



Douglas County Master Gardeners

# Newsletter

February 2023

## Feb. 2023 Calendar

Wed., Feb. 1, 1:00-4:00

**Pruning Ornamentals, DG**

Mon., Feb. 6, 10:00-Noon

Insect Committee, Annex

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

Greenhouse Crews

Discovery Garden Workday

Wed., Feb. 8, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting

Fri., Feb. 10, 2:00

Work on table decorations for Awards Social, Annex

Mon., Feb. 13, 1:00-4:00

**Pruning Roses/Hydrangeas, DG**

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

Greenhouse Crews

Discovery Garden Workday

Mon., Feb. 20, 10:00-Noon

Insect Committee

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

Greenhouse Crews

Discovery Garden Workday

Thurs., Feb. 23

Continuing Education (9:00)

Chapter Meeting (10:00)

Tues., Feb. 28, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Discovery Garden Workday

## Upcoming Events

Sat., Mar. 4, 2:00-4:00

**Awards Social, Phoenix School**

Sat., Mar. 11, 9:00-3:30

**Spring Into Gardening, Phoenix School**

Thurs., Mar. 23, 1:00-4:00

**Pruning Japanese Garden, DG**

## The Prez Sez...

As a self-defined luddite, I am a bit abashed to admit I was taken in by a televised report on artificial intelligence (AI) and how it is being introduced into our daily lives. Chat GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer!) is a language model "robot" that can follow an instruction in a prompt and detailed response.

Chat has the potential to make people's lives easier - to assist in everyday tedious tasks. Aha! A machine with proper syntax, spelling and grammar. This might be the answer to my monthly Newsletter dilemma. Then it occurs to me, how would our honorable Newsletter Editor feel about being replaced by a robot?

The answer is there is no way we could replace her with a bucket of bolts. **Bonnie Courter** is the genuine article. Highly skilled in language arts and talented in managing real humans, Bonnie is not likely to be displaced by AI.

As I often find when I ask about a volunteer's background, there is much to know about Mrs. Courter. Bonnie began her Master Gardening adventure in 2007 and for some time stayed "Behind the Scenes" where she was given the County award in 2012. From there she has stepped up for fund raising, community outreach, chapter secretary, plant clinic, Ask A MG articles, and since 2014 she has been our esteemed Newsletter Editor. In 2022 she was recognized as a chapter Master Gardener of the Year.

Her background is that of the All-American girl. Born in Texas but raised in southern California, Bonnie has always enjoyed nature. As a child she helped her mom in the flower garden, with her musically talented family she played piano and sang in the church choir. At the age of seven, Bonnie's mom taught her to knit. She enjoys making socks and sweaters in the winter when her garden is asleep. In the 6th grade she took a *manual* typing class which served her well in her adult careers.

While a student at Humboldt State University she became a volunteer with the Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado. Working in the tundra with alpine flowers and immersed in plant identification, she discovered her passion for plants. "Wildflowers are my happy place". Bonnie had aspirations to become a naturalist for the Park Service. Marriage to Rick changed her direction where for many years she worked with rangers at Redwood National Park, BLM and the Forest Service using her typing skills and developing her many talents as writer and editor.

Residing in Douglas County since 1975, Bonnie and Rick are proud parents and grandparents with the added joy of raising nine month old "Zeke", a black Labrador puppy!



So ends my version of the Bonnie Courter story. I can't envision a "Messiah"-singing, piano plunking, sweater knitting GPT ever replacing this incredible human being! Thanks for being our editor.

Julie Stanbery

## Vice-President's Report

Diana Woodward

Here's the upcoming Continuing Education programs for February and March:

### February 23, 9:00

Bruce Gravens will be teaching a class on propagating peppers and tomatoes from seed. Bruce grows acres of peppers and tomatoes every year on his property, and he is an expert in getting these fussy seeds to sprout and thrive. Do you grow peppers or tomatoes or both? Come learn from a pro.

