



Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter



March 2019 Calendar

Mon., March 4

Westside Greenhouse Crews, 9-12
Insect Committee, 10-12

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

Winter Training Class

Thurs., March 7, 9:00-Noon

Eastside Greenhouse Crews
Trash to Treasure Sale table setup

Thurs., March 7, 1:00-4:00

Pruning Ornamental Shrubs, DG

Fri., March 8, 9:00-4:00

Trash to Treasure Sale setup

Sat., March 9, 9:00-4:00

Trash to Treasure Sale, Annex

Mon., March 11

Westside Greenhouse Crews, 9-12

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

Winter Training Class

Wed., March 13, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting, Annex

Thurs., March 14, 9:00-Noon

Eastside Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., March 14, 1:00-4:00

Pruning Japanese Garden, DG

Mon., March 18

Westside Greenhouse Crews, 9-12
Insect Committee, 10-12

Tues., March 19, 10:00-3:00

Last day WTC - GRADUATION!!!

Thurs., March 21, 9:00-Noon

Eastside Greenhouse Crews

Tues., March 26, 9:00-Noon

West/East Greenhouse Crews
Discovery Garden Workday

Thurs., March 28

Continuing Education, 9:00-10:00
Chapter Meeting, 10:00-11:30



"Welcome Winter"???- Not so much!

The President's Post

Nancy Fuller

What a week this has been! Many of us were without electricity and water and relying on our camping and survival skills to get through the snow storm. I hope all of us stayed safe and as warm as possible.

Just as the schools in our area were cancelled, so was our February chapter meeting and education session. Safety was the priority. We hope to have our speaker, Mike Winters, rescheduled in the future.

My property has many, many broken trees. One very large oak fell across the driveway and trapped us for three days. We were "rescued" just before the power came back on. We are thankful no one was injured and no damage done to the house, though my little greenhouse is history.



All the spring shoots are buried under the snow so I hope they will survive. Trees were beginning to bud, too.

We will all have much clean-up work to do in the coming weeks. The Discovery Garden fared fairly well, but the coming pruning class will be very helpful to the clean-up efforts out there. Try to join the work crews out in the garden on March 7th, 1-4pm.

On a lighter note, our Trash to Treasures sale is coming up on March 9th, 9:00am to 4:00pm. Set up for tables is on March 7th, 1:00pm until done. Donations will be received on March 8th, 9:00am to 4:00pm. This is a fun event that brings in great revenue for our chapter. Tell all your friends to gather donations for us, but also to come shopping!

Though at the moment it is hard to believe, spring will be here in eighteen days. Let's hope the day will be warm and sunny and all the snow and its effects a memory.

Vice President's Report

Vicki Barrett

I hope everyone stayed warm during that snow storm we had. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our Chapter Meeting on the twenty-eighth. Mike Winters was scheduled to be our guest speaker. We will let you know when we reschedule.

In March, our presentation will given by Peggy Cheatham. She is the former owner of While-A-Way Books. She and her husband, Tim, own Elderflower Herb Farm where they grow herbs and then make wonderful soaps, salves, teas and oils. She has also just opened a coffee shop at the corner of Oak and Main in Roseburg called Gathering Grounds.

Beavers, raccoons, deer, porcupines, chipmunks, skunks, foxes and owls are born in the Spring and sometimes run into trouble. Peggy and her volunteers believe all animals have the right to Free Health Care.

Peggy has been the president of Umpqua Wildlife Rescue here in Roseburg for twenty-three years. After the volunteers are trained, they become licensed rehabilitators. They rescue orphaned and injured native

wild animals in need of medical attention. They raise and prepare baby birds and mammals for release back to the wild. The group usually meets on the third Thursday of the month at 3PM at the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife on Diamond Lake Blvd.

Our Continuing Education programs are free to all Master Gardeners as well as the general public. Come and bring a friend. Our presentations always start at 9:00 on the last Thursday of the month at the OSU Extension auditorium. Bring your questions and we will do our best to answer them.

