



## August 2020 Calendar

Tues., Aug. 4, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden workday  
Greenhouse Crews  
Victory Garden Crew

Tues., Aug. 11, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden workday  
Greenhouse Crews  
Victory Garden Crew

Wed., Aug. 12, 10:00 (Zoom)

Executive Board Meeting

Tues., Aug. 18, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden workday  
Greenhouse Crews  
Victory Garden Crew

Tues., Aug. 25, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden workday  
Greenhouse Crews  
Victory Garden Crew

Thurs., Aug. 27, 9:00

Chapter Meeting in front of Victory Garden at the HLC. No potluck. Masks & distancing required. (Installation of new officers will take place.)



## The President's Post

**Nancy Fuller**

In this age of COVID, it has been an unusual summer. Though we've had sunny, warm days with crops ripening and flowers blooming, how we've managed our gardens and lives has certainly been different. It's been hard not to see our fellow gardeners up close and without masks, and to not share the excitement of a new bloom or the size of a vegetable standing side by side. I have been encouraged by the enthusiasm of our members who show up to work in the gardens or greenhouses each week despite the restrictions that have been placed on us. That enthusiasm just proves that gardeners have positive outlooks and expectations for the good that can happen no matter what the circumstances.

During our recent chapter meeting we approved revisions to both our Policy & Procedures manual and to our Bylaws. Some of these revisions were brought about because of the COVID virus and having to operate differently than in the past. We will be having more meetings online into the foreseeable future. We will be voting online or during virtual meetings. Technology will be a bigger part of our chapter than ever before. I encourage you to read through all the revisions. They are now posted on the chapter's website.

We also elected our new officers for the next year at the July chapter meeting. I'd like to extend congratulations to President Julie Stanbery, Vice-President Diana Woodward, Treasurer Diane Smith-Lewsadder, Secretary Bonnie Courter, Membership Chair Kay Livermore, OMGA Representative Barbie Hamby and alternate OMGA Representative Kish Doyle. Best wishes for a successful year!

With this election, I become the Past President. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the officers who served with me the past two years. Thank you to: Vicki Barrett, Sharon Bordeaux, Toni Rudolph, Diana Woodward, Bonnie Courter, Kay Livermore, Rosemary Brinkley, Barbie Hamby, Kish Doyle, and Chris Rusch. I appreciate all the support and encouragement you gave me during my time as President.

During my time as President we experienced Snowmageddon and now COVID and its consequences. I sincerely hope that the coming year is much more positive. I hope we all continue to support each other no matter what might come our way. See you out in the gardens!



Our Plant Clinic opened July 15 on a modified schedule. It has been wonderful to get back to work and help out our Douglas County residents with their gardening and landscaping questions.

We are open from 1-3

during the week. Some of our volunteers are willing to take on one trainee. If you were part of the class of 2020, have an interest in working in the Plant Clinic, and have not had the opportunity to work in the clinic more than twice, please contact me and we will get you on our schedule beginning August 3. Days available are Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

With all of the OSU guidelines and restrictions, we will most likely not be able to return to our program of old, at least for this year. At our first phase of opening we will be answering questions by the phone and emails, but not visiting with the public. Hopefully this is not our “new normal”, but just a temporary setback to our program. At our Chapter meeting we all agreed that we will reduce the Plant Clinic hour requirements for the class of 2020 this year to a minimum of 3 shifts.

In addition, if you are a certified MG veteran and are interested in helping out on Thursdays, please contact me.

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. These are very trying times for everyone. Enjoy your time at home in your garden! Volunteer in the Discovery Garden and Victory Garden and greenhouses when you can. Stay safe everyone, and see you all on the other side of this. Thanks everyone for your patience.