### March 23, 9:00

Fred Alley, our resident tool man and oak logs driller, will give us tips on how to take care of our garden tools. We can never get enough tips on how to take the best care of our tools. Fred has taught us how to refurbish an old shovel, how to clean and sharpen our clippers and has restored hundreds of tools for the Master Gardeners. Come learn from the best!

The Webinar recordings from last year are still up and operational. This is a great way to get your education hours, on those cold or rainy days when you can't go out. There are 10 recorded webinars at this link, they are from 2022, but still relevant, even to see them for the second time this year.

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2022>

## Treasurer's Report

Dawnetta Loomis

12/29/22-1/25/23

### INCOME

Bank Income	\$39.79
Membership	\$1,829.00
Plant Sale	\$1,085.01
Soil Testing	\$40.00
Donations	\$34.50

### TOTAL INCOME

**\$3,028.30**

### EXPENSES

HLC	\$154.58
Propane	\$1,192.47
Class Fee Return	\$200.00
Utilities	\$483.77
Plant Sale	\$1,229.16
Awards	\$361.83

### TOTAL EXPENSES

**\$3,621.81**

### Breakdown of our accounts at 1/25/23

NWCC - Checking	\$3,211.77
NWCC - Reserve	\$5,011.78
NWCC - MMK Savings	\$46,346.92
NWCC - 6 Month CD	\$17,751.33
NWCC - Waddington Fund	\$71,955.29

### Ending Balance

**\$144,277.09**

Lovely artwork by our own Julie Burchstead (2022)



## Membership

Kay Livermore

This job challenges me! It has to be done right! January is always hectic. There are the email reminders followed by phone calls. And more emails and phone calls. Anything that can go wrong, does. Two members put incorrect phone numbers on their dues forms. Two members put incorrect email addresses on their dues forms. Two members paid their dues twice. It's my job to see these things and GET IT RIGHT. Then there are the endless changes to the Title/Duties column on the roster. My goal is to give you the most accurate roster possible each month. But alas, it seems that as soon as I have Shirley send out a roster, there is a change. But I do love it and I try!

### 2022/23 statistics:

228 members at the end of 2022  
12 members dropped out in 2023  
7 2022 members have not paid 2023 dues  
+2 members have been reinstated  
211 members currently on the roster

### *Raffle Items for Plant Sale Needed by May 2*

In the past, members have given like-new books, tools, plants, gardening supplies, artwork, chocolates, birdhouses, baskets of goodies. As you can see, we have had a variety of items donated.

If you would be willing to provide an item or two, please contact Raffle Co-Chairs:

[Diana Circle \(541-530-7123\)](tel:541-530-7123) or  
[Toni Rudolph \(541-530-2397\)](tel:541-530-2397)

## Plant Sale

Karin Seder

The 2023 Master Gardener Plant Sale will take place on May 6 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds – but before that can happen, we have a multitude of tasks and projects that need to happen first. And they all involve YOU!



Bonnie Durick retired as coordinator of the Plant Sale at the end of last year after having done a fantastic job serving as leader for the past five years. Taking the reins – with your help – is Joy Keeling and Karin Seder. We have a host of superb committee chairs with years of plant sale experience and with YOUR help, we will be off and running for 2023!

The Westside Greenhouse crew has been seeding and propagating in preparation for the sale and the Eastside crew has been hard at work pruning, potting and preparing plants. More help is always welcome – check out the weekly emails for changes in the greenhouse hours, currently Tuesdays from 9 AM to Noon.

Although the Plant Sale to the public is on May 6, we will hold a Master Gardener Plant Sale after the chapter meeting on April 27 at the greenhouses from 1-3 PM with another date to be announced. For the MG's and especially the new MG's, this sale is for Master Gardeners only and gives us all first dibs on the wonderful plants available before the public even gets to see them. This also frees up your time to volunteer at the Plant Sale because you will have already made your plant purchases!

Dates to put on your calendar are **Thursday, May 4**, for those who will help get the tables and supplies from the Extension Office and the HLC; **Friday, May 5**, to set up for the sale and **Saturday, May 6**, for the sale. We are also again planning on having potluck lunch on Friday and Saturday for all MG workers.

