



# Douglas County Master Gardeners

# Newsletter

September 2021



## Sept. 2021 Calendar

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

Victory Garden Crew

Mon., Sept. 6, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Tues., Sept. 7, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden Workday

Greenhouse Crews

Wed., Sept. 8, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting, HLC

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

Victory Garden Crew

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

Victory Garden Crew

Tues., Sept. 14, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden Workday

Greenhouse Crews

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

Victory Garden Crew

Mon., Sept. 20, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Tues., Sept. 21, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden Workday

Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., Sept. 23, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Mon., Sept. 27, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

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

Fall Training Class begins

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

Discovery Garden Tour for new class (9:00)

Chapter Meeting (10:00) followed by Potluck, DG



## Agent's Welcome

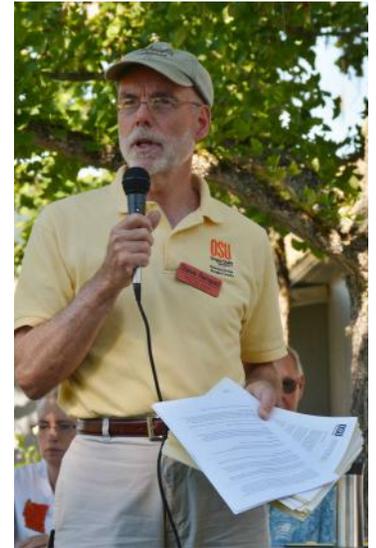
**Steve Renquist**

Welcome to the 2021 class of Master Gardeners™. This year Oregon State University and the Douglas County Master Gardener Association have an opportunity to welcome a new group of gardeners from around Douglas County for our first fall program. Our fall program, like the previous winter trainings, has three major components, classroom education, hands-on education and outreach to the community.

The classroom education comes when you enter the fall training class. Experienced instructors will share their gardening knowledge with you for eight 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 fall training classes. Many of our lectures are supported by demonstration and lab work. We have a session planned for the greenhouses at our Horticultural Learning Center (HLC) in October. This class will teach you how to do vegetative propagation and seeding. We also have a session planned on Xeriscaping, the use of drought hardy plants, and a session on composting.

Our fall program begins on September 28<sup>th</sup> at the OSU Extension office, but we want to invite you on Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> to join us at 10:00 AM at our monthly meeting of veteran Master Gardeners at the Discovery Garden. We would like to invite you new class members to the garden to introduce our site and to join us for lunch. 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. We encourage the class of 2021 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, 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 fall class together. We will have a small group of about 20 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 a day-long seminar called "Spring into Gardening", organizational committees, and Mini-College which is 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.

## The Prez Sez Julie Stanbery

Welcome to our new Master Gardener trainees. For the first time in 37 years, we are holding a fall training class. This is an interesting challenge for our chapter, but these last 2 years have taught us how to rise to the occasion!

Training sessions will help build your knowledge of plant science and home horticulture. You will receive a lot of information in classes and in practical workshops. Veteran mentors will be working with you to guide and support you throughout your first year as a Master Gardener. We challenge you to be openminded and prepared to learn.



Following your November 16th final examination and graduation, there will be one general membership meeting (November 18) before we take a 6 week hiatus during the holiday season. However, we will start the new year with a bang! We are planning a New Years party to welcome back all of our veteran volunteers and have the opportunity to spend an afternoon getting to know our newly graduated volunteers.

As Master Gardeners our primary objectives are to assist the horticulture agent in answering home gardening questions and to disseminate university research-based horticulture information. All of our educational outreach programs are based on the sustainable gardening techniques you learn in class. Beginning in January, you will have one year to complete your 60 hours of volunteer service. The most important task is helping staff our Plant Clinic where you and your mentor will be answering questions for the general public. You will learn to use our excellent library and computer programs.

Weather permitting, we will also be working weekly at the Discovery Garden and in the greenhouses. In this issue of the Newsletter, you will read about our organization and the many diversified opportunities available to complete your payback hours. In the coming months we will talk in more detail about how you can choose the areas in which you wish to volunteer. Our **chapter Newsletter** is the primary source of information and updates about coming events. Peruse it monthly - it's worth the read!

