



# DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS NEWSLETTER

Volume 31, Issue 1

January 2016

## Jan. 2016 Calendar

Mon., Jan. 4, 9:00-Noon

Westside Greenhouse Crew

Mon., Jan. 4, 10:00-Noon

Insect Committee

Tues., Jan. 5, 8:30-4:00

Winter Training Class begins

Tues., Jan. 5, 11:30

WTC Potluck

Thurs., Jan. 7, 9:00-Noon

Eastside Greenhouse Crew

Mon., Jan. 11, 9:00-Noon

Westside Greenhouse Crew

Tues., Jan. 12, 8:30-4:00

Winter Training Class

Wed., Jan. 13, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting

Thurs., Jan. 14, 9:00-Noon

Eastside Greenhouse Crew

Mon., Jan. 18, 9:00-Noon

Westside Greenhouse Crew

Mon., Jan. 18, 10:00-Noon

Insect Committee

Tues., Jan. 19, 8:30-4:00

Winter Training Class

Thurs., Jan. 21, 9:00-Noon

Eastside Greenhouse Crew

Mon., Jan. 25, 9:00-Noon

Westside Greenhouse Crew

Tues., Jan. 26, 8:30-4:00

Winter Training Class

Thurs., Jan. 28, 9:00-10:00

Continuing Education, Ext. Annex

Thurs., Jan. 28, 10:00

Chapter Meeting

Mon., Feb. 1, 9:00-Noon

Westside Greenhouse Crew

Mon., Feb. 1, 10:00-Noon

Insect Committee



## Agent's Welcome

### Steve Renquist

Welcome to the class of Master Gardeners™ 2016. 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 scheduled 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 2016 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 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-two 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 Into 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.

Now let's meet the Executive Board members:

## **DCMG President Chris Rusch**



Happy New Year, everyone! I am delighted to welcome all our new 2016 Master Gardeners. I look forward to getting to know you all throughout the coming year.

This newsletter is designed to give you an overview of the Douglas County Master Gardener organization and its make-up. As you read over the articles, you will learn more about our Executive Board, various committees, and our plethora of projects.

As President, I am responsible for presiding over the organization including chairing chapter meetings, setting the agenda for Executive Board meetings and chapter meetings, and appointing committee chairs and coordinators. I also have the privilege of writing articles for our monthly Newsletter. Our meetings help provide the direction for our group. Our new 2016 Master Gardeners are invited to attend and participate in our meetings and contribute your ideas.

I have been a Master Gardener for six years. Besides being the President, I have enjoyed mentoring, working in the Japanese Garden, helping with the plant sale, and managing the Plant Clinic. Think about what you want to accomplish during the next twelve months and then join a group to make your goals a reality.

Once again, welcome and thanks for joining this great organization. Questions? You can reach me at: 541-825-3837 or [crusch@hughes.net](mailto:crusch@hughes.net).

## **Vice-President**

### **Fred Alley**

As the Vice-President, I welcome each of you, the 2016 Class, to the Douglas County Master Gardeners (DCMG) Program.

Each of you have embarked upon a new venture, one that I truly believe you will find very enjoyable and rewarding. You will be expanding



your horticultural knowledge, learning new skills, and meeting and working with many incredible Master Gardeners. After I retired from the City of Roseburg as the Community Development Director, I joined the DCMG in 2011. Since then I have served as Vice President and as a class mentor three years, expanded the organization's Continuing Education Program and designed and completed a number of special projects in the Discovery Garden. Some of the projects have been a special Japanese sculpture, and recently a new Japanese Gong structure in the Japanese Garden. Another special project was the design and installation of special concrete children in the Children's Garden and a number of concrete bird baths and gazing ball stands.

There are other projects. However, my point is you too will find the DCMG program has many opportunities for you to apply your special knowledge, experience and skills.

If you like working outdoors, and sustainable gardening, the Discovery Garden will be a great fit for you. You will have an opportunity to volunteer your time in so many areas of the program. Many of us just enjoy the outdoors and working with others. What is great is you choose your level of participation and your place within the organization. You will be amazed with this organization's volunteerism, individually and collectively. Additionally, you will find many of our members are long-standing members, providing many invaluable volunteer hours to our organization and to the OSU Master Gardener State Program.