OMGA Report **Rosemary Brinkley**

There are programs through OMGA that have monetary funds to help educate the public in home horticulture. If you are a garden head or someone who would like to apply for the funds see the information below:

Extension Educator Grant Program

Criteria

All grants will be made to aid in the development of programs or the acquisition of materials, designed to enhance public education in the field of home horticulture

Grants shall not exceed \$500. For any chapter in any fiscal year.

Grants may include the purchase of equipment and materials: eg . books, office equipment, software, signs, program promotion etc.

Applications must be submitted by May 15, 2019. Steve Renquist will be receiving the application forms in March. His signature is needed on the application request.

Douglas County Master Gardeners have benefited by this program in the past. We have received funds to do educational signage and most recently Garden Safety Signage.

Karl Carlson Memorial Fund

Purpose

To enhance the OSU Community Horticulture Program in the state of Oregon by making available OMGA funds

to help Oregon Master Gardener Chapters in the following ways:

- In the establishment of new OSU Master Gardener Chapters
- To assist new and struggling OSU Master Gardener Chapters become better established
- **In the implementation of new programs or projects related to community horticulture, when financial assistance is needed.**

Financial assistance for any of the described programs will be in the form of an outright grant.

Criteria

All grants shall be made in accordance with the purpose for which this fund was established and shall not exceed an amount of \$250.00 for any one Chapter in any fiscal year.

Grants must be used for purchase of educational materials or for projects or programs relating to community horticulture.

Grant applications may be submitted by Postal Service or E-mail.

Application is due by May 15, 2019.

Douglas County has received a Karl Carlson grant for the past 7 years. Funds have been used to create Discovery Garden signage, pathways for better mobility, garden etiquette signage and a bike rack.

Any questions? Please contact Rosemary Brinkley, Nancy Fuller or Steve Renquist.

OMGA Survey: OMGA recently sent out a survey asking for Master Gardeners' input on the organization. The survey only takes a minute or so and you can remain anonymous. It's easy to do online. Here's the link: <https://goo.gl/forms/Od1dJNe5kKfRLmPw1>

Plant Sale Bonnie Durick

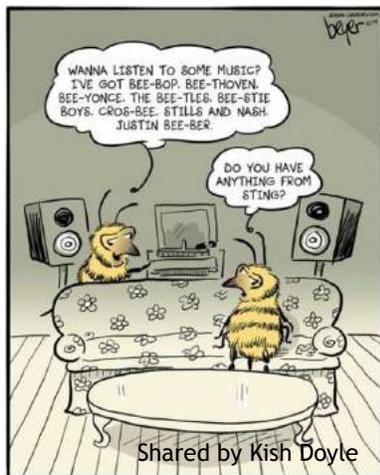
Plant Sale Time is just around the corner and it will be here before we know it. The sale this year is on Saturday, May 4, 2019 from 9-4 with setup all day on Friday, May 3, 2019. There will be a pre-sale for Master Gardeners ONLY on Thursday, April 25, from after the chapter meeting until 4:00 pm. and again on Sunday, April 28, from 1-4. This sale is not a discount sale, but allows all Master Gardeners first pick on the plants we have for sale. Bring cash or check only as we don't have wi-fi at the HLC to take credit/debit cards. You must wear your badge for this event and have paid your dues along with the required paperwork to be able to purchase at this pre-sale.

Sign-up sheets for the various committees for the Plant Sale are in the Plant Clinic and I encourage everyone to sign up for something on either Friday or Saturday or both. Many hands make light work as they say and we have plenty of work to be done. If you are unable to come into the Plant Clinic to sign up, feel free to email me at durick1@msn.com, call me at 541-672-3404 or call or text me at 541-671-8954 and let me know where you would like to help.

Jen Bailey, who is in charge of getting vendors to have their booths at our sale, could use some help in finding vendors who would like to be a part of our sale. Please contact her if you have any ideas on who might be a great vendor. Remember that the items they sell must be garden related somehow. It doesn't have to be plants, but anything garden related.

Again this year, we will be having our decorated hat contest. For those of you new Master Gardeners, this is an annual event where you can use your creativity and decorate a hat to be worn at the Plant Sale. Master Gardeners are eligible to vote for your hat and the two people with the most votes get a prize. It is amazing to see how creative our fellow Master Gardeners can get with a hat.