Our facility at River Forks Park is called the Horticultural Learning Center (HLC). It includes our 5 greenhouses, the Victory Garden and the Discovery Garden. You will be attending practical sessions at the HLC Thursdays in October.

Our September membership meeting is **Thursday, September 30, at the Discovery Garden pavilion**. As part of your training experience, you will be asked to come to the garden at 9am on the 30th for your first introduction to the garden. The garden heads will meet with you to give you an overview of the activities in our educational garden. You are then invited to attend your first general membership meeting. Following the meeting, you will be our guests for potluck lunch.

We look forward to sharing our gardening knowledge with you so you can in turn share your knowledge with others in Douglas County. See you in the garden!

## Vice-President

Diana Woodward

Welcome, new students, to the Master Gardener program. So excited for you all - this will change your life in the gardening department, that's for sure. It's an ever-learning program - you never stop learning about every aspect of gardening through the class, through the volunteer hours and beyond. If you choose to continue to volunteer (please do), you will meet the nicest people in the garden!



The duties of Vice-President include attending the Executive Board and Chapter meetings, and being prepared to preside in the absence of the President. I ensure that proper procedures are followed for conducting meetings by serving as parliamentarian for the chapter and, my favorite duty, providing the Continuing Education program.

At our monthly Chapter meetings, the last Thursday of every month, January-November, we have an hour of education before the meeting begins. It is usually another Master Gardener expert who presents a topic in their field of gardening. I encourage you all to come - it is an easy way to keep in touch monthly of what's happening in our program and get your 10 hours of certified education for your next year's renewal as a Master Gardener.

Our next Chapter Meeting will be Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 10:00, under the pavilion at the Discovery Garden. We will have a potluck after the meeting for existing MG's, but we are also inviting all the new students to come and join us to celebrate them, our new class of Fall 2021. Come and share our last outdoor meeting and welcome our new students.

## Membership & Swinger Bars

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 and Plant Sale, but being Membership Director for the past 3 years has been my forever Dream Job!



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.

As Membership Director, I collect annual dues and keep an updated roster of DCMG member's contact information: phone numbers, mailing and e-mail addresses.

I also recently took over the job of being the Swinger Bar 'Fairy' and am passionate about getting Swinger Bars out to members as fast as possible!

Hour Bars are given in the following increments: 60, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 750, 1000 and every 500 hours thereafter.

Year bars are available to Master Gardeners after 5 years of volunteer service and in 5 year increments thereafter, i.e. 5, 10, 15...

A list of newly eligible swinger bar recipients will be published in each DCMG Newsletter. See me at any DCMG Board Meeting or Chapter Meeting to get or exchange a swinger bar. (Note: you must have your badge with you.) I will also have them with me if I am working in the Plant Clinic, Discovery Garden, or at a Master Gardener event.

Members eligible for swinger bars for the month of July are:

60 hours: Carla Davis, Marcy Gustafson, Natalia Spencer

200 hours: Sylvia Andino, Joy Keeling

500 hours: Linda Estep

3000 hours: Carol Bolt

If you have questions, or need to change your contact information, please feel free to contact me.

phone: 541-496-4111

text: 541-430-2887

email: [kay.livmr@gmail.com](mailto:kay.livmr@gmail.com)

## OMGA Reps

Kish Doyle & Barbie Hamby



Kish

Barbie

As Douglas County's Oregon Master Gardener Association (OMGA) representative and an 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 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.

- 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.
- Select and honor "Behind the Scenes" Master Gardener of the Year.

## 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.



## Treasurer

Dawnetta Loomis



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](mailto:Gardeners.DC@gmail.com) or 254-458-8838.

