



Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter



Jan. 2020 Calendar

Thurs., Jan. 2, 9:00-Noon

Eastside Greenhouse Crew

Mon., Jan. 6

Westside Greenhouse Crews (9:00)

Insect Committee (10:00)

Tues., Jan. 7, 8:30-4:00

Winter Training Class & Potluck

Wed., Jan. 8, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting

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

Eastside Greenhouse Crew

Mon., Jan. 13, 9:00-Noon

Westside Greenhouse Crews

Tues., Jan. 14, 8:30-4:00

Winter Training Class

Wed., Jan. 15

Deadline to turn in 2019 hours to Vicki

Thurs., Jan. 16, 9:00-Noon

Eastside Greenhouse Crew

Sat., Jan. 18, 10:00-1:00

Discovery Garden Workday

Mon., Jan. 20

Westside Greenhouse Crews (9:00)

Insect Committee (10:00)

Tues., Jan. 21, 8:30-4:00

Winter Training Class

Thurs., Jan. 23

Eastside GH Crew (9:00-Noon)

Pruning Fruit Trees (1:00-4:00) at

Discovery Garden

Mon., Jan. 27 9:00-Noon

Westside Greenhouse Crews

Tues., Jan. 28, 8:30-4:00

Winter Training Class

Thurs., Jan. 30, 9:00-Noon

Continuing Education (9:00)

Chapter Meeting (10:00)

Eastside Greenhouse Crew (9-12)

Agent's Welcome

Steve Renquist

Welcome to the 2020 class of Master Gardeners™. Every year in January Oregon State University and the Douglas County Master Gardener Association have an opportunity to welcome a new group of gardeners from around Douglas County into our program. Our program has three major components, classroom education, hands-on education and outreach to the community.

The classroom education comes when you enter the Winter Training Class. Experienced instructors will share their gardening knowledge with you for eleven weeks. Then when you begin your volunteer time in the plant clinic you will be able to work alongside veteran Master Gardeners solving problems for others in Douglas County. This time in the clinic will be where you really reinforce all that you learn in the classroom.

The hands-on education segment of our program begins during the winter training classes. Many of our lectures are supported by demonstration and lab work.

You will also be asked to take several pruning classes during January, February and March. If you look at the class schedule you will notice we have two sessions planned for the greenhouses at our Horticultural Learning Center (HLC). These classes will teach you how to do vegetative propagation and seeding. On the day you learn at the greenhouse you will be introduced to our Discovery Garden. The Discovery Garden is a teaching and demonstration garden for the public located at the HLC. You will be impressed with all the interesting theme gardens you can learn from and help develop. You will also have pruning classes at the Discovery Garden for fruit trees, shade and ornamental trees, and shrubs. These classes will be scheduled outside of our regular Tuesday schedule. We encourage the class of 2020 to join a hands-on volunteer project too at the Discovery Garden, greenhouses, or in the Victory Garden. The Victory Garden is a project at the HLC which produces vegetables for donation to UCAN.



The final component of our program is what we call our outreach to the community. This portion of the program consists of taking our sustainable gardening message to other groups in Douglas County. We give presentations and demonstrations wherever we can. Maybe you know a few groups we could reach. We also have a Master Gardener booth at the County Fair, Earth Day and other gatherings around the county that you will be recruited to join. This is a great way to tell our story to others and recruit new trainees.

I am really looking forward to our year ahead together. We have thirty two people signed up to join us. When you come into our classroom you will be assigned a table and a mentor. Make sure that you ask your mentor to introduce you to all that our program has to offer, including "Spring into Gardening" a day-long seminar, organizational committees, and mini-college a statewide gathering of Master Gardeners..

We challenge you to study hard, and to have fun learning. You will be representing Oregon State University when you volunteer as a Master Gardener™ so we ask you to accept our gardening ideas and philosophy of sustainability when you reach out to the public. You will soon see that the energy and enthusiasm of our veteran Master Gardeners is infectious and we look forward to you joining our organization.

