



DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS NEWSLETTER

Volume 33, Issue 3

March 2018

Mar. 2018 Calendar

Thurs., Mar. 1, 9:00-Noon
Eastside Greenhouse Crew
Mon., Mar. 5, 9:00-Noon
Westside Greenhouse Crew
Mon., Mar. 5, 10:00-Noon
Insect Committee
Mon., Mar. 5, 1:00-4:00
Rose Pruning Wkshp, DG
Tues., Mar. 6, 8:30-4:00
Winter Training Class
Thurs., Mar. 8, 9:00-Noon
Eastside Greenhouse Crew
Thurs., Mar. 8, 1:00-4:00
Pruning Wkshp., Ornamentals, DG
Friday, Mar. 9, 9:00-4:00
Trash to Treasure setup, Annex
Sat., Mar. 10, 9:00-4:00
Trash to Treasure Sale, Annex
Mon., Mar. 12, 9:00-Noon
Westside Greenhouse Crew
Tues., Mar. 13, 10:00-3:00
Last Day WTC, Graduation!!!
Wed., Mar. 14, 10:00
Executive Board Meeting, Annex
Thurs., Mar. 15, 9-Noon
Eastside Greenhouse Crew
Mon., Mar. 19, 10:00-Noon
Insect Committee
Tues., Mar. 20, 9:00-Noon
West/East Greenhouse Crews
Discovery Garden Workday
Tues., Mar. 27, 9:00-Noon
Japanese Garden Pruning, DG
East/West Greenhouse Crews
Thurs., Mar. 29, 9:00-10:00
Continuing Education, Annex
Thurs., Mar. 29, 10:00
Chapter Meeting, Annex



The President's Post

Chris Rusch

Greetings Everyone,

Everyone was surprised to wake up to a "Snow Day" for our February chapter meeting. We hope everyone received the email early enough from Steve that the Extension was closed due to the weather and road conditions. I still have 5 inches of snow out my back door!

Our "Spring into Gardening" Seminar on February 24th was a great success. There were so many interesting workshops for both gardening and food preservation; we even had wine and beer crafting featured this year! The new Health and Science building at UCC was a fantastic place for this event. So many volunteers helped with the set-up, operations and take down. Thanks so much to Steve Renquist, the OSU Extension staff, Maureen Benice, and all the hard-working volunteers that helped make this another successful "Spring into Gardening"!

Preparations are being made for the March 10 "Trash to Treasure" fundraiser. Ann Severson is heading up this event with the help of many volunteers. We will once again be at the Extension Auditorium. Please mark it on your calendar and share with friends. Be sure to contact Ann if you have treasures to donate or want to help!

Our new 2018 Sustainable Gardening Winter Training Class will graduate March 13th. They are now learning about all the programs and projects DCMG's are involved in. Thanks so much to Denise Fennell 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. Veterans, please mark your calendars and come and join us in congratulating our new class on March 13.

Some of our committee chairs are looking for replacements. Our organization is looking for someone to take on the **Plant Sale Chair** position held by Barbara Robinson; the **DCMG information booth at Umpqua Valley Farmer's Market** held by Barbara Anderson; and the **Winter Training Program coordinator** held by Denise Fennell. If you are interested in any of these positions, please let me know. We appreciate the hard work all of these individuals have done in their positions over many years.

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>

Vice-President's Report

Anne Bacon

In my opinion, although it was inconvenient, that snow was glorious! I was able to get in touch with Phil the Bee Guy before he had left his home in Camas Valley to come to our meeting so he avoided an unnecessary trip. Our presentation on bees has been rescheduled for May so the line-up for the first half of the year is complete. Here are the upcoming CEU classes you can look forward to attending:



Photo: Anne Bacon

March - Steve Reustle from Reustle-Prayer Rock Vineyards will be sharing what goes into the planning of a vineyard.

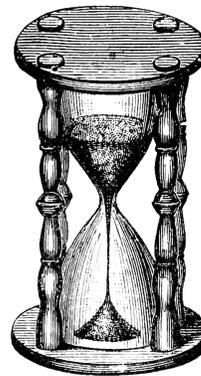
April - Roseburg herbalist Gabby Allen will share her knowledge of medicinal herbs.

May - Phil the Bee Guy from Oregon State Beekeepers Association will be talking about bees. Hopefully the weather will be conducive to having a live bee box for the presentation.

Beginning in June our Chapter Meetings will be potluck lunches held at the homes of DCMG members. And that reminds me— how would you like to **host a meeting in your garden?** June 28th, July 26th, and August 30th are available for your picking.