## Treasurer's Report

Diane Smith-Lewsadder

07/29/2021 - 08/25/2021

### INCOME

Donation	\$90.90
BottleDrop	\$200.40
Soil Testing	\$100.00
Interest	\$6.65
Plant Sale Post	\$205.75
Compost Tea	<u>\$94.00</u>

### TOTAL INCOME

**\$697.70**

### EXPENSES

Management and general	\$206.23
Fair Booth	\$32.18
Discovery Garden	\$59.37
HLC	\$370.83
Plant Sale	\$402.87
Pavilion Repairs (unfunded/app)	\$654.00
Utilities	<u>\$164.79</u>

### TOTAL EXPENSES

**\$1,890.27**

### Breakdown of our accounts at 08/25/21

NWCC - Checking	\$1,837.67
NWCC - Reserve	\$5,008.23
NWCC - MMK Savings	\$39,059.52
NWCC - Waddington Fund	<u>\$89,473.75</u>

### Ending Balance

**\$135,379.17**

## FTC Coordinators

Kish Doyle & Bonnie Courter

As FTC (Fall Training Class) Coordinators, we are responsible to help plan and execute the Fall 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.

Kish: 909-855-0093, [kdoyle1320@gmail.com](mailto:kdoyle1320@gmail.com)

Bonnie: 541-391-2890, [rbcourter@gmail.com](mailto:rbcourter@gmail.com)

## Publicity

Cheryl Caplan



As the Publicity Chair for the Douglas County Master Gardeners, I inform the local media about our upcoming events, continuing education opportunities, and fundraisers so our community knows what we do and what we offer. I write about our chapter's special events, awards, or projects and send the Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to

newspapers, radio and TV. In a normal year, a large part of my job is centered on our biggest fundraiser – the Plant and Garden Expo – usually held the first Saturday in May. But for the past two years, I wrote more articles about the hours at the plant clinic, soil testing, and recognition awarded to our chapter's Master Gardeners. 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 [cheryl\\_caplan1@msn.com](mailto:cheryl_caplan1@msn.com) or 541-430-5124.

### Opening day of zucchini season

Shared by Joy Keeling



## Past President Nancy Fuller

Per our chapter bylaws, the Past President acts “as a mentor to the current president and, as a member of the Executive Board, has voting privileges.”

I would like to welcome you to our chapter. I hope you will enjoy learning about sustainable gardening and find your favorite area to volunteer in while out in the gardens.



I have been a member of the Douglas County Master Gardener chapter since 2015. In addition to being president of the chapter from August of 2018 until August of 2020, I have been the chapter’s representative to the state Oregon Master Gardener Association. I have been a mentor to new trainees, participated in the annual Plant Sale, Trash to Treasures sale, and Bake Sale. I spend the majority of my time working in the Rock Garden section of the Discovery Garden.

## 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](mailto: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.

## Facebook Barbara Horst

Welcome to the new Master Gardeners Class of 2021! 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 1,682 people following our page. If you haven't already done so, be sure to like us on Facebook!



## Newsletter Editor & Writing Team Bonnie Courter

I'm excited to welcome the Class of 2021! 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](http://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 Friday editions. 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](mailto:rbcourter@gmail.com), or by phone at 541-391-2890. Enjoy your new adventure in gardening!

## 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



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 2021 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](mailto:crusch@hughes.net).

## Trash to Treasure

Ann Severson

Hello everyone. It had been a dream of mine to become a Master Gardener for many years and my dream came true in 2015. I made it my mission to give it all that I could. To learn, volunteer and give an extra hand to help our Douglas County Master Gardeners program.



Every time there was an event going on where I could get my payback hours, I went. It was always rewarding to get the opportunity to learn something new. One of the biggest events that I volunteered for was, Trash to Treasures. If you like yard sales, then this is the event for you. We hold one of the biggest one-day yard sales in Douglas County.

I've been the chair person in charge of Trash to Treasures for four years. We hold the sale in Winston at the Winston Community Center.

Master Gardeners can drop off donations at my house, the Discovery Garden, or I sometimes pick them up at their home. Once I receive the donation, I price it and box it up and store in my utility trailer. Some of the items that can fetch a higher price, I will sell early to get the best price for that item. When my trailer is full, we have a wonderful Master Gardener who for the last few years has allowed us to store items in her shed. This year it was filled completely full.

I tell all New Master Gardeners that this event is a great way for you to get your pay back hours in fast and you can work both days - Friday setup and Saturday sale - as many hours as you want. It's always fun and one of the best things is that if you volunteer to help then you get to shop early at the sale before the customers.