DCMG President

Nancy Fuller



Happy New Year to all! I am very pleased to welcome the Master Gardener Class of 2020 to our group. I look forward to meeting and getting to know each of you in this coming year.

This particular edition of our Newsletter will introduce you to our Executive Board members and Committee Chairs. You'll also find information about our many projects.

As President, my responsibilities include presiding over the organization in general and setting the agenda for and chairing the Executive Board and general chapter meetings. I select or confirm committee chairs and coordinators, recruit members to serve on the Audit and Nominating committees, and initiate setting up the budget for the next fiscal year. I assist in the annual review of our bylaws and policy and procedure manuals. Each month I write an article for the Newsletter.

Our monthly meetings give us the opportunity for discussion and direction for our chapter. I invite and encourage all the new 2020 Master Gardener class members to attend these meetings and share their ideas.

I have been a Master Gardener since 2015. I work in the Rock Garden section of our Discovery Garden most of the time. I've participated in our annual Plant Sale, Trash to Treasure Sale, Bake Sale, and Spring into Gardening program. I have been our chapter's representative to the Oregon Master Gardener Association (OMGA). I've learned much about gardening from terrific folks who are part of our organization. I encourage you new members to think about what interests you, what you'd like to learn, or what just sounds like fun and then join one or more of our groups and see what you can accomplish over the next year.

Again, welcome and thanks for wanting to join our terrific organization. If you have questions, you can reach me at: nmfuller2000@gmail.com or 630-862-1436.

Fred's Fav's



Vice-President

Diana Woodward



Welcome, new students, to our Master Gardener program! I was a new student in the 2018 class, then was elected Vice-President for the 2019-2020 year.

The Vice-President's duties include a number of responsibilities. These include assisting the

President in conducting meetings, acting as Program Chairperson, serving as parliamentarian for the chapter and presiding at chapter meetings in the absence of the President.

But my most interesting responsibility is to provide the Continuing Education Program at 9:00 before each monthly Chapter meeting. We have our Executive Board meetings on the second Wednesday of each month and Chapter meetings on the last Thursday of each month beginning at 10:00. We encourage all new students to try to come to as many of these important meetings as they can in order to be informed about our activities and fundraisers that can be applied to payback hours. For example, you can gain well over 8 hours of payback time participating in the once-a-year Master Gardener Plant Sale we have on the first Saturday in May. You may have attended this in the past? I have for years, but being there all day helping people pick out their plants, helping with questions is so very fun. It is at the monthly Chapter meetings that you will learn about all these volunteer opportunities - there is something for everyone in our organization!

Before each Chapter Meeting at 9:00 we invite a guest speaker for an hour of education. You may receive education credits for attending and will have the benefit of being exposed to gardening subjects that may not otherwise be covered in our program. We have had classes on wild mushrooms, the use and care of garden tools, attracting pollinators to your garden, how to make your own biochar, how to improve your soil and many more topics. Most of these education hours are taught by our own Master Gardener veterans. Attending these

continuing education classes will expose you to other members of the program as well.

In the months of June, July and August we hold our monthly Chapter meeting outside at one of our member's homes. These are my favorite meetings. Imagine being able to visit some of our mentors or fellow Master Gardener's yards? What a treat! I used to be a Real Estate agent and Thursday "agent tour" was my favorite day of the week. We sometimes "visited" 25 homes in an afternoon, and most of my visit was spent in their yards!

The volunteer hours you work your first year, whether at the Discovery Garden or at the Plant Clinic - that time at the side of your mentor and other veterans of the program - will be a wealth of knowledge for you. I strongly encourage you to participate in as many of our different programs as you can, to learn from our veterans who love the extra help and enjoy helping you.

Membership

Kay Livermore



Becoming a Master Gardener in 2016 is one of the best things I have ever done. I only wish I had done it 20 years ago. I have learned so much and have met some of the most wonderful people in the world! I enjoy volunteering in the Plant Clinic, Discovery Garden, Plant Sale, Bake Sale and mentoring new trainees in the Master Gardener program. I am looking forward to meeting the class of 2020.

