of jobs to be done...moving compost, planning, planting, fertilizing, mulching, pruning, harvesting, and, of course, weeding.

Second, by donating fresh, nutritious produce to UCAN, Master Gardeners are promoting and contributing to a healthier community. Last year we grew 3,723 pounds of vegetables to be distributed to local pantries and community kitchens. We, also, collected 1,276 pounds of produce from home gardens.

Our third goal is to share with each other...to share ideas, to share the work, to share laughter, and to share our love of gardening. So, if you want to nurture your love of gardening, while helping others, AND having a good time, come join us in the Victory Garden.



## Discovery Garden

Julie Stanbery

Welcome to the Discovery Garden at the Horticultural Learning Center! As new Master Gardeners you are invited to join us in a great adventure as we continue to develop our year round educational garden and teaching facility. MG volunteers participate in all areas of garden management including landscape design, planting, pruning and the ubiquitous weeding.

Working in the garden is a stimulating hands-on experience and lots of fun. All trainees will be asked to schedule volunteer payback time in the garden. These sessions will help familiarize you with all aspects of the garden and give you the opportunity to decide which area of the garden you would like to offer your volunteer time during the year.

Established in 1999, the entire garden has been built by thousands of Master Gardener volunteer hours and community groups such as Job Corp and inmate work crews. We have 20 gardens within the DG including Japanese, children's, hedgerow, orchard, scented entry, lilies and dahlias, shade and sun, compost, ornamental shrubs and grasses, butterfly, herb, xeriscape, rock and easy access areas. Items of particular interest include the spider gate, human sundial, and the moon gate. We also have added numerous benches and picnic tables.

The goals and directions of the garden come from MG volunteers with guidance from OSU Extension and our Home Hort agent, Steve Renquist. We use the children's garden, worm bins, compost bins

and pavilion as an outdoor classroom for school children and youth groups. Other gardens are used for public demonstrations including pruning and plant care.

Your winter program classes contain information in many aspects of the garden such as water wise gardens, dry garden (xeriscape), water collection and irrigation techniques, container and adaptive raised beds (easy access), herbs, Japanese, perennials, annuals, roses, lilies, and much more! All of our classes include ecological management practices that stress integrated methods (IPM) and low impact techniques.

My name is Julie Stanbery and as coordinator of the Discovery Garden, you will be hearing many garden updates from me. A number of your classes will take place in the garden, at the greenhouses and at Helleck Hall at the HLC. Your first classes at the HLC will be Jan 14 & 21. A tour of the garden will be part of these class sessions. You will be introduced to some of the veteran MGs who work in the individual gardens and learn the lay-out of the gardens. These classes are OUT-OF DOORS so dress in layers, wear long underwear, mud boots, rain slicker, gloves and hat!!

Steve will schedule "hands-on" pruning classes in the Discovery Garden. All students are asked to attend these classes. We encourage everyone to participate in the training. We will be working on fruit trees, ornamental shrubs, Japanese garden plants, landscape trees and roses. Dates to be announced.

During MG training class, we have scheduled one work day each month: Wed. Jan. 29, Fri. Feb.7 and Fri. Mar. 14 each day from 9am to noon.

Starting March 25, we will have regular Tuesday work days each week through September.

Come dressed for foul weather as we work rain or shine. You need not be a strapping physical specimen; I can find a task for anyone!! Always come to the garden with work gloves, hand pruners, a good weeding tool, kneeling pad and

a shovel. I'll let you know if we need special tools for any particular project. Working in the garden is considered payback time; specifics will be explained in class.

This spring, we will finish installing the last of the in-ground irrigation system. We have a year round pump and two reservoirs for water storage, so this is the next step to demonstrate water wise techniques and to get rid of the hoses!!

We have a busy season ahead of us, but as all gardeners know, you meet the nicest people in the garden, we'll see you there!! Julie Stanbery 672-7175.

## **Trash to Treasures Sale**

**Deb Haynes and Cindy Rich**

Spring brings our annual Trash to Treasure Sale (huge garage sale) in March (date to be announced soon). Deb Haynes and Cindy Rich are co-chairing this fund raising event again this year; however, this will be our last year. Della Neavoll will be taking over in 2015 and is looking for a helper. If you are interested or have questions, please contact one of us.

We need your help and donations of clean and useable items. We accept most things, except no clothes, shoes, or live plants. We accept books, yard & garden items, tools, toys, games, jewelry, household, and whatever you can think of.

We are planning on a Saturday in March after the MG classes are over for the sale. We setup and accept donated items in the auditorium on the Friday before the sale. The hours you help on Friday and Saturday count toward your payback hours under fund raising.

