



# DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS NEWSLETTER

Volume 30, Issue 6

June 2015

## June 2015 Calendar

Mon., June 1, 10:00-Noon

Insect Committee

Tues., June 2, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews & Sale

Victory Garden Crew

Discovery Garden work day

Wed., June 3, 10:00-Noon

Herb Garden Crew

Tues., June 9, 10:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews & Sale

Victory Garden Crew

Discovery Garden workday

Wed., June 10, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting

Mon., June 15, 10:00-Noon

Insect Committee

Tues., June 16, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews & Sale

Victory Garden Crew

Discovery Garden work day

Wed., June 17, 10:00-Noon

Advanced Diagnostics

Herb Garden Crew

Tues., June 23, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews & Sale

Victory Garden Crew

Discovery Garden work day

Thurs., June 25, 10:00

Chapter Meeting & potluck at

Bonnie Courter's, 15476 Dixonville

Rd., Roseburg

Tues., June 30, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews & Sale

Victory Garden Crew



## The President's Post

**Chris Rusch**

The Douglas County Master Gardeners have been really busy this month. DCMGs obviously know how to work hard and have fun! What a terrific Plant Sale we had this year! A great big THANK YOU is in order to everyone who helped out to make this our most successful Plant Sale ever!!!

I am so glad that summer is here! I am sure everyone is busy planting their vegetable and flower gardens. Our home gardens are almost all planted except for the corn. It sure is a lot of work but worth it every bit! I love to sit on the deck and take in the beauty of it.

There are lots of butterflies and birds about this time of year. I don't know about you but we have lots of robins and jays. Ever notice how our robins hunt for earthworms? They hop across the lawn, stop, cock their heads to one side, and listen intently for "earthwormy" sounds, trying to locate their prey. Silly us - when we cock our heads to listen, our eyes stare straight ahead. Robin's eyes aren't oriented like ours. When they cock their heads, they stare straight down. We humans assume that robins are listeners.



Wrong again. Experiments show that robins find their earthworm prey by sight, not sound.

And then there are the jays. There are four different jay species in our area: scrub jays, Steller's jays, gray jays and in eastern Oregon pinion jays. We have Steller's jays at our place. The Steller's jay is deep blue with a blackish head and jaunty crest. It likes the woodlands in our area, and the cat and dog food! It is the one who lets everyone know they are present with their greeting of raucous and derisive laughter!

Enjoy the season!

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'  
**SPRING GARDEN TOUR**



**SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2015, 10 to 5**  
TOUR SIX GARDENS WITH LIVE MUSIC AND WORKING ARTISTS.

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR \$12.00 AFTER MAY 15 at: My Coffee, Umpqua Local Goods, While Away Books, Hanson Jewelers, and Photo Progg in Roseburg; Munchies in Glide; and Sutherlin Water Garden & Nursery in Sutherlin.

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR \$15.00 ON DAY OF TOUR in Roseburg at the Chapman garden (2018 Del Rio Rd.) and Finney garden (1433 SE Kane).

Questions? Contact Penny Reed at 541-637-7091 or visit [www.lwvuv.wordpress.com](http://www.lwvuv.wordpress.com) for more details.

## Vice-President's Report

### Fred Alley



Angela Gordon (Photo: Kish Doyle)

As the chair of the Continuing Education Program, I wanted to first list the Continuing Education 2014-2015 Programs as a means to thank each of the presenters. The programs have been fantastic and interesting to our Master Gardeners and their guests. The programs have provided an opportunity for our members to learn about topics not normally included in the Master Gardener Program.

Secondly I wanted to provide the entire list to our members as a way to encourage them to think of other topics they would like to hear/learn about. I have already lined up a number of new topics for the 2015-2016 program year. These include presentations from Territorial Seed Company, fire-wise protection techniques, how to make your landscape more drought hardy, organic gardening and nutritional value of vegetable gardening.

