



DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS NEWSLETTER

Volume 30, Issue 3

March 2015

Mar. 2015 Calendar

Mon., Mar. 2, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Mon., Mar. 2, 10:00-Noon

Insect Committee

Tues., Mar. 3, 9:00-4:00

Winter Training Class

Thurs., Mar. 5, 1:00-4:00

Ornamental Shrubs Pruning, DG

Mon., Mar. 9, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Tues., Mar. 10, 9:00-4:00

Winter Training Class

Wed., Mar. 11, 10:00-Noon

Executive Board Meeting

Fri., Mar. 13, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden Work Day

Mon., Mar. 16, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Mon., Mar. 16, 10:00-Noon

Insect Committee

Tues., Mar. 17, 10:00-3:00

Winter Training Class - **LAST DAY!**

Sat., Mar. 21, 9:00-4:00

Trash to Treasure Sale

Tues., Mar. 24, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden Work Day

Greenhouse Crews

Wed., Mar. 25, 10:00-Noon

Photography Team Meeting

Thurs., Mar. 26, 9:00-10:00

Continuing Education

Thurs., Mar. 26, 10:00-11:30

Chapter Meeting

Tues., Mar. 31, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden Work Day



The President's Post

Chris Rusch

Spring seems to come earlier every year. According to folklore, if it's cloudy when the groundhog emerges Feb. 2, the critter will leave his burrow, meaning winter will soon end. If it's a sunny day, the groundhog will see his shadow and, frightened, retreat back into his burrow, meaning winter will continue for six more weeks. I have a better predictor.

I have a favorite perennial wildflower that is one of the earliest flowers to appear in Oregon and it always tells me that Spring is just around the corner. Lately I have seen it blooming prolifically around our homestead in its full beauty! Commonly it has many names: snow queen, spring queen, deer flower, kitten toes and grouse flower. Scientifically it is known as *Synthyris reniformis*. It was first discovered and named by Lewis and Clark near what is today known as Cascade Locks, on the Columbia River below the Bonneville Dam. It makes its home in woodland settings at low elevations. Its diminutive size and liking for wooded, duff-covered settings makes it somewhat invisible; but look closely in the late



winter/early spring and you will be rewarded with the view of the persistent delicacy of the perennial spring queen's lovely little blue violet flowers in the otherwise quiet wasteland of the winter garden - a true herald of Spring! And, as one of the first to bloom in Spring, it is also a valuable nectar source for the earliest of the season's garden pollinators - an added plus!

FACTS ON SYNTHYRIS:

Family: Scrophulariaceae (Figwort)

Genus: Synthyris

Species: *S. reniformis*

Common name: spring queen, snow queen, kitten toes, deer flower, grouse flower

Native Range: Common throughout the western United States and Canada, in woodland to open areas, mostly low-to-mid elevations

Characteristics: Perennial herb from a short rhizome up to one foot tall. Flowers are blue-violet and bell shaped, small, 4-lobed with two stamens. They are few, in short clusters at the end of stalks. Leaves are all basal, heart to kidney shaped, shallowly lobed. Fruit are capsules, seeds two per cell.

Culture: Grows happily in dappled, sunny, well-drained, humus-y part of the forest.

Pests/Diseases: Nothing noted to be of a bother

Now I know it's time to plant my peas! Enjoy the season!

Vice-President's Report

Fred Alley



What a great February 26th Continuing Education Program presentation on the "Soil Testing Process and Proper Use of a pH Meter" by Community Outreach Chair Leo Grass and Soil Testing Chair Carol Bolt! As Leo expressed, many people simply

believe the soil testing process is to "simply wave a magic wand over the soil, and out comes the printed results". It was very clear after watching and listening to Leo and Carol's specific timing of each step in the hour-long process, detailed measuring of chemicals and mixtures, and the coordinated team work, the process is definitely not just waving a magic wand. After the presentation I told Leo and

Carol that I wish I had taken a video of their presentation. It's

a presentation that should be seen by all of our members and a video that could be on our Master Garden Web page. What was great too, is that Ken Hays stepped up to be the official timer and Kish Doyle stepped up and



photographed the presentation. She is planning to set up a special "Soil Testing" section in the Master Gardener website. A special thanks to Leo Grass and Carol Bolt. I continue to be amazed that our Master Gardener soil testing is one of the few offered by county Master Gardener programs. When I joined the Master Gardener program, one of the first things I did was obtain two soil samples of my garden area. While I was not surprised with the results, I was able to correct a few soil deficiencies.



