



DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS NEWSLETTER

Volume 32, Issue 4

April 2017

Apr. 2017 Calendar

Mon., Apr. 3, 10:00-Noon
Insect Committee

Tues., Apr. 4, 9:00-Noon
Discovery Garden Workday*
Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., Apr. 6, 9:00-Noon
Eastside Greenhouse Crew

Tues., Apr. 11, 9:00-Noon
Discovery Garden Workday*
Greenhouse Crews

Wed., Apr. 12, 10:00-11:30
Executive Board Meeting

Wed., Apr. 12, 11:30-12:30
Plant Sale Meeting

Wed., Apr. 12, 1:00-4:00
Diagnostics Class, Follett's house

Thurs., Apr. 13, 9:00-Noon
Eastside Greenhouse Crew

Mon., Apr. 17, 10:00-Noon
Insect Committee

Tues., Apr. 18, 9:00-Noon
Discovery Garden Workday*
Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., Apr. 20, 9:00-Noon
Eastside Greenhouse Crew

Tues., Apr. 25, 9:00-Noon
Discovery Garden Workday*
Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., Apr. 27, 9:00
Continuing Ed., Methodist Church

Thurs., Apr. 27, 10:00
Chapter Meeting, Methodist Ch.

Thurs., Apr. 27, 12:00-3:00
Plant Pre-Sale for MG's, HLC

Sun., Apr. 30, 12:00-3:00
Plant Pre-Sale for MG's, HLC

Sat., May 6

Plant & Garden Expo

*Help at Greenhouses as needed



The President's Post

Chris Rusch

Greetings Everyone,

The DCMG's have been really busy this month. 32 new students graduated from our Sustainable Gardening Winter Training Class March 14th. They are now learning about all the programs and projects in which DGMG's are involved. Thanks so much to Denise Fennel and her team for making this another successful Winter Training. Thank you to all the mentors who continue to volunteer and help with our new class of volunteers.

Our Trash to Treasure fundraiser was a great success. So many volunteers helped with the set-up, operations and take-down. Also all the wonderful contributions from our membership made for a fantastic turn-out! Thanks so much to Ann Severson and all the hard-working volunteers that helped to make this another successful Trash to Treasure!

Preparations are being made for the May 6th Plant Sale. Barbara Robinson is heading up this event with the help of many volunteers. We will once again be at the Fairgrounds. Please mark your calendars and share with friends. The Plant Sale group is so ORGANIZED and it should be a great sale with a huge variety of plants. Bob Brindley and Jen Bailey have assured us many vendors will be returning, and more spaces are going to be available.

The Discovery Garden, Greenhouses and the Victory Garden are all popular places to work on Tuesday mornings from 9-12. These are terrific opportunities for our new volunteers to attain their “pay-back hours” commitment. In addition, it is a great opportunity for veterans to get acquainted with our new volunteers and show them our diversity of work options.

Preparations are being made to host a tour of our Discovery Garden for the “International Master Gardener Conference” this July 9. Garden heads will be working extra hard to get their gardens ready. Julie is working to get our Discovery Garden pathways in shape in time for the tour. Mark your calendars!

The Plant Clinic is also in need of volunteers, both veterans and trainees are needed. It helps us spread the word about all the things we are doing and promotes community awareness.

Our social networking is paying off! If you are a Facebook person, please come to our DCMG page and “like us”. <https://www.facebook.com/douglascountymastergardeners>

Happy Spring!



Vice-President's Report

Anne Bacon

First of all, welcome to the graduates of Winter Training 2017! Thanks for hanging in there and giving us an excuse for cake and ice-cream. The veteran Master Gardeners are proud of you and looking forward to seeing you frequently at the Plant Clinic and around the Discovery Garden.

March's guest lecture was presented by Donna Rawson from the Umpqua Valley Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon. UVNPSO is committed to the shared enjoyment, conservation and study of the unique plants found in the Umpqua Valley. I encourage you to take advantage of their website which includes a database (with photos!) of plants endemic to our local region. Their site also has a schedule of events and field trips. <http://www.umpquavalleynativeplants.com>

One plant highlighted in Donna's presentation is the *Calachortus coxii*: a native mariposa lily which only grows in our area. It blooms in June, and UVNPSO has scheduled two field trips on May 29th and June 12th to see this rare beauty. Field trips are open to the public, so I think we should each make it a point to join them. It's important to call M.A. Hanson at (541)863-8111 if you plan to go on a field trip because dates can change due to bloom unpredictability.