Again, a special "Thank You" to the 2014-2015 Continuing Education Presenters:

- [Ask The Farm Expert](#) - **Mark Brosi**
- [Beaver Relocation Advocacy](#) - **Leonard Houston**
- [Landscaping for Backyard Birds](#) - **Cindy Bright-Pierre**
- [Preparing a Soil Sample & Use of pH Meter](#) - **Leo Grass**

- [Building a Germination Box](#) - **Bruce Gravens**
- [The Woolley Center's Program Incorporating Gardening](#) - **Lindley Hession-Ballen**
- [Beyond Drip Irrigation](#) - **Bob Brindley**
- [Learning to Select Right Plants for a Balanced Setting & Maximizing Your Landscape Design](#) - **Angela Gordon**

## Ideas for Reducing Water Use in Your Landscape

**Steve Renquist**

Early in the rainfall year of 2014-2015, it looked like we were heading toward a pretty decent total rainfall amount. Then the rains suddenly stopped in April and May. With a lack of snowfall in the mountains during the past winter we are not able to fall back on irrigation very well to offset the dry spring. This low snowfall pattern in the mountains during winter seems like it might be a trend going forward if the general global warming trend continues into the future. It seems like a good time to review some of the best gardening or management practices for reducing water use in our landscapes.

If you have attended any of my winter training sessions on water-wise gardening, you will recall the dramatic difference between monthly water use in Roseburg between winter (4 million gallons/day), and summer (10.5 million gallons/day). About 6 million gallons of treated water a day are going on our landscapes around Roseburg. If you included properties on wells, on rivers, and with their own ponds, you probably would add another 1-2 million gallons of water a day being used for irrigation. As our regional population continues to grow, water being used for irrigation will become a critical resource. If we don't want to see our area have water wars between cities and farmers, like

California, we need to all start practicing wise water use.

Let me review with you the seven most important steps that will help your landscape become more efficient. Steps 1 and 2 include planning and plant selection. The best way to have the greatest impact on irrigation water use in the landscape is to design or renovate the landscape using low water use plants, often natives. Natives of course tolerate the wet winters and dry summers of our Mediterranean climate. Just

think about the beautiful Xeriscape section in the Discovery Garden and you will realize drought-tolerant plants can be both tough and aesthetically pleasing.

During the planning stage for a renovation or a new

landscape think about putting the natives and drought-tolerant plants around the perimeter of your property, and keep the greenest area near the part of your yard where you produce food or where you relax. When planning, think about the drainage, topography and light around the property.

Step 3 focuses on soil improvements. We all know a fertile soil with high organic matter content will allow a plant to thrive under wet or dry conditions. This type of soil will also absorb water during winter and retain moisture longer

into summer. Adding organic matter each year through compost or cover crops is ideal.

Creating practical turf areas is step 4. Limiting the size of your higher input lawn is a good start. If you like that green turf near your home, keep it small. Allow some turf areas to dry out during summer, especially in years like 2015 where water supplies will be very short. Think about using drought hardy turf like Tall fescue instead of moisture loving perennial rye. Use ornamental grasses in some areas as a substitute.



Step 5 is to use efficient irrigation systems. Install soakers or drip and lessen sprinkler head use. When using in ground systems make sure you use them when needed. Don't just set them up to come on in the spring and turn off in

the fall. Set up your landscape to capture winter rainfall to recharge your ground water and soil by using rain gardens and swales. These features help reduce overall irrigation needs.

Mulching is step 6. Mulching of course is great to protect your soil from erosion during winter rainfall periods and it helps to prevent compaction from long periods of heavy rainfall. In the summer mulching keeps the soil cool and slows evaporation loss from soil and evapotranspiration from plants. Organic mulches keep a steady supply of organic

material going into the soil. Mulch can also control weeds that compete for water resources.

Step 7 is to maintain your landscape in a fashion that minimizes water use. In the midst of summer don't over fertilize. Vigorous plants use significantly more water and attract more pests. Monitor pest problems. Healthy plants are more drought tolerant.

By having a water use plan for your landscape you will not get caught off guard if irrigation supplies get cut off or reduced this summer. The worst thing that can happen to a landscape is to make it dependent on shallow daily or frequent irrigation. Then when water is cut off or drastically reduced the plants have no deep root system to survive extended dry spells.