As Membership Director, I collect annual dues and keep an updated roster of DCMG members contact information: phone numbers, mailing and e-mail addresses. If you have any changes, please contact me at: e-mail: kay.livmr@gmail.com; phone: 541-496-4111 text: 541-430-2887

My hobbies include gardening, sewing, knitting, crocheting and genealogy. In my "spare time," I volunteer in the Genealogical Society of Douglas County library and with the Glide Booster Club.



Treasurer

Toni Rudolph

The Treasurer's job is to maintain the financial records of the chapter. This includes assisting in the development of the chapter's budget, tracking income and expenditures, paying bills and depositing money, providing

financial information to members at monthly board and general meetings and in the Newsletter, and providing a year-end report of the chapter's finances to the state OMGA Treasurer to be used in our federal income tax filing. Any financial questions you may have should be directed to the Treasurer at: Gardeners.DC@gmail.com or 541-530-2397.

Treasurer's Report

11/22/19 - 12/12/19

INCOME

Interest	\$7.21
Soil Testing	\$50.00
Bake Sale	<u>\$1,989.89</u>

TOTAL INCOME **\$2,047.10**

EXPENSES

OMGA Travel	\$398.51
Newsletter Printing & Postage	\$22.46
Discovery Garden	\$268.12
HLC - ESG Grant	\$369.66
HLC - Other	\$204.46
Plant Sale	\$874.70
Propane	\$379.33
Utilities - Electricity	\$348.66

Expense Approved, Not Budgeted:

HLC - Pressure Valve Replace	<u>\$1,293.90</u>
------------------------------	-------------------

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$4,159.80**

Breakdown of our accounts as of 12/12/19

NWCC - Checking	\$5,368.74
NWCC - Reserves	\$5,003.85
NWCC - Savings	<u>\$27,327.06</u>

Ending Balance **\$37,699.65**

Secretary

Bonnie Courter

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



OMGA

Barbie Hamby & Kish Doyle



Barbie

As Douglas County's Oregon Master Gardener Association (OMGA) representative and alternate representative, we meet quarterly with other representatives from Master Gardener Chapters across the state and the OMGA Executive Board. We help to develop goals and objectives and make decisions that will set OMGA policies. We share what Douglas County

Master Gardeners are doing with the rest of the state and learn about projects other chapters are participating in at their local area. As representatives, we also provide information to our local chapter about OMGA news and events.

OMGA and its county chapters were created in 1983 to support and supplement OSU's Master Gardener Program. OMGA is tax-exempt and serves to unify and support chapter programs and horticultural



Kish

education. When one completes the Master Gardener Program, membership in OMGA is automatic the first year. After that, membership requires annual dues.

Services provided by OMGA include:

- Educational outreach via Mini-College. This year it's scheduled for July 24-25, 2020, at OSU's Alumni Center in Corvallis. The theme will be "Grow-Provide-Sustain."
- The quarterly-published newsletter "The Gardener's Pen."
- The PNW Handbooks, given annually to be used in the Plant Clinic.
- Scholarships to an OSU horticultural student and to help send attendees to Mini-College.
- Grants to assist chapters fund special programs.
- Search for Excellence Award, which recognizes outstanding projects by chapters that can be adapted by other chapters. Douglas County won this prestigious award in 2012.
- Select and honor the Oregon Master Gardener of the Year. Douglas County's recipients of this award include Betty Ison, Julie Stanbery, Jack Wright and Larry Sutton.
- Select and honor "Behind the Scenes" Master Gardener of the Year. Douglas County Master Gardeners who've received this award include Richard Johnstone, Leo Grass and Tasha King.