Native plants are defined as those existing in the Pacific Northwest prior to population by European settlers.

The benefits of gardening with native plants are many:

- Saves water
- Uses less pesticides and herbicides
- Encourages wildlife
- Low maintenance
- Non-invasive

Yet, with all these benefits, she laughed when I asked which were deer-resistant!



You can visit any of three gardens UVNPSO maintains in Roseburg:

- Umpqua Valley Arts Association, 1624 W. Harvard
- First United Methodist Church, 1771 W. Harvard
- The home of M.A. Hanson, 548 Hickory St.

If you're looking for places to obtain native plants for your garden, here are some resources:

- The Umpqua Community Center "Mother's Day Plant Sale", May 13 & 14, 806 Hubbard Creek Rd., Umpqua
- Elkton Butterfly Pavilion "Blooms & Butterflies Event", June 17, 15850 St. Highway 38W, Elkton
- Doak Creek Native Plant Nursery*, 83331 Marlow Rd., Eugene *Open by appointment only, call (541)521-9907
- Glide Wildflower Show, April 29 & 30, 20062 N. Umpqua Highway, Glide
- Bunyard's Barnyard**, 1201 Harlan St., Roseburg
**Hours may be changing, so call first (541)672-9380

Our next seminar is on April 27th. Jeff Giulietti of Eugene Physical Therapy will be lecturing on "Prevention of Injury In the Garden".

Reminder! Due to construction at the Extension Annex, our April and May meetings will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 1771 W. Harvard, Roseburg.

Years of Service Swinger Bars

Betty Ison

Douglas County will now be presenting Years of Service Swinger Bars to our members who have volunteered 15 or more years of continuous active service. Active Service means paying yearly dues and recording yearly volunteer service hours. The OMGA was handing out bars to people with 20 and 30 years, but has not been very consistent about it. It was discussed and decided at an Executive Board Meeting that we will acknowledge our own volunteers and not rely on OMGA. We will start at 15 years and reward bars at five year intervals after that (ie. 20, 25, 30 yrs). The bars will be treated just like hour bars and traded up each time you earn a new one. We are currently playing catch up because this was just recently decided.

For those of you who reach 15, 20, or 25 years this year, the bars will be presented at our Annual Awards Banquet in the fall. In the future, the Years of Service swingers will be handed out each year at the Banquet.

Below is a list of people who have earned bars and may pick them up from me. If you already have one from OMGA that is current you will not be given another one.

15 Years: Leo Grass; Judith Huntley; Richard Johnstone; Jack Machulies; Shirley Purcell; Linda Thames; Myra Weber

20 Years: Judy Dake; Philece Humphrey; Tasha King; Barbara MacPherson; Roger Sawyer

25 Years: Betty Ison; Julie Stanbery

Glide Wildflower Show

Nancy Tague

Features of the show include:

- Over 600 species of wildflowers, shrubs, trees, mosses, lichens and ferns artfully displayed and labeled
- Special displays of edible and medicinal plants, natural dyes, noxious weeds, beekeeping, spinning, and photos of endangered flowers
- Roving botanists available to answer questions

- Sales of books and field guides; food, drink and homemade pies (a show tradition); and native plants

Presentations will include:

- Tour the Show with a Botanist - Dr. Ken Carloni, Science Department Chair, Umpqua Community College
- Sex, Lies, and Entomophily: Orchid Pollination Revealed - Dr. Ken Carloni
- Edible and Medicinal Plant Uses - Wren Davidson, herbalist and owner of Yerba Buena Botanicals in Eugene
- An Introduction to Our Native Bees, the Forgotten Pollinators - Rich Little, retired entomologist
- Plants that Eat Truffles for Lunch - Dr. Dan Luoma, assistant professor, Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society, OSU
- Propagation of Native Plants - Wendy Coleman, US Forest Service botanist
- Guided Wildflower Hike - led by experienced show collectors

The details:

- Location: Glide Community Center, Glide, 17 miles east of Roseburg on Highway 138
- \$3 suggested donation
- 9 am to 5 pm, with a photographers-only hour from 8 to 9 am
- Handicapped accessible

Visit our website at www.glidewildflowershow.org for more information. If you have questions, send an email to info@glidewildflowershow.org.