As you can tell from the photograph, I'm loading my truck with my garden/yard tools for my "Tool Time" presentation for the Feb 28th Spring Into Gardening Program at UCC. Whether I participate in the Spring into Gardening Program or not, the end of February is a good time to take an inventory of all my garden and yard tools. Each year I'm reminded that I have too many tools, and my annual spring task of cleaning-up and refurbishing the tools is requiring too much time. Many of you know I love to collect and refurbish garden/yard tools. It's a carry-over of my long-held love of old things, and my years of collecting and refurbishing antique furniture. For those of you who were unable to attend my Tool Time presentation, let me share with you four basic tips:

- 1) You only need a few basic, quality garden tools. Acquire more as you learn more about gardening and assessing your gardening needs.
- 2) Find another Master Gardener to share your gardening experience, knowledge, and garden/yard tools.
- 3) Do not buy the most expensive garden tool. However, purchase quality tools. They will likely last your lifetime if you use them correctly, regularly maintain them, and properly store them in a protected/dry location.
- 4) Do not follow my approach/philosophy on acquiring garden tools:

"TWO IS GOOD - - THREE IS EVEN BETTER"

Take care of your tools and they will take care of you.

We remember being told to use the right tool for the required task. Using garden tools are no exception. The best gardener is the one who regularly and carefully maintains his or her tools.

- Store them inside. Never leave them outside
- Clean the tool every time after use. Wash in warm water with soap. In many cases we need to wipe them down with alcohol after washing them.
- Do not put them away when wet, under any circumstance.
- Don't abuse the tools.
- Keep the tools off the ground.
- After cleaning, sharpen the tool and apply a thin coating of oil. 3-in-1 Oil is good.
- Wipe down small hand tools. Use a fine oil spray on each tool.
- Wood handles should be cleaned and coated with a fine coat of oil, furniture polish, etc.

If you have some tools or know of someone who has tools they would like to donate to the Discovery Garden, please let me know. I will contact Julie Stanbery and see what specific tools we may need to replace at the Discovery Garden, and will donate my time refurbishing the tools if necessary.

Winter Training Class

Maureen Benice

There are 29 students who will graduate on March 17th. The "pinning" of the orange Douglas County Master Gardener badges will happen after the test correcting and a break. If you want to review the test, see if you still remember the correct answers, come to the Annex Classroom at 1:00 PM. The Graduation will be at approximately 2:30 PM. Then it's CAKE! Come meet and congratulate the members of our wonderful Class of 2015.

Fond Farewells

by **Betty Ison**

Roger Sawyer

We were all shocked recently when one of our longtime active Master Gardeners said they would be moving away. Roger Sawyer has sold his home in Sutherlin and will be moving to Tampa, Florida this month. Roger has been an active volunteer in our group for 21 years and has put in nearly 4850 hours of service.

Roger's volunteer service in Master Gardeners has included quite a variety of activities. Outreach activities include working in the Plant Clinic (15 yrs), Speaker's Bureau (11 yrs), the PowerPoint Project (4 yrs), Spring into Gardening Instructor (2 yrs), and a Certified Pruning Instructor for eight years. He has also presented two different Search for Excellence programs for Mini-College. Roger has taught several different Continuing Education programs on Mason Bees, been involved with Earth Day, Fair Booth, and the Fair Garden Plot.

Roger has been part of the Winter Program by helping with planning, being an Instructor, and a class mentor. He has also been part of the Class Concurrent Sessions for four years.

Roger's fundraising activities include working at the Plant Sale for 17 years, the Rummage sale (3 yrs), and the Auction.

The Demo Farm (now Horticultural Learning Center) was one of Roger's major activities early on as he was the Coordinator for nine years. There he worked with the grapes, pruned the filberts & kiwi, helped with greenhouse improvements like the heat beds, and helped build the green storage building and new greenhouses. Roger has also been involved with the Discovery Garden for 13 years, the past seven as the Orchard Coordinator.