Publicity/Facebook

Barbara Horst



Welcome to the new Master Gardeners Class of 2020! My responsibility as the Publicity Chair for the Douglas County Master Gardeners is to inform our local communities about upcoming events, continuing education opportunities and fundraisers that we sponsor throughout the year

by working with the media. That entails writing Public Service Announcements (PSA's) to newspapers, radio and TV. I may also write news stories highlighting special events, awards, projects, or anything that may showcase our organization and its value to the community. A large part of my job is centered on our biggest fundraiser, the Plant and Garden Expo, which is held on the first Saturday in May. I coordinate paid advertising for the sale as well as fliers, banners, and bookmarks to distribute around the community. If you have a good idea for an article, or possibly a TV or radio spot, please let me know. You can reach me at bjhorst@gmail.com or by phone at 541-825-8534.

As the Facebook Administrator for the Master Gardeners, I am responsible for updating our Facebook page. This involves publishing research-based articles that would be of interest to gardeners. It also involves advertising upcoming events, such as our fundraisers. We currently have 1,337 people following our page. If you haven't already done so, be sure to like us on Facebook!

Communications

Shirley Purcell



As the person in charge of communications, I send out informational emails that relate to Master Gardener activities. If you have provided your email address to the organization, you will hear from me one or more times a week. Please add my email address,

hopover@gmail.com, onto your accepted list so my emails are not routed into your spam box.

The MG Executive Board has given me permission to send out only those emails relating directly to MG activities. Therefore, please do not be offended if I cannot help you rent your house, advertise a garage sale, sell your craft items, etc.

If my emails are not getting to you in a timely manner, please let me know. Also, if you change your email address, call or email me as soon as possible. My phone number is 541-673-3818. Thank you for helping me spread Master Gardener news to all.

Awards Committee

Diana Circle

I am Diana Circle your new Awards Chair. I am responsible for tracking the volunteer hours to determine the timing for issuing the appropriate swinger bars to our contributing members.



The swinger bars are awarded in the following fashion:

- 1) An apprentice completing their 60 hours of payback time with a minimum of 36 hours of clinic time will receive their 60 hour swinger bar at anytime during the year as they earn it at the monthly chapter meetings. The Extension Agent must approve any exception to the 36 hour clinic minimum.
- 2) The next exchange of a swinger bar happens at the completion of 200 hours. At this point the member will be asked to turn in their 60 hour swinger for a new one showing 200 hours. New swinger bars of 200 hours or more will be issued only once a year, in January, after the previous year's hours have been totaled. This process will continue at each of the following achievements; 500 hours, 750 hours, 1,000 hours and each 500 hours thereafter.
- 3) Swinger bars for Active Service: Active means that recorded volunteer hours are performed each year – just paying dues during a year does not count as active service. You must pay yearly dues and perform service to be considered. Active Years Of Service awards will be presented each year at the Annual Awards Banquet. Awards will be presented for every 5 years of service (i.e. 5,10,15, 20, etc.). Members that have done 15 years of active service or more will also be awarded a Years of Service swinger bar. Members will exchange bars each time they have earned a new one.

I will select and supervise the Awards Committee, usually made up of Past DCMG of the Year award winners and others that might be knowledgeable of those members who would be qualified to receive awards. I will prepare the documentation for the awards issued by OMGA at the OMGA Mini-College banquet. At present, these awards include; 1) The County Master

Gardener of the Year, 2) The County Behind the Scenes Master Gardener of the Year, 3) our possible nominee for the State Master Gardener of the Year, 4) our possible nominee of the State Behind the Scenes Master Gardener of the Year. I will co-chair the Annual Awards Banquet with the Awards Banquet Chair and work to help schedule the event and coordinate the activities of the banquet. The contents of these certificates are usually determined by the type and quantity of recorded volunteer hours volunteered by each member in the chapter.

To complete all these tasks the I need the cooperation of all DCMG members to complete their timesheets and event leaders to identify the volunteers they wish to recognize for all the hard work members provide to our organization. Welcome to Douglas County Master Gardeners!