Appreciation - Education - Conservation

Glide Wildflower Show

April 29 & 30 2017
9 am to 5 pm
Photographers' Hour 8 am Saturday

Over 600 species
of Southwest Oregon wildflowers, trees & shrubs, grasses
ferns, lichens, mosses & liverworts

Exhibits: Edible & Medicinal Plants Beekeeping Spinning & Natural Dyes Noxious Weeds	Special Presentations: ♦ Edible & Medicinal Plant Uses ♦ Native Bees, Forgotten Pollinators ♦ Propagation of Native Plants ♦ Guided Wildflower Walks ♦ Sex Life of Orchids ♦ Plants that Eat Truffles
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Sales:
Flora books & posters
Native plants
Food & beverages
Homemade pies

See our website for details!

Glide Community Center
Hwy. 138, Glide, Oregon
www.glidewildflowershow.org

\$3
Suggested donation

The Final Countdown to Our Plant & Garden Expo

Barbara Robinson & Ann Severson

Greenhouse crews are working multiple days each week readying the “merchandise” to produce the quality product our loyal customers have come to expect. Especially important at this point is making sure all the plants are weed-free, manicured, soil-freshened, and looking their best to present at our sale. Seedlings are being nurtured, repotted, and fussed over. Pricing and labeling of plants is being finalized. Please join us on Tuesdays or other workdays as announced in the Westside or Eastside greenhouses from 9 a.m. to noon. Watch your email for weekly updates on days our crews will be working, and when you join us, prepare to have fun!



Sign up clipboards have been removed from the Plant Clinic and turned over to the appropriate committee heads. There are a few committees still in need of more help. If you have not had a chance to sign up, please email or call Barbara Robinson and she will be glad to find just the right task for you. If you do not get signed up and find you are available to help, just show up on set up day or the day of the sale and we will find a job tailored just for you!

Many, many thanks go out to all of you who have already signed up to work the sale. The chairperson for the area you chose will be contacting you in the near future to touch bases, give any direction necessary, and answer any questions you may have.

We will be offering two pre-Plant Sale opportunities for Master Gardeners ONLY at the greenhouses. These will be held on Thursday, April 27th and Sunday, April 30th. Both sales will run from noon to 3 PM. Remember, MG purchases are not allowed the day of the sale until after 2:30 PM so be sure and take advantage of the special

pre-sales offered to you. If you choose to attend a pre-sale event, you will need to wear your name tag.

Now onto some important details for the sale itself:

- **TIME:** Workers need to be at the Fairgrounds Exhibit Building at 8 a.m. on both Friday, May 5th and Saturday, May 6th UNLESS otherwise directed by your committee chairperson. It is especially important to be prompt on Saturday. Vendor pre-sales in our area begin at 8:30 a.m. and you will also be gathering with your group for direction from your committee chair.
- **POTLUCK:** We will be having potluck lunch beginning at 11:30 on both Friday and Saturday. We will not be having breakfast potluck. If you plan to eat lunch with us, please bring a potluck dish to share and wear your MG badge. When you arrive at the Fairgrounds, please deliver your dish to the kitchen into the hands of a worker who will in turn have you fill out an ingredient card. This will help those with allergies. No need to bring a serving spoon or eating utensils as they are provided. Your crew leader will schedule your lunch break. Please eat in the dining area and do not take plates of food out onto the sales floor.
- **PARKING:** Do not park in front of the building except to drop off food items, supplies, etc. Be brief. Vendors will need the space to unload as well. Please park in the lot across the street if you are not handicapped.



- **ATTIRE/PURSES:** Wear your Master Gardener apparel or apron if you have purchased one. Ladies, there is no secure location to leave your purse. Leave them home or in the locked trunk of your vehicle. Keys, cell phones, wallets, etc. fit nicely into your apron pockets.