We can't forget the raffle. Please start thinking of items you can contribute to the raffle, garden related or not. We bring in a good chunk of money each year with the raffle – check with Diana Circle to volunteer. Diana will announce collection locations for your raffle contributions soon.

Sign-ups will be handled on-line by Janet Bitter – look for the release date in mid-February. If signing up online is too daunting for you, please give Janet or Karin Seder a call and we will be happy to help get you on the appropriate list.

We have 17 teams listed here with just a quick note of what the job entails:

**BOXES** - Day of sale, pass out boxes to customers, take boxes to the Holding area and anywhere needed. **(Saturday)**

**CASHIER** - Take payment from the customers - cash, check or credit card. Need smartphone, preferably one that can link to a “cube” for credit card payment. **(Saturday)**



**CHECKER** - Like a checker at the store, adds up the totals using our short-cut pricing form. **(Saturday)**

**CLEAN-UP** - Keep tables swept clean of soil. **(Friday and Saturday)**

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** - Help place table signs on Friday and be out circulating on the floor helping customers on Saturday. Can choose area you would like to work - i.e. veggies, shrubs. **(Friday and Saturday)**

**FAIRGROUND PLANT SETUP** - Help unload plants from the trucks, place in carts or on racks and take to designated tables **(Friday)** and help load plants into the truck after the sale to return to the greenhouses. **(Saturday)**

**FINAL PICKUP** - Area customers can leave purchased plants or other items to do more shopping at the vendor stalls or get their vehicle to load plants. **(Saturday)**

**FOOD MANAGEMENT** - Set up for potluck and keep area clean. **(Friday and Saturday)**

**HALL/VENDOR SPACE** - Mark floor for vendor locations and assist vendors to locate their spot. **(Friday - starts at 7:30 a.m.)**

**HOLDING** - Area where customers can leave their plants in MG sale area to continue shopping before they pay for their plants. **(Saturday)**

**LOAD/UNLOAD AT GREENHOUSES** - At the HLC, help bring plants from the greenhouses and load into the big U-Haul trucks we will rent **(Friday)**, then after the sale, help unload unsold plants and put back into greenhouse areas. **(Saturday)**

**RAFFLE** - Help setup and organize the items for the raffle **(Friday)** and sell tickets during the plant sale. **(Saturday)**

**REFERENCE TABLE** - Like the plant clinic, be there to answer plant-related questions. **(Saturday)**



**SECURITY/TRAFFIC CONTROL** - Be a presence to be sure people don't leave plant sale area without paying for their plants, help with any traffic control issues. **(Some on Friday but mostly Saturday)**

**TABLE/CHAIR SETUP AND TAKEDOWN** - We have over 100 tables that need to be put up. This team will put up the tables and chairs **(Friday morning)** and then after the sale, take them down and stack them on the carts provided **(Saturday afternoon)**

**TRANSPORTATION** - This is a 3-day job. On **Thursday**, all the tables and supplies from the Extension Office and the HLC are loaded into trucks and trailers. **Friday**, all these supplies are taken to the Fairgrounds and setup begins. U-Haul trucks will be driven to the HLC to load plants and driven to the Fairgrounds with as many trips as necessary. **Saturday**, returning plants and supplies to their appropriate spot after the sale.

**WHEREVER NEEDED** - If you don't know what you would like to do, sign up here for Friday and/or Saturday. We will put you to work wherever needed and will probably use you to help with lunch breaks for the workers in a variety of positions.

Keep bringing in the empty boxes you have collected from Costco and the like. We need more boxes than you can imagine! On Tuesdays you can bring boxes to the greenhouses or if you are in town, take them to the plant clinic office.

We are looking forward to working with you to create another great sale! The more help we have, the easier it will be on everyone, so please sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Joy (970-560-6446) or Karin (707-322-6672)

Watch for more details in each of the MG Newsletters and come out to the greenhouses to see (and help!) with preparations. It is fun, you'll meet wonderful volunteers and enjoy a great learning experience.