## Treasurer's Report Toni Rudolph

### INCOME

#### Grants

Cow Creek Tribe	\$2,500.00
OMGA Karl Carlson	\$250.00
OMGA Extension Educator	\$400.00
Interest	\$5.45
Plant Sale - Pre-Event	\$649.00
Compost Tea	<u>\$330.00</u>

### **TOTAL INCOME**

**\$4,134.45**

### EXPENSES

Administration	\$40.83
Discovery Garden	\$48.49
HLC	\$410.59
Compost Tea	\$148.33
Utilities - Electricity (1 month)	\$258.17
Utilities - Water (1 month)	\$238.31
Trash to Treasure (room rental)	\$350.00
ESG - 2020 Cow Creek Grant	<u>\$364.85</u>

### **TOTAL EXPENSES**

**\$1,859.57**

### Breakdown of our accounts at 7/30/2020

NWCC - Checking	\$1,754.49
NWCC - Reserve	\$5,005.31
NWCC - MMK Savings	<u>\$33,996.82</u>

### **Ending Balance**

**\$40,756.62**





## August Garden Calendar

### Planning

The optimal time for establishing a new lawn is August through mid-September.

### Maintenance and cleanup

- Make compost out of lawn clippings and garden plants that are ready to be recycled. Don't use clippings if the lawn has been treated with herbicide, including "weed-and-feed" products. Don't compost diseased plants unless you are using the "hot compost" method (120 degrees to 150 degrees Fahrenheit).
- Fertilize cucumbers, summer squash and broccoli to maintain production while you continue harvesting.
- Clean and fertilize strawberry beds.
- Use mulch to protect ornamentals and garden plants from hot weather damage. If needed, provide temporary shade, especially for recent plantings.
- Camellias need deep watering to develop flower buds for next spring.
- Prune raspberries, boysenberries and other caneberries after harvest. Check raspberries for holes made by crown borers, near the soil line, at the base of the plant. Remove infested wood before adults emerge (approximately mid-August).
- Monitor garden irrigation closely so crops and ornamentals don't dry out.
- If you want your lawn to stay green, you'll have to water frequently during periods of heat and drought stress. Irrigate 0.25 inches four to six times per week from June through August. Measure your water use by placing an empty tuna can where your irrigation water lands.

- Prune cherry trees before fall rains begin to allow callusing in dry weather. This will minimize the spread of bacterial canker.

### Planting and propagation

- Plant winter cover crops in vacant space in the vegetable garden
- Plant cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, spinach, lettuce, turnips and parsnips.
- Check leafy vegetables for caterpillars. Pick off caterpillars as they appear. Use Bt-k, if necessary.



### *Little Free Library*

The Little Free Library is once again asking for donations of children's books to fill its shelves.

Donations can be left at the Westside Greenhouse for Kathy Hart to pick up. Thank you!



## Awards Committee

Diana Circle



Why re-certify as a Master Gardener? If your interests are working in the plant clinic, outreach, or teaching, you must annually re-certify as a Master Gardener. This requirement starts after completing the first

year of training and doing your 60 hours of volunteer time. Our timesheets have been modified to include buckets at the bottom of the form for recertification time.

### Requirements for Recertification per MG Policies

Recertification requires 30 hours total with 20 hours of volunteer service and 10 hours of continuing education. This recertification is valid for one year. Category details are listed below.

#### Service (20 hours total)

- Direct educational hours: Plant clinic, instructor, conference or seminar, educational gardens (making signs, teaching a class, leading a tour), writing articles for the paper or newsletter.
- Indirect educational hours: Planning committee for an event, MG class mentor, educational garden maintenance for a garden used in teaching.

#### Support Hours (10 hours)

Fundraisers (plant sale, trash to treasures, bake sale), office support, database work hours etc., photocopies for winter training program, MG association (serve as an officer, board member).

#### Continuing Education (10 hours)

Attend gardening seminars, webinars, workshops, and outreach programs (MG winter training) that are research-based and taught by qualified instructors who the agent has supported. The curriculum should extend the MG Sustainable Gardening material.

As of July 16<sup>th</sup>, we have nineteen re-certified Master Gardeners for 2020. Congratulations! These volunteers have worked extremely hard during our shutdown time to improve their skills for our programs. Job well done, thank you!