## **Victory Garden/UCAN**

### **Ruth Stafford & Mik Carlson**

We are on the UCAN list with our opening donation of **3 pounds!** Yes we had peas and broccoli they happily weighed in for us and enthusiastically welcomed the Victory Garden back in business. Remember, if any Master Gardener wants to donate produce from their home garden, bring it on Tuesdays and we will make sure it gets to UCAN. If you take it to UCAN (by Costco) yourself, let them know you are a Master Gardener. They record that on a separate account - not the Victory Garden Master Gardener account.



### **Chris Rusch**

The Plant Clinic has been busy this month as we continue with training volunteers from our 2015 Winter Training Class. It has been lots of fun. Everyone is so enthusiastic! The 2015 training team is Leo Grass, Larry Sutton, Anne Bacon, Bonnie Courter, and Chris Rusch. As we get closer to summer, 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. We particularly need veterans for Fridays. Please try to volunteer your expertise at least once a month to help out in this important outreach program. Please consider signing up.

Questions for May were diverse, including problems with orchard maintenance and lawns. In addition, we have been helping clients with garden soil preparation and soil testing.

The statistics so far for 2015 are 450 visitors to the Plant Clinic.

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

If you are in town, stop by the clinic and say "Hi".

## Master Gardeners Donate Gifts that Give

**Shirley Purcell, FISH Volunteer**

Each year after our Plant and Garden Expo there are a few excess vegetable plants which do not sell or are too small at the time of the sale. The last several years, the Douglas County Master Gardeners have generously donated these plants to The Fish Pantry.

This year the first batch of 24 plants sent over to the pantry were gone within an hour. That same day Richard Johnstone brought in a box of his tomato plants. He arrived before the pantry opened to a large group of people waiting out front. They happily relieved Richard of his treasures. The following Friday, a second batch of Master Gardener plants were once again received by thankful pantry clients.

During the month of April, Fish offered food service to over 1,105 households serving a total of 4,310 people. Thank you, Master Gardeners, for sharing your gifts that keep on giving.

### Fred's Fav's

Homeschoolers enjoying our Children's Garden



## Drought Hits Douglas-Fir Trees Hard

**by Mary Stewart, OSU Extension  
(Source: Glenn Ahrens, OSU Extension)**

Editor's Note: This article also appeared in the May 30th issue of the News-Review, but included for those who don't subscribe to that paper.

Many Oregonians have noticed widespread damage in landscape and forest trees this spring – and weather may be the culprit. “Browning or dieback is often caused by weather-related stress, sometimes in combination with pests and diseases,” said Glenn Ahrens, a forester with Oregon State University's Extension Service. Douglas-fir trees are the most common victims, he said, but stress due to weather is affecting many tree species and a variety of problems are showing up.

On some Douglas-firs, branches and tops are turning red or brown. Sometimes the entire tree dies. Older trees typically have milder symptoms. “This sudden mortality or ‘flaring out’ of branches and tops is a classic symptom of drought in conifers,” Ahrens explained.

“Possible stressors include last year's long, dry summer ending with a hot period, followed by an early freeze in November and then a relatively warm winter”, he said.

Drought-related injuries to the stems and leader are not always apparent when they occur, but often show up the following spring as the weather warms up and trees begin to grow. That seems to have begun with the warm weather of February and March, with symptoms becoming obvious in April.

Similar drought damage has occurred periodically over the last 15 years, most recently in 2013, according to Ahrens.

Heat and drought can kill trees outright or put the trees under severe moisture stress.

Subsequent problems can happen when insects or diseases take advantage of a tree's weakened condition.

Douglas-fir trees are most commonly affected, but similar problems occur with other conifers, including grand fir, noble fir, western red cedar and western hemlock. Grand firs around the Willamette Valley are notorious for health problems due to drought followed by secondary problems such as bark beetles and fungi.



Photos: Glenn Ahrens

Ahrens said drought-stressed Douglas-fir trees are often troubled by stem canker, normally caused by weak pathogens that become active in trees under stress. The cankers can coalesce to girdle branches or stems, and also can become

sites of attack by bark beetles.