## Swinger Bar Report

Kay Livermore



### Members who have swinger bar updates for December 2022:

2021 Trainees who have completed their 60 payback hours: Gerry Crane, Abigail Hotovec  
100 hours: Mauro Cettina  
300 hours: Ed Barrett, Kristin Jennings  
500 hours: Barbara Zastrow  
750 hours: Geoff Puryear, Joy Keeling  
2000 hours: Ivor Chapman  
2500 hours: Bruce Gravens  
10,500 hours: Tasha King

### Year Bar Report:

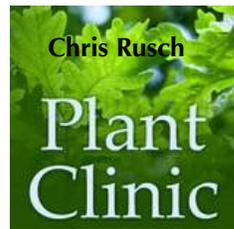
5 years: Earnest Amabisca, Vicki Barrett, Jackie Burt, Ellen Campbell, Linda Estep, Debby Finley, Doralee Hayden, Ron Owan, Carolyn Ruzicka, Beth Vangsness, Diana Woodward, Cheryl Yoder  
  
10 years: Nathan Baily, Carol Bolt, Alixe Dancer, Roger Dejmal, Karen Glatz, JoAnn Pico, Raymond Warren

15 years: Eloise Aguirre, Jackie Carpenter, Dave Hopkins, Lorreen Robinson, Gloria Waller, Joe Yetter

20 years: Gloria Amorde, Geneva Croft, Ken Hays, Patti Kowalski, Jim Leet, Joni Leet, Elaine Moriarty, Zona Wilson

25 years: Marianne Major, Shirley Purcell

35 years: Dennis Moore



The Plant Clinic was surprisingly busy in January even with our shortened schedule and winter weather. We had over 20 visitors in January. Many insect, plant identification and garden questions continue to come in.

Beginning in February we will be devoted to training our new students from our 2022 Fall class. We are lucky to have a great training team for 2022 with Leo Grass, Barbara Horst, Linda Estep, Diane Smith-Lewsadder, Doralee Hayden, and myself. A BIG thank you to all of you who regularly work at the Plant Clinic!

Speaking of our talented training team, we are always in need of new volunteers and alternates to step up and take on this challenging and important position on our Plant Clinic training team. Call me or send an email if you are interested; [crusch3837@gmail.com](mailto:crusch3837@gmail.com) or 541-825-3827.

Starting in April, we will need veterans to help in the Plant Clinic both in continuing to help our new volunteers and keeping up with the work load of assisting our visitors to the Plant Clinic. I realize we all have very busy lives, but I encourage each of you to take time, look at your calendar and pick just one afternoon each month and give the office a call and sign up. The Plant Clinic is where we give service as part of our Master Gardener obligation to our community. Please try to volunteer your expertise at least once a month to help out in this important outreach program. The Plant Clinic is a great way to promote our Master Gardener Program and encourage sustainable gardening in Douglas County. And besides, it's a fun way to get to know fellow MG's as well as a chance to learn new things! If you are in town, stop by and say hi!



*Pachyphytum compactum*, Little Jewel is from the Crassulacea family and is native to Mexico and found on the slopes of the hills. The name *Pachyphytum* means fat plant or thick leaves. The Little Jewel's

leaves are like no other succulents that I have ever seen. With a close look at the leaves you will see a geometric shape like that of gems or diamonds. Hence, the name Little Jewel. Also you will notice that the leaves of this plant have the powdery coating called Farina, like many succulents. This powdery coating is to protect the plant from extreme sun damages. It is vital that when handling it, not to overly touch the leaves as the oils from our hands can damage its coating. Wearing gloves is highly recommended.