Fred Alley  
Anne Bacon  
Maureen Benice  
Carol Bolt  
Rosemary Brinkley  
Bonnie Courter  
Kish Doyle  
Linda Estep  
Nancy Fuller  
Barbara Hamby  
Betty Ison  
Kay Livermore  
Vicki McAlister  
Robin Oki  
Karolyn Riecks  
Chris Rusch  
Elva Sellens  
Ann Severson  
Julie Stanbery

I asked Steve Renquist to comment on next year's process, I've included his statement.

*"Due to Covid 19 issues keeping us from opening the office to the public and having classes. What we probably will be doing for the class of 2020 is waiving the class and clinic recertification hours and credits required. Instead we will encourage the 2020 class to get as many hours in at the Discovery Garden, greenhouses, and Victory garden as they can. Then we want the MG's from the 2020 class to sign up to be mentors for the 2021 class if they are comfortable with being in a group. We will provide a safe environment through spacing at our tables and not having food and snacks. Uncertainty is of course the best description of our program in the coming year."*



## Ask Fred "The Tool Man" Alley

One of the most common questions I receive when giving sessions on garden tool maintenance and sharpening is: "What is the one special file you recommend for keeping my hand pruners sharp before using and while I'm in the garden working?"

Good question. I would recommend the "B-Sharp, Diamond Blade Sharpener," as shown in the two photographs.



I recommend this sharpener for a number of reasons:

1. The file is made by Barnel USA, a longstanding USA company.
2. 35 years' service. Founded in Portland, Oregon, and are still there.
3. The file has both a fine and coarse sharpening grit.
4. Ease of use and provides a very sharp cutting edge.
5. Can be easily carried in your apron or shirt pocket.
6. The diamond blades will last a long time.
7. Barnel is a manufacturer of a large variety of quality garden tools.
8. Can be purchased locally.



- Hold the pruners open, as wide as possible, firmly in your left hand.
- With your right hand, set the coarse side of the file parallel along the bevel of the blade.
- As you draw the file parallel along the blade, keep to the original angle of the blade - normally 20-23 degrees. This is important.
- Make several passes with the coarse file, then several passes with the fine file edge.
- Repeat until a small burr has formed at the tip of the cutting edge.
- Turn the tool over and set the file flat against the inside face of the blade. Swipe once to break the burr.
- Your pruners will be sharp and ready to use.
- Carry your B-Sharp tool with you in the garden for easy access and use.

Remember to lightly oil your pruners after cleaning and sharpening. Barnel USA sells a B-Oil for Daily Maintenance for that purpose. You can also use 3 in One Oil, or my choice, Remington REM Oil. All three products provide excellent lubrication and corrosion and oxidization protection.

The Barnel B-SHARP Coarse and Fine Grit Diamond Garden Tool Sharpener can be purchased locally at Farmers COOP for \$15.99. The Remington REM Oil can be purchased locally at Farmers COOP, Bi-Mart and Walmart for \$8.00. WD-40 and 3 in One Multi-Purpose Oil is readily available and much cheaper. Both are still good second-choice protectants.

# Our Tool Man at Large

By Julie Stanbery

Here's some of the tools that Fred recently donated and refurbished for the Discovery Garden. Fred is a real treasure - next time you see him, thank him for all he does to keep our tools sharp and in good working order.



He said, "I do this only to document my donations to the DG. It's a great piece of history for me. I remember so many times Sandy, my wife, and I have found treasures during our lifetime. Our oldest is a wooden living room chair we bought in a barn in Maryland. And we still have it in our living room!"



## In the Garden

Julie Stanbery

A few more of our "new" Master Gardeners have been coming out to keep our rangy areas from running wild. Carla Davis has made a tremendous effort to tame the large butterfly island. It was meant to be replanted this year but I'm not sure it would have looked as good as it now does. John Oltman finished weeding the WGH so he volunteered to clear us an open path along the side of the green

shed **and** he removed a behemoth blackberry vine from the ceanothus hedge. Thanks to all MG's who have done such a good job this hot summer.