December update from Awards Committee The following trainees have now completed their payback hours:

Cap Caplan Jack Finney Kim Pleich
William Spink Suzanne Wayne

See me, Diana Circle, at our January DCMG Chapter meeting and I will put your 60-hour swinger bar on your badge. Congratulations - you are now a Master Gardener!

Hallmark

Linda Thames



As Hallmark Chair, my job is to promote our group's sense of community by sending a handmade greeting card with the best wishes of our group to members, their immediate families, and on occasion, to others, conveying the appropriate sentiments, such as a thank you, sympathy card, best wishes for recovery from sickness or an operation.

Without violating their right to privacy, I share such information with the general membership at chapter meetings.

Plant Clinic

Chris Rusch



Happy New Year everyone! Welcome to the Plant Clinic. My name is Chris Rusch and I am the manager of our Plant Clinic Program. I am delighted to welcome all our new 2020 Master Gardeners. I look forward to getting to know you all throughout the coming year.

As Plant Clinic Manager, my job is to coordinate all our Plant Clinic activities. The

Plant Clinic is where the objectives of the Master Gardener Program really come to life. At the Plant Clinic we answer a wide range of questions about home gardening. This is where we are able to take the knowledge we gained in our Sustainable Gardening classes and pass it on to the home gardeners of our Douglas County community. We diagnose plant problems; identify insects and plants; and answer general garden and orchard management questions. During your training period you will be paired with experienced Master Gardeners to lead you through the protocols of our Plant Clinic. We have an excellent reference library and numerous scientifically-based online sources to help us. Our new members will be trained in the use of our reference materials by our experienced group of trainers. It is exciting, challenging and rewarding work.

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

Insect Committee

Richard Johnstone & Roger Dejmal

Nearly 25% of the calls to the Plant Clinic concern possible plant damage from or problems with insects and other arthropods. With over 1 million identified species of insects worldwide and an estimated 15 million possible species total, this would seem an impossible task but an analysis of Plant Clinic data for Douglas County shows that 90% of the insect questions

involve only about 50 insects and spiders.

While most Master Gardeners have no problem identifying the usual bugs brought into the clinic, the job of the Insect Committee is to supply aids and books to help with this task. The committee also identifies those uncommon insects that occasionally show up.



Roger & Richard

We welcome new members - no experience required. The committee meets on the **first and third Monday of every month from 10:00-Noon** if needed. And for those of you who are new to the Master Gardeners program, you can use Insect Committee time to help fulfill your Plant Clinic hours obligation. Please contact **Richard Johnstone** at [541-673-8024](tel:541-673-8024) for more information.

Newsletter Editor and Writing Team

Bonnie Courter

I'm so excited to welcome the Class of 2020! You'll be amazed at how much you will learn this year, and the learning never stops!

Each month I publish the DCMG Newsletter which is distributed online on our website: douglascountymg.org. Past issues can be accessed on our website as well. For an additional fee of \$17.50/year, you can also choose to have the Newsletter sent by "snail mail" should you prefer that route.



I accept monthly articles written by Executive Board members and chairpersons for the Newsletter, but also invite any Master Gardener to submit something of interest to our readers. I'm always looking for a good "scoop" and like to include educational articles pertaining to sustainable gardening as well as photo contributions from our membership. You'll probably see

me at any event with a camera around my neck, snapping pictures of unsuspecting MG's.

I also coordinate a team of MG writers who submit weekly articles to The News-Review for publication. Perhaps you've noticed our "Ask A Master Gardener" column in the Saturday edition. It's just another way to share with Douglas County gardeners tips on sustainable gardening and help problem-solve horticultural issues found seasonally and locally. If you have a knack and desire to write, we could use you as part of our team!

You can reach me at rbcourter@gmail.com, or by phone at [541-391-2890](tel:541-391-2890). Enjoy your new adventure in gardening!