- **WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE.** If you forget, go home and get it. You cannot work without it.
- **DUES:** Veterans, your dues must be paid to work. Class of 2017, your dues have been paid.
- **PURCHASES:** Master Gardeners are not allowed to shop/purchase in our area until after 2:30 p.m. Take advantage of our MG Pre-Sales the week before Plant Sale.
- **UCAN DONATIONS:** We are once again partnering with UCAN to collect food items. There will be a collection bin in front of the building on Saturday. There is NOT a discount to the public for bringing an item.
- **Payment Methods Accepted:** We are accepting Cash, Personal Checks and for the first time, credit and debit cards in the Master Gardener sale area. Credit/debit will not be accepted for entrance fees or raffle ticket purchase.

We are looking forward to yet another successful sale. This is a fun, rewarding event. Be prepared to have a great time while working with a wonderful group of volunteers!

Hats

Barbara Robinson

When I attended my first DCMG Plant and Garden Expo a dozen or so years ago, what first caught my eye were the crazy hats perched on many of the gardener's heads. Not only was it fun to observe all the different hat designs, but I found it easy to find someone to help me on the floor when I needed assistance.



Let your imagination go wild and design your own one of a kind, garden-themed hat creation. We will be awarding two prizes, to the top two contestants, as



chosen by their Master Gardener peers the day of the sale. Put your thinking caps on and start creating!

Treasurer's Report Patrice Sipos

INCOME 2/23/17 - 3/29/17

Grant	\$57.23
Dues Membership	\$40.00
Soil Testing	\$270.00
Trash to Treasure Sale	\$3,739.20
Vendor Booths	<u>\$1,001.20</u>

TOTAL INCOME **\$5,107.63**

EXPENSES 2/23/17 - 3/29/17

Bank Fee	\$26.25
Management & General	\$373.31
OMGA	\$1,638.00
Office & Clinic	\$250.48
Discovery Garden	\$155.07
HLC - Various	\$330.91
Plant Sale	\$7,033.97
Special Events - Other	<u>(-\$599.89)</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$9,208.10**

Breakdown of our accounts at 3/29/17

Checking	\$2,215.32
Money Market - Reserves	\$8,134.10
Money Market	<u>\$38,147.30</u>

Ending Balance 3/29/17 **\$48,496.72**

OMGA 1st Quarter Report

Nancy Fuller

The first quarter meeting was held in Salem, hosted by the Marion County Master Gardeners. They have a newly renovated facility that has state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment and was quite a comfortable venue.

One of the highlights for this meeting was the formal vote for the secretary's position. Barbara Davidson (Jackson County) was unanimously approved.

Another highlight was the Board's approval of the changes to the Bylaws. Some changes were grammatical, but many of the more important ones were made at the recommendation of David Atkins, the non-profit attorney who spoke to the Board at the 4th Quarter meeting (November 2016). Added to the Bylaws was a section regarding voting electronically. Board members can now vote on agenda items by either telephone or video conferencing.

Gail Langellotto reported on the upcoming International Master Gardener Conference (IMGC), July 10-14, 2017, which is being held in Portland. As of the close of the early registration on February 28th, there are 1,205 registrants from 4 Canadian provinces, South Korea, and 48 states. Every registrant will receive a free transit pass. Two of the hotels are sold out and the third is filling, but still has rooms. A conference app is available that will show shopping, dining, and local attractions. Go to the conference website <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/2017imgc/> for information and to download the app.

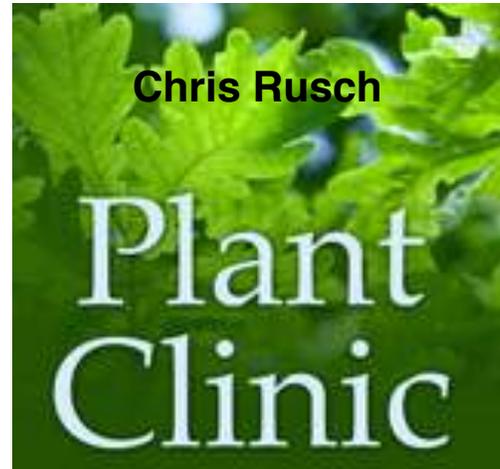
OMGA will be selling "Master Gardener" visors at the IMGc.