The Vice-President's job includes a number of responsibilities: assisting the President in conducting meetings, acting as Program Chairperson, serving as parliamentarian for the chapter, and presiding at chapter meetings in the absence of the President. This past year I served as President for four months. One must expect change and challenges that each day brings. Interestingly, the most exciting responsibility is to "Provide the Continuing Education Program for the Chapter". A one hour continuing education program is provided prior to each of our monthly chapter meetings.

The programs are open to all Master Gardeners and their guests and friends as well as the general public. We have been fortunate to have a number of excellent programs such as programs on fungi/mushrooms, food dehydration, drip irrigation, bee pollen production, physical therapy practices for the gardener, extended growing seasons practices, Biochar, "Ask the Farm Expert", and many more. I'm always seeking new program ideas, so if you have a particular topic you'd like to see presented, please feel free to call or e-mail me. As a new member you will have a fresh perspective, and we'd love to hear your ideas and suggestions.

## 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 2016, 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 rely 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

### Barbara Robinson

As Secretary, I record and maintain the minutes of the Board and Chapter meetings. I also am charged with maintaining documentation of our official policies. If you are unable to attend a meeting, chapter minutes are placed on our website and included in the monthly newsletter. I look forward to meeting and working with all you new students. Welcome!



## Treasurer

### Patrice Sipos



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 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: [psiposcb@gmail.com](mailto:psiposcb@gmail.com) or 541-637-5554.

## OMGA Rep & Alternate Anne Bacon & Nancy Fuller

As the Oregon Master Gardener Association (OMGA) Representative and Alternate Representative, Nancy and I meet quarterly with the other representatives from Master



Anne Bacon

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 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 OSU'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 McMinnville at Linfield College on August 4-6, 2016.
- 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 funding special projects. Douglas County was awarded two grants in 2013.



Nancy Fuller

- 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 Stanbery, 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.

Nancy 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.



## Membership & Winter Training Coordinator Denise Fennell



Hello! I'm Denise Fennell and I am your Membership Director and the Winter Training Coordinator. I have been with the DCMG since 2014, and thoroughly enjoy working with this group of wonderful volunteers.

As your Membership Director, I collect annual dues, keep an updated roster, ensure that necessary forms are kept up-to-date, i.e. - photo release, insurance, contact information, etc.

As the Winter Training Coordinator I help plan and execute the annual training sessions.

When I'm not doing Master Gardener duties, you'll find me at the BBQ or the smoker, canning foods, freeze drying foods and enjoying the Oregon life.

Find me at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/oregongreenacres/>

## Committees:



## 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 me spread Master Gardener news to all.



## Publicity/Newsletter

### Bonnie Courter

Welcome to the Class of 2016! 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, banners, 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.



I am also Newsletter Editor, responsible for the monthly publication this newsletter. I accept regular articles written by board members and other MG's, as well as photos to publish. I'm always looking for a good "scoop". The Newsletter is distributed to the membership each month via e-mail after posting it on our website: [douglascountymg.org](http://douglascountymg.org). (You can access past Newsletter issues at our website as well.) For an additional fee, the newsletter can be sent by "snail mail" to those who choose that route.

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 2016! 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.

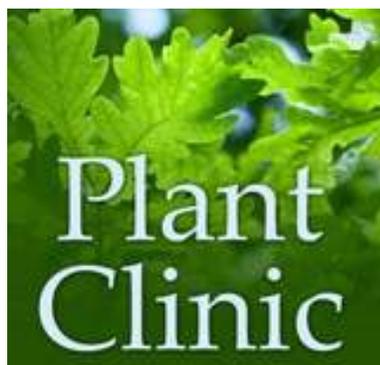
## **Plant Clinic**

### **Chris Rusch**

Welcome to the Plant Clinic!

I am looking forward to meeting you all and working with you in our Plant Clinic. The Plant Clinic is where the objectives of the Master Gardener Program really come to life.

As Plant Clinic Manager, my job is to coordinate all Plant Clinic activities. In the Plant Clinic we answer a wide range of questions about home gardening. We are able to take the knowledge that we have gained in our Sustainable Gardening class and pass it on to the home gardener. We diagnose plant problems, identify insects, and answer general garden and orchard management questions. We have an



excellent library and numerous online sources to help in giving out advice.