Anyone is eligible to host our meetings. It's easy. We bring the tables and members bring the potluck food and chairs. We just need a place to plug in an extension cord for the sound system. Other things to consider are parking and a shady spot if it's hot. If parking is tight, we can carpool. If shade is scarce, we can bring a shade tent. We even clean up! You'll get the benefit of all those Master Gardeners in your garden. The only thing we don't do is pull weeds. But even that might happen, you never know.

Call me to get your garden on the list. Anne Bacon (541) 670-8365.



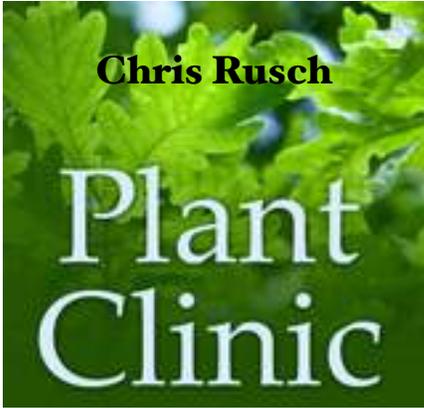
T2T Countdown!!!

Trash to Treasure Sale

March 10

Extension Auditorium

9:00-4:00



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 2018 starting on Monday, February 5th. 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 months of February and now in March the Plant Clinic calendar is devoted to training. Veterans can begin signing up to volunteer at the clinic again in April, after all the students have completed their initial training. Mentors and new students need to sign up for their training now.

The Plant Clinic statistics for February showed a total of 42 visitors. Fewer than we had last year, but still an incredible effort by all of our volunteers. Thank you to everyone that continues to be a part of our outreach objectives.

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. 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 to our new students.

Treasurer's Report Patrice Sipos

INCOME 01/25/2018 - 02/21/2018	
Membership Dues	\$660.00
Newsletter	\$17.50
Soil Testing	\$200.00
Pre-Plant Sale	<u>\$6.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$883.50

EXPENSES 01/25/2018 - 02/21/2018	
Hospitality	\$123.16
Discovery Garden	\$486.60
HLC Expense	\$460.63
Plant Sale	\$1,856.58
Soil Testing	\$110.61
Propane	\$1,214.52
Overhead (Capital Expenses)	\$1,430.00
Winter Program	<u>\$500.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$6,182.10

Breakdown of our accounts at 02/21/2018	
NWCC - Checking	\$2,104.25
NWCC - Member Account	\$100.07
NWCC - Savings	\$31,060.80
Ending Balance 02/21/2018	\$33,265.12





Your Chapter Needs YOU! Barbara Robinson

There are only two months left until our **Plant and Garden Expo** on **May 5th!** Mother's Day follows in short order and what better venue to gear up for the occasion than our annual extravaganza? Between the offerings of our Master Gardener inventory and those of other participating vendors, there will be no shortage of appropriate gifts for your mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, aunt, and don't forget yourself (my favorite recipient)!

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

Of course, we can always use more covered/enclosed trucks, and trailers for transporting plants to and from the fairgrounds. (Sign up for Transportation.) The more rigs we have, the fewer trips each will need to make.

It is a requirement for them to be covered and/or enclosed to prevent damage to our tender merchandise while in transport. **We will not be using mini-vans or SUV's this year to haul our inventory.** We have found too many rigs amount to more waiting time and the smaller rigs do not hold enough to make it worth the labor, time and gas.

We also desperately need people to show up at the greenhouses immediately following the sale on Saturday to unload leftover inventory. **Please** consider signing up for this activity. (Loading/Unloading at Greenhouse – PM slot). By the end of the sale we are all tired so the more people who stay to help or come back to help, the earlier we can all go home and kick back.

Don't forget to sign up for Saturday potluck. Please indicate your intent to bring an item for breakfast or lunch. Any Master Gardener bringing a dish to share AND wearing their name tag is welcome to join us in the dining room. **We are not providing potluck on Friday**, so be sure you eat breakfast before leaving home. Drinks (coffee, tea, hot chocolate, water) will be provided. Friday, the 4th, is an intense day of setting up so we need you out on the floor helping, versus sitting in the dining area for long periods of time. The more

people helping, the earlier we can all go home and rest up for the big day.

Clipboards with committee signups will continue to be available this month during MG classes and in the Plant Clinic. They will also be available at our March 28th chapter meeting.

If neither of these options work for

you, please email barbararob@gmail.com, or call Barbara at 541-677-8226 with your information. Thank YOU!