Insect pests that take advantage of drought-stressed trees include the Douglas-fir engraver and the pole beetle. Grand fir and noble fir are vulnerable to engraver beetles that attack true firs of all sizes.

Douglas-fir trees in some foothills around the Willamette Valley are afflicted with Swiss needle cast. The disease produces a pale overall appearance and sparse crown as individual needles turn yellow and drop.

“Swiss needle cast disease has been a problem in coastal Douglas-fir since the 1990s,” says Ahrens. “But last year we had increased reports of the disease in the Willamette Valley and we are seeing it again this year.”

“Weather is also a contributing factor and the disease is most severe in years with a

combination of a warm winter and abundant spring moisture”, Ahrens said. Indicators of Swiss needle cast are progressive yellowing and shedding (casting) of needles, beginning with the older needles. A healthy tree may carry four to five years' worth of needles, while heavily infected trees may carry only one or two years' worth. Although the disease is not generally fatal to the tree, it often has a significant impact on growth.



The Extension publication [Forest Health Fact Sheet: Swiss Needle Cast in Douglas-fir in Oregon](#) gives more information.

#### **Ahrens offers the following tips for keeping trees healthy**

- Prevent soil compaction caused by vehicle or animal traffic near trees. Compaction can damage roots, especially in clay soils.
- Avoid direct damage to trees and roots by animals or machinery.
- Reduce competing vegetation.
- Irrigate landscape trees during dry spells. Apply water slowly over many hours; avoid frequent shallow watering. Apply mulch to maintain soil moisture.
- Do not alter drainage near established trees (ditches, ponds, fill or removal of soil).
- Plant trees that are well suited for the site. Where Douglas-fir mortality is occurring, consider planting Willamette Valley Ponderosa pine or hardwoods.
- If insects or branch/stem cankers are evident, prune and destroy affected branches to reduce spread.
- Do not fertilize during drought conditions; fertilization can increase a tree's water requirements.

## In the Garden

### Julie Stanbery

Sunny and dry, that's the forecast for this summer **and** it perfectly describes the lovely Sun Garden on the south side of the pavilion.



We are looking for a new leader for the Sun Garden. This garden is well-behaved and plays well with others. Dave has applied a good layer of mulch that inhibits weeds and keeps the ground moist enough for the drought-tolerant, full sun plants. He waters about once a week from a separate system, not off the river water. Dave is willing to mentor, advise or help in any way during the transition.

So please consider volunteering to take on this little garden. You might have a garden friend to team up with or choose to become an individual garden leader. We await your call!

In general Garden news, we have a new bench at the south end of the Xeriscape Garden donated by Irene Thomason's family. Her daughters placed it so that visitors may sit and have a full view of the Discovery Garden, and particularly the

Xeriscape where Irene volunteered for many years.

New signage continues to pop up in the gardens and we have a lot more "garden art" that has added so much character to the site.

The chip pile is being used throughout the entire HLC and after Graffiti Weekend, we will resume accepting chips from the tree service. Irrigation is up and running. Our very flexible schedule is to water three days a week for the month of June. And as usual, every Tuesday is a work day, so, I'll see you in the garden!

# WANTED!

## LOOKING FOR

**Your black, gallon-size pots in good condition .**

**Please bring to the Greenhouses.**

## Save the Date!

**Bonnie Courter**

June begins our monthly chapter meetings at the homes of Master Gardener hosts. **Thursday, June 25**, you are all invited to come to my house in Dixonville at 10:00 for the always interesting chapter meeting followed by our famously delicious DCMG potluck.

Our 1.5 acres was the site of the historic South Deer Creek School, a one-room schoolhouse for



grades K-8 that ran from 1850's-1947, though the schoolhouse is long gone. Across the street is the Boggess family pioneer cemetery. Our border on Deer Creek has yielded up various Indian artifacts as well as rusty treasures such as a bedstead, parts of a school desk and an old pitchfork which I've added to my garden decor.



We moved here in 1986 and our gardens are constantly evolving. A new deer fence now surrounds my vegetable garden (at last!) and I've added a blueberry patch this year. My landscape style is relaxed and natural, reflecting the country setting. We are fortunate to have water rights to the creek for irrigating, and this year I also revised my drip system.