All grants and scholarships will be awarded this year, but the awards will be given at the individual winning chapters' locations rather than at a central location since there is no Mini-College this year. Deadline for all applications is May 15th. The International Search for Excellence award has four Oregon chapters in contention: Marion, Clackamas, Lincoln, and Wasco. There will be two \$1,000 scholarships awarded to OSU undergraduate students.

The financial reports were reviewed. The Audit Committee reported that the financial records were in order.

OMGA President Seamus Ramirez made an appeal for a volunteer for the Historian position which hasn't yet been filled. He also asked that Board members consider stepping up to fill future leadership positions.

The 2nd Quarter meetings will be hosted by Clackamas County on June 2nd and 3rd.



The Plant Clinic is one of our DCMG programs that reach out to our community to help people solve a wide range of gardening and landscape questions. This includes diagnosing plant problems and identifying insects. The Plant Clinic training program is a great opportunity for our new members to put their knowledge of sustainable gardening to work. The Plant Clinic began training our newest volunteers from the class of 2017 in February and March. Most of our trainees have completed their mandatory 2 day training. We are lucky to have a great training team this year with Leo Grass, Bonnie Courter, Larry Sutton, Chris Rusch, and Karolyn Riecks.

During the month of April the Plant Clinic calendar will be devoted to training. Veterans can begin signing up to volunteer at the clinic now, as most of the students have completed their initial training.

We had 95 visitors in the Plant Clinic in March. This is about the same as last year this time.

If you are in town, stop by the clinic and say hi to our new students.

Planting for the local food bank? Take care to do it right

By Jeanie Nichols

Michigan State University Extension

March 2, 2017

(contributed by Barbara Robinson)

This time of year people who enjoy gardening are thinking about and planning what they will be growing this spring, summer and fall. I know this because I am one of those who has already purchased some of my seeds, and planting time is still a ways off yet. Many gardeners like to donate to food pantries.

If you are one of those generous gardeners, Michigan State University Extension has eight tips to help you provide high-quality produce to food banks and pantries.

1. It is important to check with the food bank or pantry before delivering any produce. Find out if they accept produce at their site and if they do, ask if they need the type of produce you have to donate.
2. Always handle the fresh fruits and vegetables safely to minimize the risk of food-borne illness. For example, don't harvest when you are sick and always wash your hands before harvesting
3. Offer only high-quality, freshly-picked fruits and vegetables
4. Do not donate fruits and vegetables that are overripe, have mold, bruising, spoilage or insect damage



5. If you use pesticides in your garden, always read and follow the label instructions.
6. Harvest produce early in the morning
7. Wipe as much mud and dirt as possible off of the produce, but do not rinse the produce. Rinsing the produce takes off some of the natural protective coating and will cause the produce to spoil sooner than if it wasn't rinsed.
8. Do not mix different kinds of produce. For example, don't put cucumbers in the same clean, food-grade container as green beans.

Those who donate food to food banks and pantries are protected by the [Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act](#) that was signed into law in 1996 by President Bill Clinton. This federal act protects those who donate produce from their garden, and those who donate grocery products, to nonprofit organizations for distribution to people

in need, from criminal and civil liability.

Under terms of this Act, donors are protected, if the products were donated in good faith but later caused harm to the recipient. It also standardizes donor liability exposure and sets a floor of gross negligence or intentional misconduct for people who donate grocery products.

If you will be donating produce this year from your garden, thank you for providing safe, nutritious food to those who might otherwise go without.

Scenes From the Trash to Treasure Sale



**Pricing and
Sorting Crews**



One happy shopper



**Soooo much
"stuff"!!!**



**...and the
crowds
went WILD!**



State Hopes ‘Samurai wasp’ Will Battle Invasive Stink Bug

TRACY LOEW

Salem Statesman Journal

reprinted from *News-Review* 3/24/17 article

(contributed by Bonnie Courter)



Scientists across the U.S. are getting ready to escalate a life-and-death battle between two nonnative insects: a stink bug that damages a wide variety of crops and a tiny wasp that just might become the hero in this drama.

And Oregon is at the center of the fight.