Special recognition to our irrigation team without whom we would not have such a lovely garden. GOOD JOB: Bonnie (Mondays), Janet (Wednesdays and filling storage tanks and cleaning out the bathrooms! ) and Sylvia (Fridays).

As always, I'm grateful to Tractor Man and the two Mr. H's for their willingness to answer my calls for help.

Till next time,  
see you in the Garden! - Julie

## DG Classifieds

They're back on the market! A lovely "rustic" set of 4 Adirondack chairs. Could use a little attention but all are sit-able.

Make an offer, first come-first served. Funds go to Trash to Treasure account.

No reasonable or somewhat unreasonable offer will be refused.

View these lovely furnishings in the enclosure next to the water storage tanks.

Contact Julie with cash in hand.

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS  
Chapter Meeting (via Zoom)  
July 30, 2020



Photos: Fred's Fav's

**Call to Order:**

The meeting via Zoom was called to order at 10:23 AM by President Nancy Fuller. Board members attending were Nancy Fuller, Bonnie Courter, Kay Livermore,

Chris Rusch, and Toni Rudolph. There were a total of 14 members attending including Agent Steve Renquist.

**Agenda Approval:** Bonnie Courter asked that Newsletter and Winter Training Class be added to the agenda. Diana Circle asked that Awards be added to the agenda.

**Minutes Approval:** The minutes as posted on the website were approved.

**Agent's Report - Steve Renquist:**

- **Plant Clinic** - Clients from the public are not allowed to come into the clinic right now. They may leave samples and/or questions at the table in front of the office, and if the MG manning the clinic is agreeable, they can meet with the client outside the door to address their problem, wearing a mask and distancing. If MG's come into the Extension office, they need to stop and announce themselves at the front desk and sign in. If Steve is in his office and a MG has a question, they may come into his office, one at a time, masked, and discuss issues, or meet Steve at another location.
- **Outdoor Meetings** - We can meet at the Discovery Garden for meetings of 50 or less as long as MG's wear masks and keep a 6' distance. Bonnie Courter asked if we can have our August chapter meeting at the Discovery Garden since at that meeting the new Executive Board members will be installed. Discussion followed and it was put to a vote. **Bonnie moved that we conduct the August 27 Chapter**

Meeting at 9:00, no potluck, sitting spaced and wearing masks under the shade of the fir trees in front of the Victory Garden, and using the portable microphone. Toni Rudolph seconded it. It was unanimously approved.

- **Diagnostics** - Steve will be starting up some diagnostics classes this fall, focusing on more of a general approach to diagnostics in order to help the new class. He might conduct these on a regular basis, following a set curriculum, and making use of various locations in more public spaces like parks. Veteran MG's can participate and perhaps bring plant problems to talk about. Participants would, of course, be required to wear masks and keep spacing.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**Membership - Kay Livermore:** We have 250 members presently.

**OMGA - Barbie Hamby:** Not present

**Treasurer - Toni Rudolph:** Toni sent financials to the Board as well as to Julie Stanbery and Diane Smith-Lewsadder. We received \$2500 for Eastside Greenhouse from Cow Creek, an award of \$250 for signage for the Herb Garden, and the \$400 Educator Grant for Spring Into Gardening. Toni paid the diver \$300, and the deposit was paid for renting the facility in Winston for Trash to Treasure next year. (That deposit is refundable if necessary).

**Vice-President - Diana Woodward:** Not present

**Past President - Chris Rusch:** No report

**President - Nancy Fuller:** No report



## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch:** The Plant Clinic opened on a modified schedule of 1:00-3:00 on July 15, with one person manning the clinic each day. Starting this week, however, we can have one trainee join the assigned veteran on Mondays and Wednesdays. Chris sent out an email inviting the new students to sign up on those days, but did not get much of a response. A couple of



opportunities to fulfill their hours. They only would need to work 3 times in the clinic. Steve was agreeable to that for this year's class only.

Chris made a motion that we only require the Class of 2020 to work 3 tours of plant clinic duty to fulfill their clinic payback obligations. Jan Kirchner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous and carried.