Roger has held several offices on the Executive Board and been on a number of committees that support the advancement of the program. He was Chapter Treasurer for two years, Chapter Vice-President, Chapter President in 2003-04, and has been an Alternate State Representative two different times. Roger has held State Office being OMGA Treasurer in 2005-06, and has been on the State Audit Committee for three years. Committee involvements include the Memorial Committee, the Online Newsletter Transition Committee, the Awards Committee (5 yrs), and the Audit Committee for seven years. Roger has also been the Computer Support person and Coordinator for a total of 12 years. In other activities, Roger was Volunteer Time Keeper (2 yrs), a Garden Tour Host (3 yrs), and was involved with Mini-College Leadership Forums.

Roger was a great volunteer and involved with lots of projects and activities. He was acknowledged for his service by winning the 2000 Douglas County Master Gardener of the Year Award.

The DCMG's will miss you Roger, and that "One Dissenting Vote". We want to wish you and Jan, all the best on your new adventure. We hope you enjoy and have a lot of fun in the sun. We will be expecting a box of oranges from that orange tree you want to plant in your new yard. FAREWELL!!!

Irene Thomason

The Douglas County Master Gardeners have lost one of our very active and dedicated volunteers. Irene Thomason passed away on February 1, 2015 at age 79.



Irene had a nursing career that spanned 50 years, and in that time she provided care to thousands of patients from Buffalo, NY, to Sitka, AK, John Day, OR, and finally to Roseburg. While in Sitka, Irene met and married Jim Thomason, the man she would spend the next 53 years with. Together they raised seven children. In 1987, Irene and her family moved and settled here in Roseburg, and that is where she would finish her extensive nursing career. Irene retired from the local VA Hospital in 2002. After her retirement she was able to enjoy and do more in her beautiful backyard garden, as well as spend more time with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Irene became a Master Gardener in 2003. Right off the bat she was one of the most enthusiastic, dedicated, and active volunteers. Irene put in nearly 3400 hours of service in her 12 years with the DCMG's. She was involved with a number of activities and projects. Outreach projects included the Plant Clinic, the Fair Booth, and the Spring into Gardening Seminar. She was involved with the Winter Program by being a class mentor for six years, and helping with Class Greenhouse Training for seven years.

Irene was involved in all our fundraising activities which included the Plant Sale for 11 years, the Japanese Maple Tree Sale,

Rummage Sale (3 yrs), the Auction, Fall Tree Sale, and the Bake Sale (3 yrs).

Irene spent much of her time working out at the Horticultural Learning Center in the greenhouses, and in the Discovery Garden. She spent eight years working in the Discovery Garden, the last seven of those in the Xeriscape Garden. Irene was one of the original five ladies who got together and built the Xeriscape Garden. She and that crew toiled and put in a lot of long hours getting that garden developed. After the garden was completed, she always came prepared with trowel and weed bucket in hand to keep things nice and tidy. Irene was also very involved in the greenhouses and was a permanent fixture there, spending all 12 years putting in numerous hours there. She will be dearly missed by the Eastside greenhouse crew. She spent hours cleaning, dividing, root pruning, labeling, and weeding plants, and never complained about one job she ever did. She was also part of the watering crew for six years. Early on, Irene actually helped move and rebuild the greenhouses that are now the Eastside. It was one long greenhouse that was donated to the MG's.

In other activities, Irene was a State Representative in 2005-06, a Nominating Committee Chair, and helped with Mini-College Chapter Sales. She was also part of the Stepping Stone and Trough Workshops.

Irene was recognized early on as a valuable volunteer; in 2004 she received the Horticulture Agent's Award. She was also named the "Behind the Scenes" Master Gardener of the Year in 2008.

We will all miss Irene. She was a great volunteer and a wonderful person. I personally always adored Irene - she was one of the sweetest and neatest people I have ever met. I never heard her complain about anything, and she never had a bad word to say about anyone. She was just one really hard-working woman, and made the most of everything. If only there were more people like her...

Order Colored T-Shirts

This year's colored T-shirts, designed by Sharon Hopkins, will be ready for order soon. We should have the order forms in the Plant Clinic and out by email on or about March 16th. Orders will need to be pre-paid and in by **April 1st**. You may leave your order in the Plant Clinic. Delivery of shirts will be at the end of April in time for our May Plant Sale.



Two choices of artwork for the colored T-shirts



Cost should remain the same as last year: \$19 for short sleeve and \$22 for long sleeve.

Call **Diana Circle** [541-672-0925](tel:541-672-0925) or email dcircle@clearwire.net with questions.