The brown marmorated stink bug “is one of the most severe invasive agricultural pests because it feeds on so many different kinds of important crops,” said Kim Hoelmer, an entomologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. “It is capable of doing a lot of damage.”

Homeowners also complain that it infests their houses and sucks the life from their fruits and vegetables.

“The pest has been in the United States since 1996 and in Oregon since 2004”, said Chris Hedstrom, biological control specialist for the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Here, it threatens hazelnuts, cane berries, blueberries, apples and pears. Those crops had a combined value of more than \$433 million in 2015, the last year for which statistics are available.

“Pretty much you name it, it feeds on it,” Hedstrom said.

And, though the bugs don’t damage wine grapes, the defensive chemicals they release are a threat to the wine-making process.

Scientists have known for some time that a species of tiny wasp, *Trissolcus japonicus* — better known as the

Samurai wasp — likes to lay its eggs inside brown marmorated stink bug eggs.

The wasps don’t sting humans, but what they do to stink bug eggs has been equated with the birth scene in the 1979 film “Alien”.

In the United States, the wasps haven’t been able to breed quickly enough to slow the stink bugs’ spread. This year, scientists will try to change that.

For the first time, they’ll rear legions of Samurai wasps in the laboratory, infest stink bug eggs and then make like Johnny Appleseed with the compromised hosts. Out will come newborn wasps, presumably dooming more crunchy insects named for the odor they emit when smashed.

“Oregon will be the first to give it a try”, Hedstrom said.

“The state doesn’t need federal permission to release the wasps”, he said, “because they already have appeared here, in an area ranging from North-west Portland to the Portland International Airport.”

But scientists worried that releasing them could impact native stinkbugs, which are not harmful. In 2015 ODA and Oregon State University scientists completed a study that shows that’s unlikely to happen.

“This year, they released the wasps in Hood River, southern Oregon, the Willamette Valley and Milton-Freewater”, said Nik Wiman, OSU assistant professor and orchard crop extension specialist.

“We’re trying to get it into areas where the brown marmorated stink bug is already established and is a major threat to important agricultural industries,” Wiman said. “We anticipate it’s going to spread on its own. But we decided to get ahead of that a little bit.”



OSU DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER

Chapter Meeting

March 30, 2017



Final practicum at the DG

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by President, Chris Rusch. There were 49 people in attendance. Chris thanked representatives from the Umpqua Valley Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon for their presentation.

Minutes: The minutes

were approved as published online.

Agent's Report - Steve Renquist: Steve will be teaching classes at OSU on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the next 9-10 weeks.

There will be an Advanced Diagnostics Class Wednesday, April 12, from 1:00-4:00 to be held at the home of Tony and Lindy Follett, 1210 Fisher Road in Roseburg. This class is for those who wish to serve at the Plant Clinic and Farmer's Market as well as counting towards recertification hours. Of course, everyone is welcome.

OFFICER REPORTS

Membership - Diana Circle: Currently we have 268 paid members. Diana will be publishing an updated roster next week, so if there are any changes to be made, please contact her.



Included this time only will be those who do not wish their photos to be used in chapter publications. See Mary Hoffman in the office if you have not yet filled out the paperwork for liability insurance which is required by OMGA. Everyone needs to submit this if they want to participate in Master Gardener activities, including our fundraisers.

OMGA - Nancy Fuller: The first quarterly meeting was held in Salem March 3-4. They approved new by-law changes which can be accessed on the OMGA website. The next meeting will be in June in Clackamas County.

Registration for the International Master Gardener Conference in Portland is closed as of February 28. All class registrations are sold out



as are two of the hotels - the third one, Crown Plaza, still has openings. Transit passes are included in the goodie bags for participants. The Discovery Garden is on the "Volcano" tour for July 9th, and 42 people have signed up for that.

Treasurer - Patrice Sipos: Financials were distributed and available for review.

Vice-President - Anne Bacon: This is our last chapter meeting in the Annex. Next month we will meet at the First United Methodist Church on Harvard due to construction at the Annex. Our presenter will be Jeff Giulietti of Eugene Physical Therapy on "Preventing Injury in the Garden". Summer meeting hosts are already lined up.