Because the leaves of these varieties tend to be thick and fleshy, it makes them easier to propagate. It's geometric leaves can turn so many different colors, from greenish to blue and the tips can be purple, when in the right light conditions. The Little Jewel can grow to be about 12 inches tall and blooms in a pale yellow or greenish white center. It can thrive in poor soil conditions as long as there is good drainage. The best soil for growing is a cactus mix, but most soils are fine as long as you add sand or perlite or both. (I use regular potting soil with perlite.) When potting up your Little Jewel is best to put it in the right size pot. Not bigger than the plant, as this can cause over watering which will lead to root rot. The leaves are very sensitive and can easily fall off when being transplanted, so handle with care. Always remove any dead leaves and transplant in the late winter of early spring.



Some simple advice when growing the Little Jewel. Protect it from frost. It doesn't require a lot of watering. Best to water when dry to the touch like

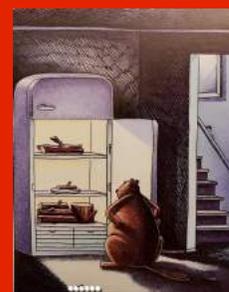
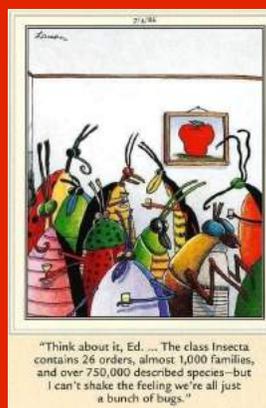
many of the succulents. It does well in a house with 68-80 degrees, when placed in a nice sunny location. It does its growing in the winter months and doesn't need much watering.

For all of you who love gems, this one is a sure treasure. Until then when I see you in the garden...



"Succulent Specialists"  
Kristin Jennings & Ann Severson  
Photo: Fred Alley

### Kish Doyle's Rib Ticklers



# Spring Into Gardening

## Educational Gardening Classes

Saturday, March 11th, 8:00 am to 3:30 pm  
Phoenix Charter School  
3131 NE Diamond Lake, Roseburg OR

### Keynote- 9:00 am-10:15 am

Logan Bennett, Small Farms Program Coordinator:  
Small Farms and Agriculture in Douglas County

### Session 1- 10:30 am-11:45 pm

- A. Veggies 101
- B. All about irises
- C. Backyard permaculture

### Session 2- 12:45 pm-2:00 pm

- D. Food gardening on a budget:
- E. Help! I killed my succulent!
- F. Honey bees in your garden

### Session 3- 2:15 pm-3:30 pm

- G. Growing garlic, onions, shallots, and leeks
- H. Secrets of growing beautiful lilies anywhere
- I. Growing and caring for fruits and berries

Lunch-11:45 am-12:45pm: Bring your own

\$25.00 for 1 or more classes  
Registration deadline Tuesday, March 7th, 2022  
Registration will be complete with payment  
Cancellation policy: No refunds.



The registered participant may invite another person to substitute in their place. Please notify us at 541-672-4461.

To Register go to online: <https://beav.es/iHT>



OSU Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials. Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made by 03/07/2023 to Logan Bennett, 541-236-3015, [logan.bennett@oregonstate.edu](mailto:logan.bennett@oregonstate.edu)



## FEBRUARY GARDEN CALENDAR

- Tune up your lawn mower and garden tools
- Have your soil tested
- Prune fruit trees, blueberries, and cane berries
- Spray your peach trees with lime sulfur for peach leaf curl and other fruit trees with dormant oil spray
- Prune and train grapes; make cuttings
- Prune deciduous summer-blooming shrubs and trees
- Plant fruit trees and deciduous shrubs and roses
- Plant seed flats of cole crops (cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli) in a greenhouse for later out planting
- Control moles and gophers
- Order seeds for your vegetable garden
- Register for “Spring into Gardening” on March 11!

Registration is open for the Spring into Gardening sessions on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, in Roseburg! <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/events/2023-spring-gardening> Volunteers are needed to help run this event; contact Chris Rusch to get your name on the “helping out” list. This fun day begins with a keynote talk by Logan Bennett on small farms and agriculture in Douglas County before breaking into concurrent classes. The registration fee is \$25 and we can handle up to 60 people.