Plant Sale Barbara Robinson

There are less than two months left until our Plant and Garden Expo on May 2nd! Mother's Day follows in short order, and what better venue to gear up for the occasion than our annual extravaganza? Between the offerings of our Master Gardener inventory and those of other participating vendors, there will be no shortage of appropriate gifts for your mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, aunt, and don't forget yourself (my favorite recipient)!

Many of you have already signed up to help and we thank you! If you have not signed up, please take the time to do so soon so that our committee heads are able to contact and organize their groups. There are available slots on all the committees and MANY more hands are needed.

Of course, we can always use more covered/ enclosed trucks, vans, SUV's, and trailers for transporting plants to and from the Fairgrounds (sign up for "Transportation".) The more rigs we have, the fewer trips each will need to make. It is a requirement for rigs to be covered and/or enclosed to prevent damage to our tender merchandise while in transport.

We also desperately need people to show up at the greenhouses immediately following the sale on Saturday to unload leftover inventory. Please consider signing up for this activity. ("Loading/ Unloading at Greenhouse – PM slot"). By the end of the sale we are all tired, so the more people who stay to help or come back to help, the earlier we can all go home and kick back. If you are working plant sale on Saturday but available Friday morning, your help would be very much appreciated out at the greenhouses to load plants. Remember, the plants at the Fairgrounds do not magically appear or disappear! It takes a dedicated crew to load and unload our inventory, and a lot of people are needed to make it run smoothly and efficiently.

Clipboards with committee signups will continue to be available this month during MG classes and in the Plant Clinic. They will also be available at our March 26th chapter meeting. If neither works for you, please email barbararob@gmail.com, or call Barbara or Sharon with your information. Thank YOU!



Cindy Rich & Toni Rudolph
Co-Chairs

Saturday March 21st, 9:00-4:00
Extension Office Auditorium

This is our first fundraiser of the year.

We need your donations of CLEAN, useable items!

Drop off items on Friday, March 20th, 9:00-4:00.

We cannot accept clothes, shoes, food items, living plants, old-style computer monitors or TVs.

If you work ½ day on Friday, you can purchase early.

Please sign up to give us a hand in making this year's sale a big success!! (sheets in the Plant Clinic)

Let us know if you are interested in chairing this for next year.

Cindy Rich 541-677-1882
csneal2@yahoo.com
(Cindy is gone until March 11.)
Toni Rudolph 541-673-7803
1ToniRudolph@gmail.com

Plant Clinic

Chris Rusch

The Plant Clinic has been busy this month training volunteers from our 2015 Winter Training Class. It has been lots of fun. Everyone is so enthusiastic! The 2015 training team is Leo Grass, Larry Sutton, Anne Bacon, Bonnie Courter, and Chris Rusch. Beginning in April, we will need veterans to help in the Plant Clinic both in training our new volunteers and keeping up with the workload of assisting our visitors in the Plant Clinic. Please try to volunteer your expertise at least once a month to help out in this important outreach program. If more MG's did that, we'd have the calendar filled up in no time!

Questions for February were diverse, including problems with mushrooms on lawns, weed identification and lots of indoor insects. In addition, we have been helping clients with garden soil preparation.

The statistics so far for 2015 are 68 visitors to the Plant Clinic.

We are hoping to increase our visitor participation for 2015. The Plant Clinic is a great way to promote our Master Gardener Program and encourage sustainable gardening in Douglas County.

Raffle Items needed!!!

We are looking for raffle items provided by chapter members for the Raffle tables at the Plant Sale in May. In the past, members have given books, tools, plants, kneeling pads, art work, chocolates, pet items, a basket of goodies for the grandkids. As you can see we have had a variety of items. If you would be willing to provide an item or 2, please contact **Rosemary Brinkley**, the Raffle Chair, at 673-8814 or mikeandrb@gmail.com.

Here's the Dirt!

by Denise Fennell



Can you believe it? Spring is coming! Of course I think it's already arrived. Daffodils are blooming, fruit trees are exploding in petals, and the bugs have made it known that they shall be a force to be reckoned with this year.

This is a bit off the beaten path for "Here's the Dirt". I just know you all have planned out your gardens, seeds are purchased and probably already started. Soil is being prepped, water systems checked, and of course the deer fence is rock solid this year! So this month I'm not reviewing a gardening book, but rather a cookbook. One to help you enjoy the fruit of your labor.