This is a list of the general items that we take for donations: all household items, kitchen, crafts, sporting goods, tools/hardware, books, collectibles, toys, games, puzzles, plumbing, electrical, pet items, photo frames, office/business supplies, linens, purses, gardening, furniture (clean), jewelry, electronics, glassware, home decorations, camping.

What we do not take: baby items, beds and mattresses, exercise equipment, food, old TV sets, clothes, wine glasses, holiday items, VHS movies.

We have decided that a summer sale is better for Trash to Treasures so we will be having our event one month after our Plant Expo that takes place in May. So, set your calendar for the first weekend in June 2022. I'll be in touch with everyone about volunteering and donating.

## Plant Sale

Bonnie Durick



Welcome to the class of 2021. 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 us 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.

## 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 Corp and inmate work crews. We have 20 plus 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 fall training program classes contain information in many aspects of the garden such as waterwise 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. Your Thursday classes in October will take place in the Discovery Garden and in the greenhouses.

Your first experience in the Discovery garden will be combined with our chapter meeting on Thursday September 30th. Beginning at 9:00 am, 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 for weather. We encourage everyone to participate in the garden training sessions.

We hope you will share our enthusiasm and become involved in this wonderful garden and learning center. After all, you meet the nicest people in the garden! Julie Stanbery: 541-672-7175.

## Westside Greenhouse

Carol Bolt



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 training will expose you briefly to what goes on at our greenhouses. We will work with you in the weeks following with

hands-on work in seeding, transplanting, plant division etc. Please do not be intimidated if you are inexperienced. We all began where you are! We normally work on Tuesdays from 9 AM to noon with the exception being during your fall training when we work on Mondays from 9 AM to noon. We look forward to sharing our love of gardening with all of you.

Westside greenhouse also would like to thank Carolyn Riecks for the donation of new shade cloth. Thank you so much!

## 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 2021 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 of 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 out on 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

Carolyn Ruzicka



Greetings to the Master Gardener Class of 2021. 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 7,267 pounds of vegetables in 2020 to be distributed to local pantries and community kitchens.



Weird Eggplant (David Campbell)

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!



## Amazon Smiles

Diane Smith-Lewsadder

Are you really donating to our organization in Roseburg?

As Treasurer this past year, I started to wonder why we weren't receiving more monies from Amazon. Granted, it takes quite a while to post to our account. They do not send a check, they deposit the monies into our bank account quarterly. However, as of today, it states that \$224.59 is all that we have received to date. The amount deposited into our account is only \$64 thus far. While I do use Amazon a lot, I'm a little puzzled to think that my donation alone has been nearly a quarter of the amount generated. I think there may be some misunderstandings on how this is done.

**This is free money everyone!** If you don't specify what organization you wish to donate to.....Amazon will choose for you....and you may not wish to have your donation to go to a non-profit that you normally wouldn't want to donate to!

**Amazon will donate .5% of everything you purchase on Amazon to the charity of your choice. Several steps need to be taken.**

1. Type in SmileAmazon in your URL.
2. Follow directions to sign up for the charity of your choice, and hopefully you may choose "Master Gardener Association", **located in Roseburg, OR.**
3. To keep AmazonSmile ON in the app, you must have the "Notifications" enabled in your settings. Otherwise, you'll need to type in SmileAmazon in your search bar each time.

(If you have signed up under ANY other Master Gardener Association or Oregon Master Gardeners, etc., your money is not coming to our chapter).

Hopefully this is helpful and we'll see more monies coming directly into our chapter! Wahoo!!!!



## Ask the Tool Man Alley

Several weeks ago, I was at the Discovery Garden sharpening a number of our Discovery Garden shovels using one of my portable bench grinders. One of our members was intrigued with the way I had temporarily mounted the bench grinder

to the work bench. His comment was **“At home I have little work bench space. There is no reason why I couldn’t use this mounting idea at home while using my bench grinder.”**

It is quite common for many of us to have limited counter bench space in our garages or workshops. At the same time, we still like to have pieces of equipment readily available in our shops/garages to perform our routine tool maintenance tasks. I feel two of these essential pieces of equipment are a vise and a bench grinder. These devices are normally permanently mounted to the work bench top at opposite ends. I have four bench grinders, each having a different wire brush, polishing discs and different grit grinding wheel set-ups. I switch between grinders, depending on my maintenance task. I don’t want to constantly stop and individually change brushes and grinding wheels. This convenience required me to develop some type of temporary mounting solution.