### Newsletter/Winter Training - Bonnie Courter:

Newsletter: Articles are due this Saturday, August 1.

WTC: Kish Doyle and Bonnie have had meetings with Steve, Julie Stanbery and Laura Corder regarding next year's training class. If restrictions do not ease by January, we are limited to only 25 in the auditorium at one time. That would mean restricting enrollment to only 14 students and 7 mentors. No food would be allowed, so no snacks or first day potluck. All attendees will be required to wear masks and physically distance during class. Veteran MG's will not be allowed to sit in on the classes next year.

In the next few months, Kish and Bonnie will be reviewing the waiting list of 30 people to see if they are still interested enough to fill out an application. Steve will be contacting lecturers to see if they are willing to come as well, and will put together a schedule in the next few months.

Our goal is to have in-person classes if at all possible instead of online lectures. Before the closures, Kish and Bonnie were feeling that we need not charge an extra \$100 to be refunded when payback hours were completed, as had been discussed in the past. With the rigorous interviews conducted by Steve and Kish for last year's class, we felt that it produced an enthusiastic, committed group. Unfortunately the COVID hit and they were not able to volunteer as hoped. We will revisit the question in the future.

**Awards - Diana Circle:** Diana is requesting that crew leaders for the greenhouses, Discovery Garden and Victory Garden give her the list of names of MG's helping out in their respective areas.

## OLD BUSINESS

Zoom meetings: Nancy warned that we may have to conduct meetings via Zoom for some time now. The challenge is to get people to join each month. Terril Lowe volunteered to email Nancy some ideas on how to get more MG's participating by Zoom since she has that skill set.





## NEW BUSINESS

### 2020 Audit Report - Nancy Fuller for Vicki McAlister:

The audit was completed on June 25. The Audit Committee consisting of Patrice Sipos, Karolyn Riecks and Vicki McAlister was satisfied with the work of the Treasurer and all was in good order. Because of the COVID closure, however, the committee was not able to verify information on the computer in the Plant Clinic. Following the methodology used by OMGA for off-site backup of financial data, the committee recommended that the Treasurer maintain a backup on two thumb drives that will be handed off to the President at each meeting. This will provide an additional layer of security for chapter financial data.

2021 Budget Planning - Nancy & Toni: Toni re-did the budget because of COVID-related restrictions on our fundraising. The revised budget is operational through April 2021, so we should put off developing a complete budget until February of 2021 when we should know for certain whether we can have a plant sale in 2021. **Toni made a motion to postpone developing a budget until February 2021 since we currently have an operational budget to cover us until May 2021. Jan Kirchner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.**

Approval of Policy & Procedure Changes - Nancy: (vote results include phone & text balloting as well as votes from Zoom attendees)

- Increasing travel per diem from \$100 to \$150 for OMGA meetings - Yes: 36; No: 2; Zoom: unanimous. Change approved.
- New awards policy by Diana Circle - Yes: 37; No: 1; Zoom: unanimous. Change approved.

Approval of Bylaw Changes - Nancy:

1. Meetings can be held online - Yes: unanimous. Change approved.
2. Quorum to have a legitimate vote from 25 to 20. - Yes: 31; No: 7; Zoom: unanimous. Change approved.
3. Voting can be done electronically online, text, phone or Zoom - Yes: Unanimous. Change approved.

### Approval of 2021 Officers - Nancy:

The slate of officers for 2020-2021 is as follows:

President - **Julie Stanbery**  
Past President - **Nancy Fuller**  
Vice-President - **Diana Woodward**  
Treasurer - **Diane Smith-Lewsadder**  
Secretary - **Bonnie Courter**  
Membership - **Kay Livermore**  
OMGA Rep - **Barbie Hamby**  
OMGA Alternate - **Kish Doyle**

**The proposed slate of officers was approved unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Courter, Secretary



# Douglas County Master Gardeners

**Newsletter:** The deadline for the September 2020 Newsletter is August 29. 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](https://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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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, 541-391-2890, [rbcourter@gmail.com](mailto:rbcourter@gmail.com).

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