We all grow things we love to eat. But do you know how to make the best of your hard-earned produce? And our 'food chain' is actually broken down into six 2-month seasons. So if you don't want to garden all year you are sure to find a couple of short seasons to maximize meals.

The book **In Season: Cooking with Vegetables and Fruit** by Sarah Raven, takes us on a journey via our garden and straight to our palettes. What's more, this book offers over 250 recipes. She captured my interest with "This book is all about the pleasures that fruit and vegetables can give you; its aim is to put them at the center of every meal."

Face it, there is nothing better than working in your garden, picking a few stalks of rhubarb, and making Poached Rhubarb with Ginger Ice-Cream, or growing your own herbs and creating Warm Chickpea and Parsley Salad. And if that doesn't entice you, there are summer recipes like Sungold Tomato Focaccia and Roasted Zucchini, Eggplant and Onion with Balsamic Sauce. I may have to end this review because I am making myself hungry. The photographs in this book are beautiful, making it also visually enticing.

If you don't want to grow all that our seasons have to offer, then local farmer's markets are there to fill the gap. I think this book will inspire you to cook with fresh ingredients and of course grow some new things!

Since this is a cookbook, I shall give it 4 out of 5 spatulas.



Westside Greenhouse Maureen Benice

During the month of February, the Westside Greenhouse crews started seeding for real. There were two seeding classes taught by Betty Ison, and the students got to have a hand at seeding under the tutelage of the Westside veterans and CORE. The peppers are seeded along with many herbs and annuals. The seeding greenhouse is getting full! Transplant time is here.



The cuttings have taken root and many of the cuttings have been transplanted into bigger pots.

At the same time some greenhouse people are cleaning up the perennials that have been outside, growing not just plant material, but also weeds.

A regular working crew will be needed every Monday (Tuesday, after Winter Training is over), and maybe even some other days of the week, until Plant Sale.

Community Outreach

Leo Grass

Spring isn't far away, and garden fever is swelling like the buds on the willows. Our business, of teaching our community about sustainable gardening, is thriving.

Longtime MG Roger Sawyer showed the folks at Glide Elementary school the fine art of pruning old and young apple trees. Thirty-two people watched and listened to Roger's tale of the proper care of orchards. Julie Stanbery and Elva Sellens traveled to Elkton to demonstrate the proper pruning of blueberries. Nathan Bailey teamed up with Local Food and biochar enthusiasts to reveal the ancient mysteries of composting. Ted and Maureen Benice, Ruth Saily, and Jo Ann Pico teamed up to teach ninety-eight children about the inner workings of seeds at the Celebration of Literacy.

On the horizon, Julie will do a brown bag lunch talk on "Getting Your Garden Ready for Spring" at the Douglas County Library, March 18th at noon. Geoff Puryear will do a presentation on Xeriscape at the Westside Christian Church, on the same day.

We have an opportunity to work with young gardeners at the Brockway School in Winston. The kids have a Garden Club that meets after school. If you are interested, give me a call.

My thanks to all of you who put a big Smiley Face on our organization.

OMGA Report

Rosemary Brinkley

Anne Bacon and I will be attending the OMGA quarterly Board Meeting in St. Helens, Oregon, March 7, 2015. We will provide the membership with all the news we learn at the next chapter meeting.

Mini-College will be held **August 6-8**, 2015, at Linfield College this summer. More info will be coming. I just wanted you to have the dates and to think about attending this year.

The **International Master Gardeners Conference** is being hosted by the University of Iowa and the University of Nebraska on **Sept 22-25** in Council Bluff, Iowa. The International Conference is held every 2 years, and provides an opportunity for Master Gardeners and Extension Specialists to come together and learn through seminars and tours. If you would like to check this out further, please go to <http://mastergardener.unl.edu/imgc2015>. Registration will be open on March 1, 2015.

Treasurer's Report

Vicki McAlister

INCOME 1/29/15 - 2/26/15

Donations/Interest	\$2.38
Dues - Hardcopy Newsletter	\$34.00
Dues - Membership	\$90.00
Soil Testing	\$75.00
Black Apparel	<u>\$154.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$355.38

EXPENSES 1/29/15 - 2/26/15

Soil Testing	\$76.74
Newsletter Postage	\$19.60
DG - Various	\$101.69
HLC - Various	\$155.88
Winter Program - Speakers	\$300.00
Plant Sale - Exhibit fees/Utilities	\$2,624.42
Trash to Treasure Advertising	<u>\$30.99</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,309.32

Breakdown of our accounts

Checking	\$2,833.21
Money Market - Reserves	\$8,659.10
Money Market	<u>\$25,102.11</u>
Ending Balance 2/26/15	\$36,594.42

**OSU DOUGLAS COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS
Chapter Meeting
February 26, 2015**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:10am by President, Chris Rusch. There were 54 in attendance.