So bring a chair, sunhat, your favorite potluck dish and utensils, and come join the fun June 25 at 15476 Dixonville Road.

## Innovate! by Bob Brindley

### Butterfly Bush

I like butterfly bushes (Buddleia spp.) for their flowers and their ability to attract butterflies and other insect species. But then there is their noxious weed reputation since they spread so easily in Oregon, so I have not planted any for several



years. I keep an old one that gets up to 10 feet tall every year and has not spread, to my knowledge, but I wonder sometimes if it has spread somewhere beyond my yard. It is also too tall for my landscaping design, but I kept it because I like it and I saw no opportunity for an alternative.

So it was with a sense of nostalgia and envy, I read an article in the new issue of Fine Gardening (August, 2015!) about a test of over 50 species of butterfly bush at the Chicago Botanical Garden. Beautiful pictures and a boatload of information on their characteristics, but unfortunately not for us, I presumed. But then I found buried in the article a paragraph that stated that Oregon had approved the sale of certain cultivars that produce two percent or less viable seed! Eureka!

In addition, some of these cultivars are shorter and would fit perfectly in my landscape. I confirmed this on the Oregon government website, <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/NurseryChristmasTree/Pages/ButterflyBush.aspx>. Now my task, before next spring, is to look at their flowers and identify where the ones I prefer can be bought. Has anyone purchased any of these cultivars, and how are they doing? I am especially intrigued by one called "Flutterby Grande Blueberry Cobbler", which is described as 26 inches high and 62 inches wide! What does the pot look like and how do you get it home?

## Tomatoes

There is great deal of information that has appeared in the last few years on the genetics of the tomato. Many people fear that this will lead to strange genetic engineering of plants that will further ruin the tomato. But what if it improved the tomato? The following papers address some of these issues. By looking at the genome and the history of the domestication of the tomato, scientist have identified some of the important genetic material that has been lost by standard breeding techniques over the last few hundred years and has led to a less diverse tomato genome. Who knew that when a natural mutation occurred in the past that produced a tomato without green shoulders, it would lead to a poorer tasting tomato? Who knew that the tomato has over two hundred genomic sequences that probably (not scientifically tested yet), affect taste? In addition, they also now have more genetic information on wild tomatoes, that in combination with domestic tomatoes, could yield more genetic diversity.

The first article is the definitive study on the tomato genome done in 2012. Of course, there was research done before that, but this is the first complete picture. This is a scientific paper, so it is full of words, numbers and concepts that are confusing. But it is a good example of how a scientific paper is required to look. Hint: just skim it for some parts that you understand. Many scientists are very isolated in their own niche and jargon, but skim papers outside their specialty to see if there is any relative information that they might be able to use. If it turns out to be very relevant, only then will they struggle to understand it completely. <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v485/n7400/full/nature11119.html>

This is a summary of a new 2014 study, which addresses the issues of how the modern tomato came about. <http://blogs.ucdavis.edu/egghead/2014/10/14/new-sequencing-reveals-genetic-history-of-tomatoes/>

This is an easy to read article about red and green shoulder tomatoes.

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2012/06/28/155917345/how-the-taste-of-tomatoes-went-bad-and-kept-on-going>

Summary of research on tomato mineral needs.

[http://www.globalsciencebooks.info/JournalsSup/images/SF/EJPSB\\_1\(1\)1-21.pdf](http://www.globalsciencebooks.info/JournalsSup/images/SF/EJPSB_1(1)1-21.pdf)

Tomatoes--where do we go from here?

<http://genomebiology.com/2012/13/8/167>

Thanks for listening.