We have a terrific Plant Clinic training program for our new members. During your training period you will be paired with experienced Master Gardeners to lead you through the protocols of our Plant Clinic. It is exciting, challenging and rewarding work.

Veterans, we have several openings on the Plant Clinic calendar in January. Please consider signing up!

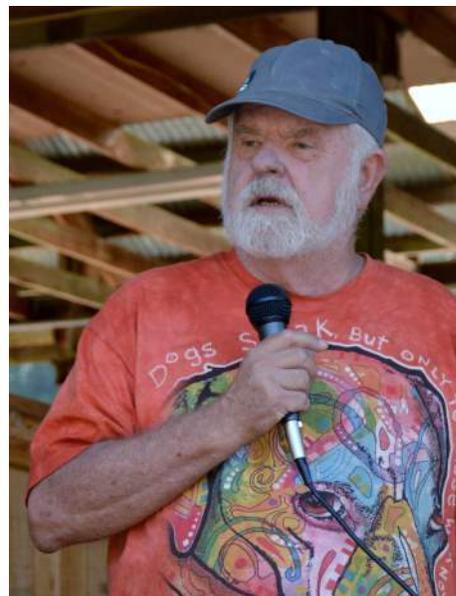
## **Insect Committee**

### **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 Plant Clinic hours obligation.

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

## Plant & Garden Expo

**Barbara Robinson & Sharon Hopkins**

Have you got your 2016 calendar close by? If not, track it down and turn to the month of May. Now circle **Saturday, May 7th**, the date for our 2016 Plant and Garden Expo at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. This 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 our plant sale is a year-round endeavor. Westside and Eastside greenhouse crews can be found working every Tuesday morning from 9-12. (The exception is during our winter classes when Monday and Thursday are workdays at the greenhouses.) 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 is 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!



## Westside Greenhouse

**Maureen Benice**

The Westside Greenhouses are where the perennial and annual flowers, herbs and vegetables are grown for our annual Plant Sale.

The core group members are **Barbara Robinson, Carol Bolt, Jackie Carpenter, Karolyn Riecks and Maureen Benice.**

The watering and heating people are Carol Bolt and Barbara Robinson.

The crew leaders are: Jackie Carpenter for cuttings, Maureen Benice and Karolyn Riecks for seeding and seedling transplants, while Jackie, Karolyn and Maureen lead plant cleanup and whatever else needs doing.

Label printing, preparation and storage are: Carol Bolt and Karolyn Riecks.



Communication and making of signs: Maureen Benice

The regular workday, January through mid-March, while Winter Training is in session, is Monday, 9 AM – 12 Noon. After classes are over, the workdays shift to Tuesdays, 9 AM – 12 Noon. As time gets closer to the Plant Sale workdays are added.

While the workers are cleaning up plants, making cuttings, planting seeds and transplanting seedlings we sing, complain (sorta), laugh and go to lunch a lot. Hope you come join us!

## Eastside Greenhouse Bruce Gravens

The Core Group and devoted helpers of the Eastside Greenhouses would like to welcome the new members of the Class of 2016. The work in our greenhouses is taking care of larger items such as trees, shrubs, grasses, succulents, etc. We do a lot of transplanting, root pruning, propagating, dividing, grafting, and weed pulling. Our work is close to year-round preparing for our big Plant Sale first Saturday in May. We look forward to seeing many of you in the greenhouses, and you're welcome to come anytime to learn and play in the dirt with us. We work Thursday mornings while MG class is in session and then on Tuesday mornings when class is complete. We always appreciate the help.



**Eastside Core Crew** - Gloria Amorde, Bruce Gravens, Anne Waddington & Georgia Richards

## Victory Garden Ruth Stafford & Mik Carlson



Greetings to the Master Gardener Class of 2016. The HLC's Victory Garden has had six great years, and we are already looking forward to a seventh. We hope some of you will join us in the spring.

The Victory Garden offers Master Gardeners an opportunity to put in practice techniques taught in our winter class such as succession planting, crop rotation, leaf mulching, vertical gardening and water conservation.