Agenda Approval: No additions to the agenda.

Minutes: The minutes were approved as distributed.

Agent's Report: Steve Renquist - OSU office has sent out a letter asking that we try to reduce the amount of copies made and papers being distributed. The *Horticulture News* will no longer be available in print unless a person goes down to the Extension Office and asks for a copy. There will be a limited number of hard copies available. People are asked to go online and read the publication.

The position for Small Farms and Master Food Preservation coordinator has been narrowed down to four candidates. Each will be giving a short presentation at the Annex on March 3rd. Anyone interesting in hearing the presentations and meeting the candidates should arrive by 5:15pm.

Spring into Gardening is scheduled for this Saturday, the 28th. If you have not signed up to help, there is a meeting today after the chapter meeting where you can do so. If you have not pre-registered to take classes, walk-ins are welcome. Steve will be on a radio show today and he will talk about the event.

Steve announced a fundraiser at UCC's Danny Lang Center on March 13, 7pm. Grammy award winning artist, Mark Hanson, will perform in concert. Tickets may be purchased in advance at While a Way Books for \$15 or at the door for \$20. Early birds will be treated to wine

tasting at Lang Hall. Proceeds for this concert support an international exchange of students between UCC and Colegio San Gabriel, a college in our sister city of Aranda De Duero Spain.

OFFICER REPORTS

Membership: Denise Fennell - Nothing to report

OMGA: Rosemary Brinkley - Anne Bacon and Rosemary will be traveling to St. Helens next Saturday to attend the OMGA meeting.

Treasurer: Vicki McAlister - Updates on budget are available on the web. Financials were distributed.

Vice President: Fred Alley - Thanks to Leo Grass and Carol Bolt for their excellent presentation on soil testing. Look for updates in the newsletter for upcoming continuing education presentations.

Past President: Larry Sutton – At the last executive board meeting there was discussion on submissions for Search for Excellence. Signage and biochar were two suggestions. Other ideas are welcome as are volunteers who would like to sit on a Search for Excellence committee. For either, please contact Larry.

Secretary: No report

President: The Policy and Procedures Manual is being revised and updated. Thanks to Jen Bailey for all her hard work on this project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Outreach: Leo Grass – This department has been very busy this past month. Nathan Baily conducted a composting presentation in conjunction with a local food group and biochar group. Roger Sawyer conducted a fruit tree pruning seminar in Glide with 32 in attendance. Master Gardeners participated in a *Celebration of Living* event at the fairgrounds, showing children how to

dissect and name the parts of a lima bean. Maureen and Ted Benice, Ruth Saily, Jo Ann Pico, and Leo interacted with 98 kids! Lunch hour at the library was the venue for Julie Stanbery's talk on Getting Your Garden Ready for Spring. There may be other opportunities for speaking at this event, so be prepared with your acceptance speech when Leo approaches you.

Requests for volunteers: The City of Sutherlin has requested assistance from Master Gardeners with their 5 year city beautification program. Nan Isaacson of Sutherlin is the one to contact if you are interested in this endeavor. A teacher at Brockway Elementary School would like a Master Gardener to speak once a month at their garden club. Contact Leo if interested.

Plant Clinic: Chris Rusch – The clinic has been fairly busy this month. Calendar is full for February and March but help is needed for April.

Awards: Betty Ison – The awards committee met and selections were made for annual awards to be submitted at the State level.

Black Apparel: Barbara Robinson – Today was the last day for submitting your orders and payments to Barbara. Merchandise will be available next month for distribution. (Hopefully before the new class graduates.)

Plant Sale: Barbara Robinson and Sharon Hopkins – The 2015 Plant Sale flyers were “unveiled” with Sharon Hopkin's beautiful artwork featured once again. Flyers will be available starting next month for distribution. There are also Plant Sale magnets in the Plant Clinic available for distribution.