**My solution: Mount the bench grinder to two 11-inch x14-inch x 5/8-inch pieces of plywood glued together for strength. Securely hold the bench grinder and plywood base to the work bench top, using a heavy-duty welding clamp.**

You can see the bench grinder on the right is permanently mounted to the workbench counter top. It is mounted to the bench top with two 1/2 inch bolts drilled through the counter top and secured with 2 black plastic wing nuts, in front and back of grinder, allowing me to remove the bench grinder and base from the bench top. The bolts are drilled through



the bench top and are inserted from under the countertop up through the grinder. While this solution allows me to remove the grinder from the work bench top, it is not as easily done as using the solution on the grinder secured only by the large sliver welding clamp.

Here is a photo of the bench grinder that is mounted only to plywood base and temporarily secured to the work bench top with the use of a Berger Welding clamp. This method allows me to quickly loosen the welding clamp and removing the base and grinder from the workbench top, freeing up the workbench counter space. I can then grab another bench grinder that is need to use for my next task and clamp it down. **No time-consuming changing of brush wheels or grinding wheels.** This grinder set-up is the last step in most maintenance tasks, it includes a wire brush and a polishing pad that shines up the tool you are working on, and the polish also provides a barrier on the tool to help reduce rust build-up. Please note this grinder does not have any factory guards covering the wire brush or polishing wheel. It is best not to remove guards on any bench grinder.



I recognize not everyone will want to purchase a bench grinder. However, this tool will significantly enhance your routine maintenance tasks. While a new grinder will cost between \$60 to \$100, if you go early to estate or garage sales you can sometimes find a used grinder for \$20 to \$40. The welding clamp I use can be found at most stores that carry welding supplies. I found mine at Harbor Freight tools for less than \$20. It is a Berger 12”x3/4” Welding Clamp.



Lastly, safety always comes first, so **DON’T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR gloves, safety glasses, ear protection, work apron and face mask.**

If you have only one or two tools you need sharpening, please feel free to contact me or catch me at the Discovery Garden during our regular Tuesday work days. Happy Gardening. Keep those garden tools clean, sharp and properly stored. Stay safe.

# Douglas County Master Gardeners

## Chapter Meeting Minutes

at Residence of Dawnetta Loomis

August 26, 2021

**Continuing Ed:** Discussion took place of “Season Extension Techniques” from the LevelUp Series. Few were able to watch it. Those who did felt Steve’s recent article on the same topic was just as helpful.



**Dawnetta Loomis, Hostess:** Dawnetta and her husband moved here in 2014, and she became a Master Gardener in 2019. Dawnetta is originally from

Pennsylvania. The property comprises 5.2 acres, and she designed her raised bed vegetable garden herself. Both she and her husband served in the military - Dawnetta for 24 years in the Army. She also owned a catering business for 3.5 years.



**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:14 AM. There were 23 in attendance, including President Julie Stanbery, Vice-President Diana Woodward, Treasurer Diane Smith-Lewsadder, OMGA Rep Kish Doyle, Past President Nancy Fuller, Secretary Bonnie Courter, and Membership Kay Livermore.

**Agenda Approval:** No changes were made to the agenda.

**Minutes Approval:** The minutes were approved as posted.

### Agent’s Report - Steve Renquist:

Steve met with other agents from Josephine, Jackson, Lake, and Klamath Counties yesterday by phone. Most

aren’t planning to hold a January training class. A lot of them, however, liked the idea of a fall class with hands-on sessions. He also spoke with the new Josephine County agent who will start in one month. He invited her to sit in on our fall class which she will try to do as she wants to get more hands-on experience. Once Steve is gone, he suggested we tap into help from Josephine and Lane County agents.