We'll have more information in the February newsletter on how YOU can help make this sale fun and successful.

## Plant Sale

Barbara Robinson and Sharon Hopkins



## Greenhouses

Tasha King and Gloria Amorde



Have you got your 2013 calendar close by? If not, track it down and turn to the month of May. Now circle Saturday, May 3rd, the date for our 2014 Plant and Garden Expo at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. The annual event is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Monies raised help finance our plant clinic, community outreach programs, winter training program, etc.

Preparation for the expo is a year-round endeavor. Greenhouse crews can be found working every Tuesday morning from 9-12. Tender loving care is given to various plants, shrubs, trees, and seedlings preparing them for relocation to their new homes. As spring arrives, greenhouse crews go into fast forward mode and can be found working multiple days a week. We pride ourselves in producing a quality "product" at a competitive price. The community has grown to appreciate our efforts, and, as a result, are extremely supportive of this event.

In the next few weeks you will have the opportunity to view the various functions of our greenhouses and try your hand at seed starting, propagating, root pruning, etc. Do not be intimidated by these terms..... No experience necessary! We are an equal opportunity on the job training organization!

The plant sale committee and greenhouse crews welcome you and look forward to working with you!



## Quilt Raffle

Our congratulations go out to Carol Stewart of Sutherlin who was the lucky winner of our quilt raffle. The beautiful quilt blocks, depicting the state flower of each state, were embroidered by the members of the Basin of the Umpqua Guild quilting group. Judy Huntley then put the blocks together and had it professionally quilted. It turned out absolutely stunning and the raffle raised \$327 to be deposited into our general fund. Be sure to thank Judy Huntley for her generosity when you see her.

# Western Oregon Gardening Hints for January 2014 from OSU Extension

## Planning

- Keep a garden journal. Consult your journal in the winter, so that you can better plan for the growing season.
- Check with local retail garden or nursery stores for seeds and seed catalogs, and begin planning this year's vegetable garden.
- Have soil test performed on garden plot to determine nutrient needs. Contact your local Extension office for a list of laboratories or view EM 8677 online: <http://bit.ly/R80d30>.
- Take hardwood cuttings of deciduous ornamental shrubs and trees for propagation.
- Plan to replace varieties of ornamental plants that are susceptible to disease with resistant cultivars <http://bit.ly/VmLZqD> in February.

## Maintenance and Clean Up

- Clean pruners and other small garden tools with rubbing alcohol.
- Reapply or redistribute mulches that have blown or washed away during winter.
- Place windbreaks to protect sensitive landscape evergreens against cold, drying winds.
- Do not walk on lawns until frost has melted.
- Water landscape plants underneath wide eaves and in other sites shielded from rain.

## Pest Monitoring and Management

- Monitor landscape plants for problems. Don't treat unless a problem is identified.
- Scout cherry trees for signs and symptoms of bacterial canker. Remove infected branches with a clean pruner or saw. Sterilize tools before each new cut. Burn or send to landfill before bloom. See EC 631, *Controlling Diseases and Insects in Home Orchards*, online.
- Watch for field mice damage on lower trunks of trees and shrubs. Eliminate hiding places by removing weeds. Use traps and approved baits as necessary.
- Use dormant sprays of lime sulfur or copper fungicide on roses for general disease control, or, plan to replace susceptible varieties with resistant cultivars in February.
- Moss in lawn may mean too much shade or poor drainage. Modify site conditions if moss is bothersome.
- Mid-January: Spray peach trees with approved fungicides to combat peach leaf curl and shothole. Or plant curl-resistant cultivars such as Frost, Q1-8 or Creswell.

## Houseplants and Indoor Gardening

- Monitor houseplants for correct water and fertilizer; guard against insect infestations; clean dust from leaves.
- Protect sensitive plants such as weeping figs from cold drafts in the house.
- Propagate split-leaf philodendrons and other leggy indoor plants by air-layering or vegetative cuttings.
- Plant dwarf annual flowers inside for houseplants: coleus, impatiens, seedling geraniums.
- Gather branches of quince, forsythia, and flowering cherries; bring indoors to force early bloom.

**Please send 2014 dues to Ruth Stafford, Membership Director, to continue receiving this newsletter and other Master Gardener communications.**

Newsletter: Deadline for February 2014 newsletter is January 31st. Mail submissions to [jen@skylondaranch.com](mailto:jen@skylondaranch.com).

Web Site: [www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/douglas-county-oregon-master-gardeners](http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/douglas-county-oregon-master-gardeners)

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