I'm looking forward to a great sale. Thanks for all your help.



RAFFLE DONATIONS NEEDED !!!



We are looking for items provided by chapter members for the Raffle tables at the Plant Sale on May 4th.

In the past, members have donated books, gardening tools, plants, artwork, garden art, wind chimes, candles, aprons, plant movers and baskets with a theme such as local wines, games for kids, knitting. As you can see, we have had a variety of items donated.

If you would be willing to provide an item or two, please contact Rosemary Brinkley, Raffle Chair at 541-673-8814 or mikeandrb@gmail.com.

Treasurer's Report Toni Rudolph

INCOME 01/24/19 - 02/28/19

Amazon Smile Foundation	\$8.45
Fred Meyer Comm. Reward	\$1.29
Membership Dues	\$210.00
Newsletter	\$8.75
Interest	\$7.46
Soil Testing	<u>\$120.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$355.95

EXPENSES 01/24/19 - 02/28/19

Gifts - Hallmark	\$49.75
Winter Program - Speakers	\$300.00
Discovery Garden	\$104.23
HLC	\$514.13
Plant Sale	\$209.26
Utilities - Water	<u>\$47.73</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,225.10

Breakdown of our accounts at 02/28/19

NWCC - Checking	\$883.25
NWCC - Reserves	\$5,000.14
NWCC - Savings	<u>\$23,682.60</u>
Ending Balance 02/28/19	\$29,565.99

Fred's Fav's



Scenes from Winter Training Class

(Photos by B. Courter & K. Doyle)



Seeding



Pruning



Shelby talks "Weeds"



Steve talks "Tree Fruit"



Snow Storm Damage at the Discovery Garden

(Photos: Bonnie Courter)



Pairing Newbies With Gardeners

By ADRIAN HIGGINS, WASHINGTON POST
(Shared by Debby Finley)

Some children garden at the knee of their parents or grandparents, and by the time they are young adults and ready to start their own plant adventures, a lot of the horticulture comes naturally.

But such lucky people are thinner on the ground than in previous generations, I suspect, even though there has never been a more urgent time to introduce younger folks to the power of the plant kingdom, given the issues of climate change.

As the naturalist and broadcaster Sir David Attenborough said at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, last week, “The connection between the natural world and the urban world ... since the Industrial Revolution has been remote and widening.” Attenborough has spent a 60-year career trying to narrow that gap in television programs that began as a form of entertainment and, in recent years, have become a cry for an ailing planet. “The Garden of Eden,” Attenborough says, “is no more.” He speaks with such affable authority that resistance is futile.

So we must invent and inhabit our own gardens of Eden, but where and how to begin if you are in your 20’s in an apartment or 30’s in your first home with a bit of land?

My general advice is to start small, learn from your successes and mistakes, and take the long view. Don’t think about creating a show garden; worry about whether the house plant you repotted is set high enough and the soil around it is firm. If you kill something, don’t despair; grow something else. Don’t get one houseplant; get five, or 10. It’s a jungle out there, but plants more than anything else want to live and grow.

Gardeners of my generation got advice and inspiration from the pages of magazines and books, and more actively from talks and workshops by seasoned and professional horticulturists and landscape designers. These are still valuable sources, or can be, but today people look to the digital realm for useful images and

video. And yet, gardening is essentially a physical and empirical exercise. Your knowledge and tastes develop one growing season at a time, and I’m sorry, but you won’t learn to garden by looking at a screen. I quickly add that it’s good to get psyched about gardening by listening to a podcast or reading, ahem, a weekly column.

There is a role for digital information in getting people started because they are comfortable in this world and because, to be blunt, they have so much to learn.

This was the thinking of Mason Day, 28, and Seth Reed, 34, who work for the Ball Horticultural Co., and who saw a need to develop an app — GrowIt — that pairs newbies with more experienced gardeners.



Among its features is the ability to dial in your location and find a suitable plant for a given growing environment. The app was launched in 2015 and has grown steadily, now with approximately 700,000 participants, Day said.