Past President - Larry Sutton: No report.

President - Chris Rusch: Chris thanked Ann Severson and all the MG's who helped make our Trash to Treasure Sale the most successful one yet.

It is time to select nominations for those on the Executive Board who will be stepping down. The

Nominating Committee this year consists of Fred Alley, Karolyn Riecks, and Rosemary Brinkley.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Outreach - Jude Stensland: The following outreach opportunities were fulfilled this past month:

- March 2, Tri-City Garden Club with Maureen Benice. Talked to 14 people about seeding and greenhouses
- March 7, Nathan Baily taught a class on composting at the Phoenix School
- March 8, Jude helped 5 children and 2 adults make seed tapes at UCAN
- March 15, Jude and Jeanie Owen spoke to members of the Help One Another Club on downsizing your garden, easy access gardens and straw bale gardening

On Saturday, April 1, Jude, Margo Roten and Nathan Baily will give a 1-1/2 hour workshop at the Westside Community Garden at 11:00, followed by a potluck. Everyone is welcome to come!

Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch: Most of our trainees have gotten their two training days in. There are lots of openings for veterans in April and especially May. There have been some slow days, probably due to the wet weather, but there have been questions about insects and weeds. Trainees are encouraged to bring in problems from their own gardens or plants/insects to identify to help practice on in the clinic. We did get a call from a visitor from Portland who went to the Discovery Garden and had lots of praise for it and what we have accomplished there.

Eastside Greenhouse - Ann Severson: Eastside crew is working Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-12, working hard to get plants ready for the sale. They could use more help, so come on out and lend a hand when you can.

Trash to Treasure Sale & Plant Expo - Ann Severson: Ann was so very pleased with the great worker turnout and the results of the Trash to Treasure Sale. With the \$200 gleaned from garage sale donations last year, the total made was \$3,939.20. Ann reminded everyone that to participate in the Plant Expo, members must wear their name badges both Friday and Saturday and must also have the Liability Insurance Form signed and turned in.

Awards - Betty Ison: Our chapter will now be presenting Years of Service swinger bars for those members who have had 15 years or more of active, continuous service. They must have turned in their hours and paid their dues each year. We will start at 15 years and reward bars at five year intervals after that (ie. 20, 25, 30 yrs). The bars will be treated just like hour bars and traded up each time you earn a new one. We are currently playing catch-up because this was



just recently decided. For those of you who reach 15, 20, or 25 years this year, the bars will be presented at our Annual Awards Banquet in the fall. In the future, the Years of Service swingers will be handed out each year at the Banquet. Below is a list of people who have earned bars and may pick them up from me now. If you already have one from OMGA that is current you will not be given another one.

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20 Years: Judy Dake, Philece Humphrey, Tasha King, Barbara MacPherson, Roger Sawyer

25 Years: Betty Ison, Julie Stanbery



T-Shirts - Anne Bacon for Kish Doyle: The deadline for getting in T-shirt artwork to Kish has been extended to April 10th. Submitted artwork should be 8-1/2" X 11" size and in black and white.

Discovery Garden - Julie Stanbery: Julie expressed how impressed she is by the new class and their solid work ethic. Here's some of the projects happening in the garden:



Photo: Fred Alley

- Revamping the Herb Garden. We have had some Saturday work days for those new members who work during the week. 100' of gravel paths have been installed by hand. New planting beds are now contoured.
- The Butterfly Garden is being cleaned up nicely
- Beth Whitcomb and her husband weeded under the Donor Board. Thank you to them!
- Bruce Gravens has taken on the Orchard and is going to try flood irrigation under 8" of mulch as a different irrigating alternative.
- Elva Sellens had some help rebuilding the lily bed by Ray Warren and Al Petrie.
- Clean up at the Helleck Hall took place and Steve Renquist helped with pruning back the kiwi.
- Mark Schmoll built some nice shelves in the janitor's room of the bathroom, but discovered that there is a leak in the ceiling which needs caulking.
- The Empress tree is down thanks to Cowboy Tree Service. Randy Briggs did some other work that he donated while at the garden. He also pointed out that the big fir tree by the green shed is dying and needs to be removed.