## Treasurer's Report as of 5/28/15 Vicki McAlister

### INCOME 4/23/15-5/28/15

Interest	\$0.55
Dues - Membership	\$40.00
Soil Testing	\$105.00
Plant Sale - Pre/Post/Event	\$24,169.87
Plant Sale - Entrance Fees	\$3,032.05
Plant Sale - Raffle	\$982.00
Plant Sale - Vendor Booth	\$425.00
Compost Tea	\$247.00
Trash to Treasure	\$22.00
Black Apparel	\$30.00
Snapper T-Shirts	<u>-\$696.00</u>

**TOTAL INCOME** **\$28,357.47**

### EXPENSES 4/23/15-5/28/15

Hospitality/Newsletter Postage	\$89.39
Soil Testing	\$149.43
DG - Various	\$200.68
HLC - Various	\$406.15
Plant Sale - Various	\$2,382.07
Compost Tea	<u>\$130.00</u>

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$3,357.72**

### Breakdown of our accounts

Checking	\$4,107.37
Money Market - Reserves	\$8,659.10
Money Market	\$50,104.64

**Ending Balance 5/28/15** **\$62,871.11**

**OSU DOUGLAS COUNTY  
MASTER GARDENERS  
Chapter Meeting  
May 28, 2015**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. by President, Chris Rusch. There were 36 in attendance.

**Minutes:** The minutes were approved as distributed.

**Agent's Report - Steve Renquist:** Not in attendance

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**Membership - Denise Fennell:** Not in attendance

**OMGA - Rosemary Brinkley:** Not in attendance

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

**Vice President - Fred Alley:** Fred thanked Angela Gordon for a great continuing education presentation. Continuing education will resume again in October. Our next meeting will be on June 25 at Bonnie & Rick Courter's home. Members should bring their favorite potluck item, their own drink, place setting and chair. More information will be forthcoming via email from Fred.

**Past President - Larry Sutton:** Not in attendance

**Secretary - Barbara Robinson:** Nothing to report

**President – Chris Rusch:** A thank you letter was received from UCAN for our food drive participation at the Plant and Garden Expo. We collected 434 pounds which was an increase of 34% from last year.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Plant Clinic – Chris:** We need veterans to sign up for summer slots with the clinic open 5 days a week through the summer. Trainees are working on fulfilling their 36 hour requirement for Plant clinic. There have been over 450 customers who have utilized the clinic since the beginning of the year.

**Community Outreach - Leo Grass:** Ivor and Leo braved the poor soil at Cobb Street School to plant blueberries. Hopefully they will grow. Leo shared letters from Winchester Elementary 1<sup>st</sup> graders thanking MG's for their garden tour.



**Plant Sale - Barbara Robinson:** Barbara thanked the membership for their hard work in producing yet another very successful Plant and Garden Expo. Percentages of inventory sold were outstanding, and the decision to provide more veggies was a great move as indicated by the 98% sold figure. Sales for both Westside and Eastside greenhouses were great. Pre and post-sale inventories compiled will help greenhouse crews with planning for the upcoming year.

The Plant Sale Committee heads met shortly after the sale to critique the event. Committee heads were charged with collecting input from their workers as far as what worked, what didn't work, and suggestions for improvement. We will be implementing several of these suggestions. Thank you to everyone for their input.

Barbara explained our profit from the sale is approximately 50% of the gross when you figure in all the costs leading up to and including the event.

**Bob Brindley/Vendors:** Bob expressed his appreciation for a job well done at this year's sale, saying every year it gets better. He thanked everyone who helped set up the vendor area, particularly Vicki McAlister and Jen Bailey, and to the many who volunteered on Friday. Everyone chipped in to map out the floor, set up curtains, signs, tables, etc. and all went very smoothly. He also thanked the many who helped vendors move in and out of the building.

A temporary committee is being formed to work on an overall marketing plan for promotion next year. Four people are already in place with two more needed. Specifically needed are those with experience in marketing and promotion to both companies and the public. The committee's first meeting will be a brainstorming session, resulting with a list of ideas to pursue. There will be a few meetings to follow with final proposals submitted to the Plant Sale Committee for final decisions and any necessary budget proposals. Please contact Bob if you are interested in being on this committee.

**Westside Greenhouse: Barbara Robinson** – Barbara shared statistics from sales at the Plant Sale. Both the Westside and Eastside had excellent sales. Work continues at greenhouses every Tuesday. It was noted black, gallon size pots are needed (only the type we use). The membership was asked to return any they have to the greenhouses. At fifty cents a pot this will definitely be a cost saving measure.