This coming year, we will bring in another educational component. We plan to add more signage and a small demonstration plot. The goal is to show the sustainable practices which home vegetable gardeners can use. We are expanding the Victory Garden, and you can join us as we apply our knowledge to turn a grassy area into a productive garden.



Last year we grew 4795 pounds of vegetables to be distributed to local pantries and community kitchens. We also collected 768 pounds of produce from home gardens. By donating all this fresh nutritious produce to UCAN, Master Gardeners are promoting and contributing to a healthier community.

So, if you want to nurture your love of gardening while helping others, AND have a good time, come join us in the Victory Garden!



## Discovery Garden

### Julie Stanbery

Welcome to the Discovery Garden (DG) 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 Corps 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 Horticultural 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 January 12 & 19. A tour of the garden will be part of these class sessions. You will be introduced to some of the veteran MG's 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. On Friday, January 29, from 1-4 PM we will be pruning fruit trees. We will prune shade and flowering trees on

Thursday, February 11, from 1-4 PM, and we will prune the entry garden roses and hydrangeas on Monday, February 22 from 1-4 PM. Thursday, March 3, from 1-4 PM we will work in the ornamental shrub garden. Dates will be announced for the Japanese Garden pruning day. We encourage everyone to participate in the training sessions.



During MG training class, we have scheduled one work day each month: Friday, January 15, Wednesday, February 17, and Friday, March 11; each day from 9AM-Noon. Starting March 22, 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 or [jaspaz@charter.net](mailto:jaspaz@charter.net)

## Trash to Treasure Sale

Save the day, **Saturday March 19**, for our Trash to Treasure Sale at the Extension Office Auditorium.

Please set aside your CLEAN, useable items to donate for the sale. We take gardening/outdoor items, books, tools, jewelry, furniture, toys, kitchen, glassware, holiday, crafts and whatever



you can find at a garage sale. We DON'T take clothes, shoes, live plants, food, old computers or non-flat screenTV's.

Please save plastic and paper bags for the sale. These can be dropped off on Friday March 18. We will be sending more information later. If you have questions, please call.

We are looking for two individuals that are willing to take on the Chairmanship of this fundraiser for 2017. If interested contact one of the numbers listed below.

Thanks!

**Cindy Rich** 541-677-1882  
[csneal2@yahoo.com](mailto:csneal2@yahoo.com)

**Toni Rudolph** 541-673-7803  
[1ToniRudolph@gmail.com](mailto:1ToniRudolph@gmail.com)

# DCMG Nonprofit Status

## Toni Rudolph & Larry Sutton

*The Douglas County Master Gardener organization is a nonprofit 501(c)(3). What does that mean?*

A nonprofit is a tax-exempt organization that serves the public interest. In general, the purpose of this type of organization must be charitable, educational, scientific, religious or literary. The public expects to be able to make donations to these organizations and deduct these donations from their federal taxes.

Legally, a nonprofit organization is one that does not declare a profit, and instead utilizes all revenue available after normal operating expenses in service to the public interest.

A nonprofit organization can have clients, can offer products and services, will need revenue, should market itself, and must be concerned about customer satisfaction whether in those assisted or those who contribute donations in support of operations, programs or services. It is a business that must serve the public interest and it will succeed or fail as any business will, depending on how well it is operated.

A nonprofit is generally governed by four sets of rules: a charter, state laws in which it was incorporated, regulations for fundraising, and federal tax code related to tax-exempt status.

### *What does this mean to us specifically?*

Some years ago, the OSU Master Gardener program prepared required paperwork to become a nonprofit. We as a chapter of that program also prepared paperwork to be submitted under Oregon law to the Secretary of State. We had to create articles of incorporation, we elect officers, conduct regular documented meetings, develop a budget, track spending and meet other obligations to maintain that corporate nonprofit status.

A nonprofit cannot distribute corporate income to shareholders. The money we generate must follow the rules of a nonprofit and can be spent

on Master Gardener activities. We have been successful in accumulating excess funds that is allowed by law and encouraged by good business practices. Excess funds, some call profit, must be maintained for those items that cannot be budgeted -

unexpected things. We need to have an excess to cover a catastrophic loss in either income stream or operating equipment. Some of those include: catastrophic loss of physical facilities (greenhouse destroyed) or equipment (tractor needing to be replaced). We have had great success with all of our fundraising endeavors BUT if the Plant Sale failed one year – we would need to have reserves to allow us to continue the Master Gardener program. Having funds in a reserve (savings) is a good practice in our normal life as well as in the Master Gardener program.