Scenes from Spring Into Gardening

Photos by Kish Doyle

Registration "Queen" - Maureen



Steve waxing eloquent



Nancy, Barbie & Tracey - "Goodies Gals"



Glorious Goodies!



Tool Man - Fred Alley



Canning Guru - Denise





Jocular Jonquils: Harbingers of Spring

Bonnie Courter

Scattered over Les Karcher's Dixonville property, daffodils nod their brilliant yellow and white heads. Les attributes the mass of blooms to his grandmother who had a special love of these lovely spring blossoms, tucking them in along the drive and everywhere she could. Les has lived on his grandparent's property all his life. The Karcher family built the now weathered farmhouse in 1910 and his father was born in this

house. It's been in the family for 124 years. He estimates there must be almost 30 different varieties of narcissus, blooming at different times and showing off their uniqueness.

Daffodils, jonquils, and narcissus are all of the genus *Narcissus*. "Daffodil" is often used as the common name for plants in that genus, especially the trumpet-shaped flowering forms. "Jonquil" refers to a particular division

of narcissus. There are over 25 species of narcissus and about 13,000 cultivars. Daffodils are easy to grow, long-lasting and since the bulbs are poisonous, they are rabbit-free. They multiply over time, return every year and are long-lived. They come in various shapes, sizes and colors: yellow, white and even bi-colored with orange or pink.



Old milk barn



*1910 Karcher
farmhouse*

Host a Summer Meeting This Year!

It's a fun way to share your garden with other MG's and make new friends.

Contact Anne Bacon

541-670-8365



Pruning Pics Photos: Maureen Benice



On the trail with **Tal** as he discusses bio swales on his tree walk.

Greenhouse Crews Hard at Work

Photos: Barbara Robinson



Tasha and Jackie consult together



"So what does this little light mean, anyway?"



Tending our treasures under cold, cloudy skies.

March Calendar

OSU Extension

Planning

- Plan your vegetable garden carefully for spring, summer, and fall vegetables that can be eaten fresh or preserved. If you lack in-ground gardening space, plan an outdoor container garden.
- Use a soil thermometer to help you know when to plant vegetables. Some cool season crops (onions, kale, lettuce, spinach) can be planted when the soil is consistently at or above 40 degrees

Maintenance and Clean Up

- Lawn mowing: Set blade at 0.75 to 1 inch for bentgrass lawns; 1.5 to 2.5 inches for bluegrasses, fine fescues and ryegrasses.
- Compost grass clippings and yard waste, except for clippings from lawns where weed-and-feed products or herbicides (weed killers) have been used.
- Spread compost over garden and landscape areas.
- If needed, fertilize rhododendrons, camellias, azaleas with acid-type fertilizer. If established and healthy, their nutrient needs should be minimal.
- Prune spring- flowering shrubs after blossoms fade.
- Fertilize caneberrries using band fertilizer, broadcast fertilizer or a complete fertilizer or manure.

Planting/Propagation

- Divide hosta, daylilies and mums.
- Plant insectary plants (e.g. Alyssum, Phacelia, coriander, candytuft, sunflower, yarrow, and dill) to attract beneficial insects to the garden.
- If soil is dry enough, prepare vegetable garden and plant early cool-season crops (carrots, beets, broccoli, leeks, parsley, chives, rhubarb, peas and radishes). Plant onions outdoors as soon as the soil is dry enough to work.
- Berry crops (strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, blackberries, currants, gooseberries and other berry-producing crop plants).

Pest Monitoring and Management

- Monitor landscape plants for problems. Don't treat unless a problem is identified.
- Spray trees and shrubs for webworms and leafrollers, if present.
- Protect new plant growth from slugs. Least toxic management options include barriers and traps. Baits are also available for slug control; use with caution around pets. Read and follow all label directions prior to using baits or any other chemical control.
- Learn to identify the predatory insects that can help to keep aphids and other pests under control.
- Spray to control leaf and twig fungus diseases in dogwood, sycamore, hawthorn and willow trees.
- Prune ornamentals for air circulation and to help prevent fungus diseases.
- Monitor for European crane fly and treat lawns if damage has been verified.
- Start rose blackspot control tactics at budbreak. Control rose diseases such as black spot. Remove infected leaves. Spray as necessary with registered fungicide.

Houseplants and Indoor Gardening

- Trim or shear heather when bloom period is finished.
- Start tuberous begonias indoors.
- Take geraniums, begonias and fuchsias from storage. Water and fertilize. Cut back if necessary. Move outdoors next month.

Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: The deadline for the April 2018 Newsletter is March 31st. 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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all programs.) If you have a physical disability that requires special considerations in order for 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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