Winter Training Coordinators

Bonnie Courter & Kish Doyle

As WTC Coordinators, we are responsible to help plan and execute the Winter Training Program in partnership with the Horticulture Agent. This entails equipping mentors each year along with their assigned students with the necessary information and procedures for a successful Master Gardener program. We strive to make the whole learning experience an excellent and rewarding one for each of you so that you will become active and enthusiastic Master Gardeners.

Should you have any concerns or issues during the course of the class program, please don't hesitate to share those with us so we can try and resolve them.

Bonnie: 541-391-2890, rbcourter@gmail.com
Kish: 909-855-0093, kdoyle1320@gmail.com

Plant Sale

Bonnie Durick

Welcome to the class of 2020. You will be hearing a lot about the Plant Sale in the upcoming weeks at your classes. If you have never been to our Plant Sale, it is quite an event. It is the first Saturday in May at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. We turn the 4-H building into a Plant Expo, including dozens of local vendors who join us. We bring thousands - and I mean thousands - of plants from our greenhouses to the

Fairgrounds for a one day sale. This is the largest fundraiser of the year. This fundraiser along with the Trash to Treasures Sale in March and the Bake Sale in the fall provides the funds to pay for all the wonderful things the Master Gardeners do for the community.



We start working on the next year's sale the week after the Plant Sale to take inventory and see what we need for a successful sale the following year. The greenhouses work year around to get ready for this huge event. After you have your classes in seeding and propagation, you are very welcome to give a hand working in the greenhouses. It is also a great way to work off some of the payback hours. We set up everything at the Fairgrounds the day before the sale and then watch the magic happen as people line up Saturday morning before the doors open to get the best plants. When the doors do open, there is a constant flow of people coming to see what we have that they can't live without. By the end of the Plant Sale day, the inventory is greatly diminished. The success of this sale is all due to the hard work of everyone. I hope we can count on you to help out this year.

Westside Greenhouse

Barbara Robinson



The Westside Greenhouse crew would like to welcome all the new students to yet another fabulous year of learning, camaraderie, and fun. We are charged with growing the perennial and annual flowers, herbs, and vegetables which are sold at our annual Plant Sale in May. Your Winter Training will expose you briefly to what goes on in our greenhouses. We will work with you in the weeks following with hands-on work in seeding, transplanting, plant division, etc. Please don't be intimidated if you are inexperienced. We all began where you are! We normally work on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon with the

exception being during your Winter Training when we work on Mondays from 9 a.m. to noon. We look forward to sharing our love of gardening with all of you!

Eastside Greenhouse

Bruce Gravens

The Core Group and devoted helpers of the Eastside Greenhouses would love to welcome the new members of the Class of 2020 to come join our efforts. We are responsible for curating and propagating woody plants for the annual plant sale which is our major fundraiser. By working with us, you will learn how to care for potted plants and propagating these sort of plants. The work in our greenhouses is taking care of larger items such as trees, shrubs, grasses, succulents, etc. We do a lot of transplanting, root pruning, propagating, dividing, grafting, and weed pulling. We work nearly year-round preparing for the plant sale on the first Saturday in May. We would love to have you join us in the effort.



Working in the Eastside greenhouses you will learn how to maintain a wide variety potted plants. You will learn about root pruning, top pruning, winter prep., and fertilization. You will also learn about propagation of woody plants. We propagate using root cuttings, top cutting, and division techniques. Learning these techniques will not only give you the skills you can use in your own gardens, but provide you with information you can use to educate members of your community.

We look forward to seeing many of you in the greenhouses, and you're welcome to come workdays to learn and play in the dirt with us. We work Thursday mornings while MG class is in session and then on Tuesday mornings when class is complete. We always appreciate the help.

Victory Garden

Ruth Stafford & Carolyn Ruzicka

Greetings to the Master Gardener Class of 2020. The Victory Garden has increasing success each year following its opening in 2009. We hope some of you will

join us in the spring as we plant, grow and harvest many different vegetables. The Victory Garden offers Master Gardeners an opportunity to put in practice many techniques taught in our winter class such as succession planting, crop rotation, mulching, vertical gardening and water conservation.