There’s been a late season surge of coddling moth, so if MG’s have apples or pears, make one more application of Spinosad or Cyd-X.

Fall Training Class - Kish is interviewing people this week and next. 21 so far have applied, filled out paperwork and paid their fee. Thursdays in October will be hands-on activities at the Discovery Garden to supplement the class.

### OFFICER REPORTS

**Membership - Kay Livermore:** We have 229 members. Kay has been researching the hours of members, following up on those who haven’t completed their 60 hours.

**OMGA - Kish Doyle:** Nothing to report. Next OMGA meeting is October 1 and 2.

### Treasurer - Diane Smith-Lewsadder:

- Dawnetta Loomis is now officially taking over the Treasurer duties as of today. Diane has given her all the materials to perform her duties.
- We have only received \$64 from Amazon Smiles so far this year, which seems very low. Diane encouraged others to participate as Amazon designates a percentage of what you buy directly to DCMG through this program. BottleDrop is doing well with \$500 made so far this year, and \$84.68 from Kroger.
- The Waddington Fund is now in our second money market fund.

### Vice-President - Diana Woodward:

- The next LevelUp series is September 14, “Gardening With Native Plants for Pollinators” led by Gail Langellotto.

- The next chapter meeting will be held at the Pavilion. It will be followed by a potluck welcome for our new class, and we will get chicken to supplement the potluck. Before the meeting, at 9:00, we will give our new students a tour of the Discovery Garden.

**Past President - Nancy Fuller:** Policy and Procedures needs to be revised.

**President - Julie Stanbery:** Alicia Christiansen will be giving her annual Native Tree Walk, at the Elkton Butterfly Education Center September 17. Advanced registration is required by September 13, online, in-person, or by mail, and there is a \$10 fee.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Audit Report - Dawnetta Loomis:** The deadline for submissions for the 2022 budget is September 20.

The audit for June 25, 2020 to June 18, 2021 was performed on June 18, 2021. We met with our current Treasurer, Diane Smith-Lewsadder, at the Discovery Garden Pavilion and with former Treasurer, Toni Rudolph. The audit committee members were Vicki McAlister, Dawnetta Loomis and Karolyn Riecks.

The following items were reviewed during the audit:

- Confirmed our chapter 2020 Tax Return was filed with the OMGA Treasurer.
- Verified that chapter liability insurance is being maintained for the members.
- Verified that the current budget was being used to monitor income and expenses.
- Reviewed random financial transactions for the audited period to verify that transactions were properly documented and accurate.
- Reviewed bank statements and reconciliation reports to ensure that our electronic records accurately reflect transactions in our bank accounts.
- Checked that financial documentation on the Treasurer's computer regarding financial statements, bank statements and reconciliation reports was up to date and complete.

After the above review, we were satisfied that the Chapter's books are being maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards and are accurate.

Because of the pandemic, we verified information on the Treasurer's computer and not the computer in the Plant Clinic. The Treasurer is following OMGA methodology for off-site backup of financial data by maintaining a backup on a thumb drive. Once the Treasurer is able to go back to the Extension Office, the financial information will also be maintained on the Plant Clinic computer which will provide an additional layer of security.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Vicki McAlister, Dawnetta Loomis and Karolyn Riecks  
2021 Audit Committee

**Awards Team:** Ann Severson will now be in charge of volunteer recognition.

Kay Livermore reported members eligible for swinger bars for the month of July are:

60 hours: Carla Davis, Marcy Gustafson, Natalia Spencer

200 hours: Sylvia Andino, Joy Keeling

500 hours: Linda Estep

3000 hours: Carol Bolt

**Awards Banquet - Judy Huntley:** The Board decided to cancel the banquet this year due to COVID. We will hopefully have the awards banquet in January instead.

**Community Outreach - Leo Grass:** Leo taught a class at Phoenix School for AmeriCorps to 14, 6-10 year-olds on soil and seeds. He also received a request for a garden tour in November for about 50 blind people. UCAN wants to have a recognition event out at our garden. Julie will give them a tour of the Victory Garden. Also the Glide Garden Club wants a tour on September 9 at 10:30 which Leo will do.