- The Japanese Garden had a work day this month with a good turn out.
- Sharon Bordeaux has volunteered to head up the Sun Garden.
- Geo Caching: some have tried to find maidenhair fern unsuccessfully. Sharon Hopkins said it can be found in the Native Plant area near the Children's Garden.
- International MG tour of the garden will be Sunday, July 9. After the Plant Expo, getting the Discovery Garden ready for the tour will be a priority. Plan to set up tables under the fir trees by the Victory garden for those on the tour to eat their box lunches. Larry Sutton and Rosemary Brinkley are making welcome bags for the visitors on the tour.
- The next Saturday work day will be in June for those new MG's who work during the week.
- Volunteers are asked to help out in the greenhouses to get plants ready for the Plant Expo, then after the sale help in the Discovery Garden.
- Gates are being left open, doors to the restroom left unlocked and lights have been left on. Be sure and shut gates, lock doors and turn off lights if you are leaving around noon and most everyone has left.

Victory Garden - Ruth Stafford: Gophers are devouring the garlic planted in September so traps are being set, turning it into a "gopher demo garden". Onions and cabbage are planted and peas are coming up. We are now writing what is being planted each week on the new kiosk that was built last year.

We will be manning a booth at the Canyonville Market starting May 10, from 9:00-1:00, and continuing every Wednesday for the growing season. The market is in the Seven Feathers parking lot.

Newsletter - Bonnie Courter: Articles are due this Saturday, April 1.

Black Apparel - Toni Rudolf: The black apparel and aprons are ready to be picked up on the back table today.

Hallmark - Linda Thames: The following were sent cards:

- Gloria McCrea broke her foot
- Jon Thran's wife, Janet, is undergoing chemo for lung cancer

- Eloise Aguirre's niece and her four children were killed in a fire. They lived in Massachusetts.
- Cal Peterson died February 27. He was a longtime editor of the MG newsletter and past principal at Fullerton IV where he collected and planted trees from all 50 states.
- Many MG's attended the memorial service for Michael Bunyard, husband of Janice Bunyard, at the Discovery Garden

granddaughter 18 years ago! So she happily scooped it right up!

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 by President, Chris Rusch.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bonnie Courter for Barbara Robinson, DCMG Secretary

New Business

1. Approval was needed for the changes in the By-Laws and Policies and Procedures as posted in the Newsletter and our website. Betty Ison made a motion to approve the changes, Fred Alley seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the membership.

2. Approval was needed for funding the Discovery Garden pathways.

The Executive Board recommended passing the funding request by Julie Stanbery to create gravel pathways 4' wide, 4" deep that would cover over 1000' from the Rock Garden to the Japanese Garden. Crader Enterprises was the best bid at a cost of \$20,324.00. The excavated pathways would have a ground cloth barrier, then filled with 1" minus aggregate rock, then compressed down. Instead of hauling the excavated soil away, we will dump the rocky material where needed. Julie said the pathways should have a 15-20 year life span if used only by pedestrians and wheel chairs. Work can be started within a week and would be done in 5-10 days.

Toni Rudolf made a motion to approve the funding, Betty Ison seconded it, and it was unanimously approved by the membership.

Show and Tell

- Vicki McAlister brought two MG T-shirts to give away
- Diana Cason brought a dozen fertile quail eggs to give away
- Bob Brindley had an anecdote from the Trash to Treasure Sale. A friend of his shopped at the sale, then noticed a lovely afghan on the "Free" table - it was the very same afghan she had made for her

Fred's Fav's



Ornamental Pruning Workshop

Photos by Bonnie Courter



Tony Follett, Sharon Bordeaux & Rick Kreofsky tackle the infamous barberry



Steve gives pointers on pruning hydrangeas to Rick Kreofsky & Connie Page



Sharon Bordeaux, Tony Follett and Lyle Miller clip away at hydrangea flower heads

More From WTC Final at DG

Photos by Kish Doyle



Donna Prchal & Steven Erickson listen in to Steve's answers on the practicum.



Larry, Maureen & Steve share a laugh before the final.



Jan Kirchner tidies up the Butterfly Garden



"Boots on the Ground"

Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: The deadline for the May 2017 Newsletter is April 29th. 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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