Committee signups have been available this last month. We've had a pretty good turnout from winter training participants. Please consider working both days of the sale if you are available. We particularly need people to load at the greenhouses on Friday morning and to unload Saturday after the sale. You can

work these jobs in conjunction with other positions not conflicting in time. The greenhouse core groups will be directing and advising on procedure for loading and unloading at the greenhouses and will provide a brief training session to explain the procedure which will make the operation go much smoother.

Sharon is working with a third 4-H group who is interested in helping at the Plant Sale. This will give us 3 clubs and enable us to have a few more on the floor helping out. They are great workers and really do make our sale run more smoothly. Sharon needs a few of the clear nut containers you get from Costco to use in making tip jars. Please leave in plant clinic if you have any.

Plant Sale committee heads will have their first meeting of the year directly after the chapter meeting today.

Valerie Call has come up with some great new ideas for our potlucks. Expect to hear from her next month. We will be having a lunch potluck on Friday (eat breakfast before you come) and breakfast and lunch on Saturday.

Bob Brindley: Paperwork went out to vendors 2 ½ weeks ago. Over 50% of booths filled. March 20th is the deadline for vendors to sign up to receive the early bird discount. Bob has added 3 more booths and 5 half booths. If you know of someone who might be interested in vendor space talk to Bob. He has flyers to give out to interested people. We are looking for a theme of “from the garden, for the garden, about the garden”, and vendors with locally-made food products.

Discovery Garden: Bonnie Courter presented for Julie Stanbery - Rats have made their way into the chemical room, chewing through chemical containers. Refer to calendar for upcoming DG work parties.

Publicity/Newsletter: Bonnie Courter – Bonnie has sent out PSA's on our Trash to Treasure sale and submitted a classified ad.

She is working with the News-Review on the ads for our Plant Sale. Newsletter articles are due the Saturday immediately following our chapter meeting.

Discovery Garden Signage: Karen Glatz – a number of signs are in the works i.e. Composting, Biochar, and Butterfly Garden, with the Japanese Garden to follow. If any new students are interested in participating on the committee contact Karen.

Victory Garden: Ruth Stafford – The Victory Garden now has their own beautiful sign thanks to the efforts of Karen Glatz, Beth Brown, Fred Alley and others. If you want to receive emails from and about the Victory Garden crew, happenings, work parties, etc. contact Ruth and she will put you on the list.

Trash to Treasure: Toni Rudolph – Toni is co-chairing this event with Cindy Rich, but they are looking for someone to take it over this next year. Please contact one of them or Chris Rusch if interested.

This year's sale is on March 21 in the Annex. Setup will be the 19th from 1-3pm and setup and pricing will follow on the 20th. Toni thanked Bonnie Courter for the tremendous job she does as our Publicity Chair. Flyers are available for distribution around town. Lawn signs will also be available for placement the Sunday prior to the sale. Please bring in clean, usable items only. If not clean or usable they will be thrown away or put in the free pile. No clothes, shoes, food items, computer monitors, or televisions.

T-shirts: Diana Circle - Sharon Hopkins has designed two different graphics. It was decided both will be offered. Thanks to Sharon for her beautiful artwork! Order forms will be available on March 16th with completed orders AND money due by April 1st.

Spring into Gardening: Michelle Harding-Olson – Workers will be meeting in the back of the room immediately after the meeting. Master Gardeners provide snacks for this

event. If you are not going but would be willing to provide something, please contact Michelle.

Hallmark: Linda Thames - We lost many friends and fellow gardeners this past month. Please remember the following and their families in your thoughts and prayers: Judy Dake's husband Charlie, Irene Thomason, Barbara Coalbank, and Richard Johnstone's wife Kathryn.

Show and Tell:

Bob shared his newest favorite gadget, the "Awesome Pot" bag. They can be purchased at the Roseburg hydroponics store, at the following website: awesomeharvest.com, or Costco carries them online in various sizes.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:15 am

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Robinson, Secretary



The Learning Never Stops!

(Courtesy DCMG Photography Team)



Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: The deadline for the April 2015 Newsletter is March 28th. E-mail submissions to Bonnie Courter: rbcourter@gmail.com

Website: www.douglascountymg.org

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

Horticulture Agent: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/horticulture,
steve.renquist@oregonstate.edu

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

OSU Gardening Information: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening

OSU Master Gardeners Program: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/mg

Oregon Master Gardeners Association (OMGA): www.oregonmastergardeners.org



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