**Betty Ison: Awards** - State awards have been sent in. Betty reminded members to turn their hours in. Mentors should check with their trainees as a reminder and to see if they have questions on how to record hours.

**Discovery Garden: Julie Stanbery** – Doors and gates are being left open. Please make a conscious effort to close gates at end of work day and make sure bathrooms are locked up.

Irrigation has started and sprinklers and hoses are set up and running. They will try to let garden heads know ahead of watering times so they can come and check to see if their area is getting proper coverage. More soaker hoses are being used in gardens which seem to be working well. Denise Fennell will be tracking and filling the water reservoir tanks.

Irene Thomason's memorial service is this Saturday at the Discovery Garden. Her family is donating a bench which will be placed in the Xeriscape Garden. Geoff Puryear has done a wonderful job with plantings and landscaping surrounding the bench. Julie extended her appreciation to everyone for the extra effort in preparing for the service.

Wood chips are being spread throughout the gardens and surrounding areas. Julie thanked Gale Robinson for the many hours he has spent accomplishing this task. The chip pile is being disbursed to ready the area for Graffiti Weekend in July. Tree trimmers will not be allowed to deliver more chips until after that time.

The Sun Garden (on the back side of the Pavilion) is looking for a new garden head. This is a well-established garden with a small footprint and low maintenance. Please contact Julie if you are interested.

**Victory Garden – Mik Carlson:** Mik was excited to report the Victory Garden has a new and improved irrigation system! Thanks went out to Vicki McAlister for leading the charge on getting it in place and also to the wonderful crew who did the work. This year's goal for the garden is to produce 2 tons of produce for donation to UCAN. Home garden produce can be delivered to the VG on Tuesdays any way you want to bring it. Contact Mik Carlson or Ruth Stafford for information or if you have questions.

**Publicity/Newsletter - Bonnie Courter:**

Bonnie asked for members to submit any informative articles they might read for inclusion into the newsletter. Newsletter articles are due the Saturday following chapter meetings.

**Julie Stanbery: Nominating Committee –**

Julie, Valerie Call, and Anne Bacon are on the committee. Since the majority of officers have agreed to stay in office, the committee’s job has been relatively easy. Those nominated by the committee are **Patrice Sipos** as Treasurer, **Anne Bacon** as OMGA Representative and **Nancy Fuller** as OMGA Alternate Representative. Additional nominations will be taken from the floor at our July chapter meeting and a vote taken at that time. Officers will be installed in August.

**Judy Huntley: Awards Banquet –**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> for our annual Awards Banquet at the First United Methodist Church on Harvard. More details will follow at a later date. A question was asked about a possible conflict with Farmers’ Market occurring on the same day. Judy said when she scheduled the date with the church the entire month was open, but she will check to make sure.

**Show and Tell:**

While working in the Japanese Garden, Fred Alley was approached by a visiting Japanese gentlemen who was quite impressed with the garden and surprised it was maintained by volunteers. The visitor said he was looking to possibly purchase the RV Park across the street and indicated this would be one more positive reason to purchase.

Bob Brindley announced the Duchess Sanctuary in Oakland is having an open house this Saturday. They provide a great service and home to over 150 rescue horses.

Judy Mercer: Judy extended her heartfelt thanks to her Master Gardener family for all the support she has received by way of cards, calls, food, and garden help since the passing of her husband, Charlie.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am by President, Chris Rusch.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Robinson, DCMG Secretary

FRED ALLEY’S



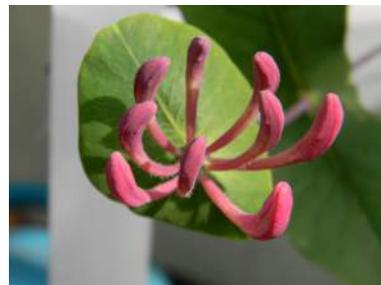
CLOSE-UP’S



FROM THE



DISCOVERY  
GARDEN



# Douglas County Master Gardeners

**Newsletter:** The deadline for the July 2015 Newsletter is June 27th. 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](http://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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