Our demonstration plot is always open to the public and tasting is encouraged. The demonstration garden and new signage shows the sustainable practices home



vegetable gardeners can use. Our main and demo gardens grew 7235 pounds of vegetables in 2019 to be distributed to local

pantries and community kitchens. We also collected 2027 pounds of produce from MG home gardens.

By donating all this fresh nutritious produce to UCAN, Master Gardeners are promoting and contributing to a healthier community. So if you want to nurture your love of gardening while helping others AND have a good time, come join us in the Victory Garden!



Discovery Garden

Julie Stanbery



Welcome to the Discovery Garden at the Horticultural Learning Center! As new Master Gardeners you are invited to join us in a great adventure as we continue to develop our year-round educational garden and teaching facility. MG volunteers participate in all areas of garden management including landscape design, planting, pruning and the ubiquitous weeding.

Working in the garden is a stimulating hands-on experience and lots of fun. All trainees will be asked to schedule volunteer payback time in the garden. These sessions will help familiarize you with all aspects of the garden and give you the opportunity to decide which area of the garden you would like to offer your volunteer time during the year.

Established in 1999, the entire garden has been built by thousands of Master Gardener volunteer hours and community groups such as Job Corps and inmate work crews. We have 20 gardens within the DG including Japanese, children's, hedgerow, orchard, scented entry, lilies and dahlias, shade and sun, compost, hummingbird, ornamental shrubs and grasses, butterfly, herb, xeriscape, rock and easy access areas. Items of particular interest include the spider gate, human sundial, and the moon gate. We also have added numerous benches and picnic tables.

The goals and directions of the garden come from MG volunteers with guidance from OSU Extension and our Home Horticultural Agent, Steve Renquist. We use the children's garden, worm bins, compost bins and pavilion as an outdoor classroom for school children and youth groups. Other gardens are used for public demonstrations including pruning and plant care.

Your winter program classes contain information in many aspects of the garden such as water wise gardens, dry garden (xeriscape), water collection and

irrigation techniques, container and adaptive raised beds (easy access), herbs, Japanese, perennials, annuals, roses, lilies, and much more! All of our classes include ecological management practices that stress integrated methods (IPM) and low impact techniques.



My name is Julie Stanbery and as coordinator of the Discovery garden, you will be hearing many garden updates from me. A number of your classes will take place in the Discovery Garden and in the greenhouses.

Your first classes at the HLC will be January 14 & 21. A tour of the garden will be part of these class sessions. You will be introduced to some of the veteran MG's who work in the individual gardens and learn the lay-out of the gardens. These classes are OUT-OF-DOORS so dress in layers, wear long underwear, mud boots, rain slicker, gloves and hat!!

Steve has scheduled "hands-on" pruning classes in the Discovery Garden. All students are asked to attend these classes. On **Thursday, Jan. 23, from 1-4pm**, we will be pruning fruit trees. We will prune the ornamental shrub garden on **Friday, Feb. 7, from 1-4pm**, and we will prune the Entry Garden roses and hydrangeas on **Monday, Feb. 17 from 1-4pm**. Steve will teach specialized techniques for pruning in the Japanese Garden on **Tuesday, March 24 from 9am to noon**. We encourage everyone to participate in the garden training sessions. Your mentor will discuss how this can apply to your volunteer payback hours.

During MG training class, we have one scheduled Discovery Garden work day on **Saturday, January 18 from 10am to 1pm**. We will concentrate on pruning and weeding the hedgerow. Starting March 24, we will have regular Tuesday work days each week through September.

Come dressed for foul weather as we work rain or shine. You need not be a strapping physical specimen; I can find a task for anyone!! Always come to the garden with work gloves, hand pruners, a good weeding tool,

kneeling pad and a shovel. I'll let you know if we need special tools for any particular project. Working in the garden is considered payback time; specifics will be explained in class.