**Oregon State University**  
**Master Gardener™**

**2016 Winter Training Program**

Douglas County- Roseburg Tuesday 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM

<b>January 5</b>	AM	Botany I	John Punches
	PM	Climate and Weather of Douglas County	Steve Renquist
<b>January 12</b>	AM	Botany II (Physiology)	John Punches
	PM	Veg Propagation*/Tree Fruit* Discovery Garden orientation	Team/Steve Renquist
<b>January 19</b>	AM	Pruning Trees, Shrubs, and Vines	Steve Renquist
	PM	Veg Propagation*/ Tree Fruit* Discovery Garden orientation	Team/Steve Renquist
<b>January 26</b>	AM	Concurrent Sessions	Master Gardeners
	PM	Plant ID/Greenhouse Seeding*	Chris Rusch/MG's
<b>February 2</b>	AM	Pesticide Safety	Steve Renquist
	PM	Plant ID/Greenhouse Seeding*	Chris Rusch/ MG's
<b>February 9</b>	AM	Insects	Gail Langellotto
	PM	Vegetable Gardening	Marjorie Neal
<b>February 16</b>	AM	Soils/Fertilization	Sara Runkel
	PM	Plant Disease and Diagnosis	Steve Renquist
<b>February 23</b>	AM	Care of Urban Trees/Seed Saving	Tal Blankenship
	PM	Weed ID and Control	Shelby Filley
<b>March 1</b>	AM	Berry Crops	Steve Renquist
	PM	Composting/Cover Crops	Joe Yetter/ Sara Runkel
<b>March 8</b>	AM	Vert. Pests/Xeriscaping	Leo Grass/ Geoff Puryear
	PM	IPM	Steve Renquist
<b>March 15</b>	AM	Discovery Garden Final*	Master Gardener Team
	PM	Final Exam Review	Steve Renquist

\*Class at the Discovery Garden (near River Forks Park) 238 River Forks Park Rd

**DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER 2016 DUES**  
**and REPLACEMENT NAME TAG**

(Please pay **BEFORE** January 1, 2016)

***PRINT ALL information below EVEN if nothing has changed:***

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to be contacted by \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Text Msg

\_\_\_\_\_ ***Here is \$10 for my dues which includes the online MG Newsletter.***

\_\_\_\_\_ ***Please mail my newsletter. I have included an EXTRA \$8.75 to cover postage.***

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Please make checks out to **DCMG** and include the above form. You can drop off your completed form and payment in the dues drawer at the plant clinic or mail it to me. Checks may not be deposited until after January 1, 2016.

Those needing a **replacement name tag** should contact me before mid-January. I will be keeping a list to add to the trainee class member's order. Please provide your name as you want it to appear on the name tag, your class year, and your contact info (either email or phone number). You will be contacted with the cost once the name tags have arrived.

Denise Fennell  
Membership Director

P.O. Box 1047  
Sutherlin OR 97479  
541-530-0024

# Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: The deadline for the February 2016 Newsletter is January 30th. E-mail submissions to Bonnie Courter: [rbcourter@gmail.com](mailto:rbcourter@gmail.com)

Website: [www.douglascountymg.org](http://www.douglascountymg.org)

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/pages/Douglas-County-Master-Gardeners/251882398200487](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Douglas-County-Master-Gardeners/251882398200487)

Horticulture Agent: [www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/horticulture](http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/horticulture),  
[steve.renquist@oregonstate.edu](mailto:steve.renquist@oregonstate.edu)

OSU Douglas County Extension Service: [www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas](http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas)

OSU Gardening Information: [www.extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening](http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening)

OSU Master Gardeners Program: [www.extension.oregonstate.edu/mg](http://www.extension.oregonstate.edu/mg)

Oregon Master Gardeners Association (OMGA): [www.oregonmastergardeners.org](http://www.oregonmastergardeners.org)



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Douglas County Master Gardeners  
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Roseburg OR 97470  
Ph: 541-672-4461