**Discovery Garden - Julie Stanbery:** The repairs on the Pavilion roof are done, and it came out under \$700 for cost. Overhead Doors gave us a big break.

**Fundraising - Nathan Baily:** Not present. Julie handed out BottleDrop bags.

**Greenhouse East - Ann Severson:** The core group is back, cleaning, propagating, and dividing succulents.

**Greenhouse West - Joy Keeling:** We have a nice crew working, dividing, cleaning, and taking cuttings.

**Hallmark - Linda Thames:**

- Sent a sympathy card to Kathy McIntyre whose husband, George, passed away.
- Kathy Hart was hospitalized with diverticulitis.
- Elaine Moriarty had knee surgery.

**Newsletter - Bonnie Courter:** The September Newsletter is dedicated to introducing our organization to the new students. Please send me your article and photo explaining what your duties are for each position you may hold by Saturday, August 28.



**Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch:** Our Plant Clinic is open!! Things are a bit slow as we work to rebuild our program. The OSU Master Gardener Plant Clinic is an outreach opportunity to help our community plan their summer gardens and landscapes by answering a wide range of questions. This includes diagnosing plant problems and identifying insects. Our hours are 1-4, Monday through Friday.

If you want to work at the Plant Clinic, send me (Chris) an email. We are accepting volunteers for the Monday through Thursday shifts 1-4 PM.

We had a bit over 100 contacts during the month of August. Many questions were regarding sun scorch and fruit tree issues.

**Publicity - Cheryl Caplan:** Not present. No report.

**Spring Into Gardening - Chris Rusch:** Not present. No report.

**Victory Garden - Carolyn Ruzicka & Linda Brunanchon:**

Halfway through August and we have passed our UCAN donation totals from last year at this time! Last year was 2,663 pounds by end of August - as of today we have

donated 3,504!. Tomatoes are coming on like crazy since the weather has cooled some. Summer squash is doing well, and last week we took in the first of the melons. Beans should be good for another couple of weeks. It works well for the garden to be harvested twice a week instead of once a week as in the past. Anyone is welcome to come out to help harvest on Monday or Thursday. We start at 8:30 and pick 2-3 hours. MG's can bring their excess produce from their home garden on Monday or Thursday mornings and we will delivery to UCAN under "MG Home Garden".

**Waddington Fund - Team:** A committee is being formed to start discussions and proposals for putting these funds to good use. So far, Nancy Fuller, Kish Doyle, Patrice Sipos, Toni Rudolph, Diane Smith-Lewsadder, Julie Stanbery and Steve Renquist are on that committee. Julie would like newer volunteers to join it with their ideas. Julie will establish a meeting date after Labor Day. Sharon Hopkins will be working on the memorial bench for Anne.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS: Farewell to Outgoing Officer/ Installation of Officers**

Diane Smith-Lewsadder was recognized for her work as Treasurer and given a lovely planter filled with succulents.



Board officers present were sworn in by Nancy Fuller: President Julie Stanbery, Vice-President Diana Woodward, Secretary Bonnie Courter, Treasurer Dawnetta Loomis, and Membership Kay Livermore.

**SHOW AND TELL:**



•Steve showed off his huge pepper from his garden. He credits the use of shade cloth on his vegetables which really helped with the heat. He used a white frost cloth which is usually used as a row cover, and fastened the cloth to 6' tall stakes so the breezes can flow easily.

- Julie brought crocosmia bulbs to give away.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM followed by potluck and Dawnetta's home oven-fired pizzas.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Courter, Secretary



**ABOVE: DAWNETTA BAKING PIZZAS IN HER AMAZING PIZZA OVEN**

**BELOW: DAWNETTA'S DAUGHTER, NEYSA, HELPS LEO WITH HIS TOPPINGS.**



**JULIE, JUDY, DIANA AND ELVA DIVE INTO THE POTLUCK GOODIES WITH STEVE LURKING IN THE BACKGROUND.**



Fred's passion flower

### Fred's Fav's



# Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: 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)



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event date. This publication will be made available in an accessible alternative format upon request. Please contact Bonnie Courter, [rbcourter@gmail.com](mailto:rbcourter@gmail.com).

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