He bristled at my suggestion that people simply learn gardening by doing and said he works in an industry that assumes, mistakenly, that everyone has an innate knowledge of plants. Millennials, strapped for time and cash, need to be primed before they can take on something “that’s completely outside their wheelhouse.” In developing the app, they showed 15 volunteers, most under 35, two common annuals and a hydrangea. “No one had any idea what the plants were,” Day said. “None.” Point taken.

The power and ubiquity of the Internet are so great that the digital world is threaded into our sinews. It has connected us to others and to information like nothing that has come before. If you are reading this in Australia or Kenya or Pakistan, I salute you and the Web.

The connected world, however, comes at a cost.

I asked a landscape architect I’ve known for 30 years how his business has changed, and he recounted an

episode in which a demanding client had vetoed his proposed tree species for another after looking up the substitute online. Twenty minutes of surfing had trumped decades of expertise and practice. Information is confused with knowledge.

Apps such as Growlt may be of real value to beginners, but what vexes me is that it is not just urbanization that has weakened the link to the natural world. So, too, has digitization.

Market research company Nielsen reported last year that adults in the United States spent almost four hours a day on digital platforms and, if you include TV and radio, more than 11 hours per day with media.



Growlt App

When I walk down the street and see people glued to their smartphones, I think of a group of symbionts at their digital feeding ports. Alternatively, I think of a beehive, whose workers are driven by an intangible force to serve the colony.

One of the great values of gardening is the way it allows us to unplug from the noise and the buzz. And what better symbiosis than one in which we care for the green world and allow it to nurture us, body and soul? As Attenborough said, "It's not just a question of beauty or interest or wonder. The essential ingredient, essential part of human life is a healthy planet."

Start gardening with an app, if you wish, but move quickly into the garden in all its forms. There, we can work away from global warming and toward being indulgently unplugged.

Plant Clinic Chris Rusch

The Plant Clinic has been busy this month training volunteers from our 2019 Winter Training Class. It has been lots of fun. Everyone is so enthusiastic! The 2019 training team is Leo Grass, Barbara Horst, Ernie Amabisca, Jude Stensland, Karolyn Riecks, Bonnie Courter, and Chris Rusch.

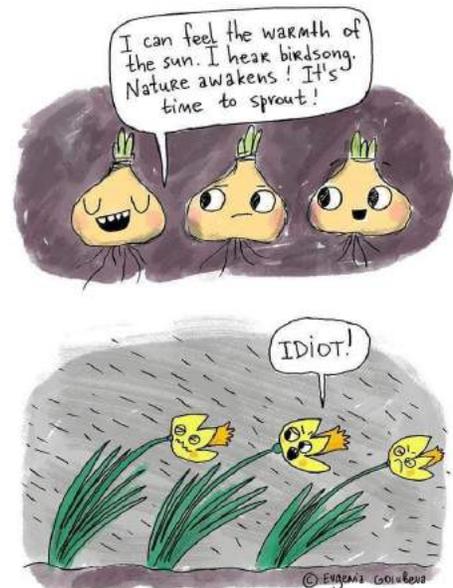
For the first time ever, we actually had to cancel the Plant Clinic for the last week of February due to the winter storm that affected so many in our County. Many of our trainers were stuck in snow or without power. We will be back in business on Monday, March 4.

The clinic will be open in March officially on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1-4. During the rest of the week we will be devoting our efforts towards the training of the new class. Beginning in March we will need veterans to help in the Plant Clinic both in training our new volunteers and keeping up with the work load of assisting our visitors to the Plant Clinic. Please try to volunteer your expertise at least once a month to help out in this important outreach program.

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 fruit tree management questions.

We had over 50 visitors to our Plant Clinic in February.

We are hoping to increase our visitor participation for 2019. Thank you to everyone that continues to be a part of our outreach objectives.



Shared by: B. Robinson

Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: The deadline for the April 2019 Newsletter is March 30. 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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Extension Service
Master Gardener

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you to attend an event, please notify the office at 541-672-4461 no later than 2 weeks prior to event date. This publication will be made available in an accessible alternative format upon request. Please contact Bonnie Courter, 541-672-3071, rbcourter@gmail.com.

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