We have a busy season ahead of us, but as all gardeners know, you meet the nicest people in the garden. We'll see you there!! Julie Stanbery 672-7175.

Pruning Classes

(1:00-4:00)

January 23 (Thurs.) - Fruit Trees

February 7 (Fri.) - Ornamentals

February 17 (Mon.) - Roses

March 24 (Tues.) - Japanese Garden

DG Work Day

(10:00-1:00)

January 18 (Saturday)

Ginkgo Hiroshima Tree

Bonnie Courter

You probably heard that the Japanese Garden at our very own Discovery Garden will soon be graced with a seedling from a ginkgo tree in Japan that survived the Hiroshima atomic bomb which helped end World War II. For those who aren't familiar with this unique species, here's some interesting facts.

Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*) is the sole surviving species in the family Ginkgoaceae, a living "fossil"



dating back to the Jurassic period when dinosaurs roamed the earth. They were then native to most of the world, even North America where their leaves have been found in fossil records. During the period when glaciers covered most of North America, Europe and western Siberia, the ginkgo only survived in Asia and other mild climates. Subsequently, ginkgoes have long been cultivated in the Orient where they are highly valued as not only a landscape tree, but also for the nuts and the medicinal properties of its leaves, such as a memory booster. In 1730 they were introduced to Europe and to the United States in 1784.

Ginkgo trees are dioecious, either male or female. This is important to keep in mind should you decide to plant one. The reason is that the fruit produced in the fall by the female tree are yellow-orange with a thin fleshy



layer covering an oval, silver-white nut. These fallen fruit when crushed underfoot give off a horrible, putrid smell (much like vomit!). While on a visit to OMSI in Portland recently, I was reminded of this as the

ginkgo-lined sidewalk leading up to the entrance was covered with these squishy, stinky fruit balls. So always check at the nursery that your tree is of the male gender!

The nuts, however, are considered a delicacy in the Orient, and are consumed in banquets, weddings and other social gatherings. In fact, the word "Ginkgo" comes from the Chinese word for silver fruit or nut. Ginkgoes are the oldest cultivated nut tree.

As a landscape tree, the ginkgo is a wonderful specimen to plant. Though slow-growing, it is an attractive, long-lived tree, not readily susceptible to disease or insect pests. Tolerant of a variety of soil conditions and acidity levels, they grow best in well-drained, loamy soil in full sun exposure. Their leaves are shaped like a fan with a cleft down the middle which flutter in the wind. They turn from green to bright canary yellow in the fall and tend to fall off the tree all at once, leaving a picture-worthy carpet of gold. Ginkgo trees can grow 50-80 feet tall with a 30-40 foot spread, so plant them in an area where they have plenty of room.

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER 2020 DUES

(Please pay **BEFORE** January 1, 2020)

Print ALL information EVEN if nothing has changed:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Responsibilities/Title: _____

I prefer to be contacted by _____ E-mail _____ Phone _____ Text Msg

____ Enclosed is \$10 for my 2020 Dues which includes an E-mail MG Newsletter.

____ Please mail my newsletter. I have included an EXTRA \$17.50 to cover printing & postage.

For Membership Director use:

Date: _____ Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

2020 Dues: \$10.00

Please place dues form and cash or check made out to **DCMG** in an envelope labeled 2020 dues. Put envelope in the slot of the locked drawer in the plant clinic.

Or mail to:

Kay Livermore
135 Indian Point Ln
Glide, OR 97443

Replacement Badges:

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

Kay Livermore
DCMG Membership Director
kay.livmr@gmail.com

2019 Year in Review in Pictures



Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: The deadline for the February 2020 Newsletter is February 1. 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



Oregon State University
Extension Service
Master Gardener

Oregon State University Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials on this basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, familial/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, genetic information, veteran's status, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to 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, 541-391-2890, rbcourter@gmail.com.

Douglas County Master Gardeners
PO BOX 1165
Roseburg OR 97470
Ph: 541-672-4461