This year’s topics include:

- + Veggies 101
- + All about irises
- + Backyard permaculture
- + Food gardening on a budget
- + Help! I killed my succulent!
- + Honey bees in your garden
- + Growing garlic, onions, shallots, and leeks
- + Secrets of growing beautiful lilies anywhere
- + Growing and caring for fruits and berries

## Fred’s Fav’s



## Ask the Tool Man Alley



### nut when it is rusted so badly the nut cannot be loosened.?"



It is common for me to find, or for someone to give me, a hand pruner or lopper that is so dirty and rusted it is impossible to even open them. This article addresses this common occurrence. **“How does one remove a pruner or lopper pivot bolt and nut when it is rusted so badly the nut cannot be loosened.?”** (Photo 1) illustrates two Corona tools: a) number 60½-inch pruner and b) a 28-inch lopper. I chose these two tools because I see a lot of the number 60 and 80 pruners. They are common and most

gardeners have used or use this type of pruner and lopper. I also chose them because they both have a pivot bolt and pivot nut. (Photo 2) shows how badly rusted these pruners were. The Corona hand tools are high quality steel and usually only have surface rust, so they clean-up nicely. (Photo 3) illustrates the pruners after renovation.

In renovating both the pruners and loppers there are two important things to heed.

**ONE:** Be patient. It took a while for the rust to build up on the pruners and it will also take time to remove it. Two ingredients are essential. One: a solvent to loosen and break down the rust, and two: time for the solvent to do its thing. I have found good quality gun oil is the best product to use.



Rem Oil firearm lubricant by Remington and Pen-A-Lube Penetrating lubricant, by Marc are both good products. They are both formulated for cleaning, lubricating and protecting fine metal. Both provide a barrier to rust and corrosion and both are available in a spray can. (See photo 4) Place the pruners or loppers on a newspaper and



spray the center of the tools with penetrating lubricant on the front and back side of the pivot nut and bolt. Let the lubricate set over-night.

**TWO:** You need to know that the earlier Corona tools, such as these, utilize a left-hand pivot bolt and nut, not a standard right hand bolt thread, commonly used today. To verify this left-hand pivot bolt and nut, carefully look at the top of the bolt head. It will have two small arrows pointing to the left, the word “off” and USA. (See photo 5) You might have to take a wire brush to the head to remove any dirt, grime and rust to see two arrows, the word “off” and USA. Later Corona pruners were designed differently with a right-hand bolt and nut. Pruners will only be a left-hand bolt and nut if the two arrows, the word “off” and USA are present. (Photo 5)



In order to loosen the pivot nut, you will need to secure the pruner or lopper in a vise, with the blade pointing upward and both the pivot bolt and nut accessible on each side. The nut should be facing you. The two handles will be in the vise. If using a metal vise, place an old towel around the pruner handles to prevent any damage to the handles. **DO NOT** attempt to loosen the bolt. It is threaded through the cutting blade and can only be removed after the nut is removed. One of the tricks I have learned from experience is to take several photos, with your phone, of both sides of the pruners or loppers to remind you how to re-assemble the pruners and loppers. The top of the bolt should be on the cutting blade side and the nut should be on the anvil side.

To remove the nut, place a box-end wrench over the nut. **DO NOT** use a crescent wrench or open-end wrench because both can slip and damage the sides of the nut. The box-end wrench will fit tightly so is less likely to slip. Place the box end wrench over the nut, facing to the right at 45 degrees. Place your thumb over the nut and the box-end wrench, then lightly tap down-ward on the box-end wrench to the right. (Photo 6) I know it will feel strange to turn the



nut to the right. After five to six taps, spray the nut again and continue tapping. Eventually the nut will loosen. Then take the box-end wrench in your hand and turn the nut to the right, 1/2 turn, then back, left, a 1/4 turn. Continue the process until the nut is completely removed. This will help loosen up the rust between the nut and the pivot bolt. Be patient. You may find you need to let it set overnight again.

This process can be used on any hand pruners or loppers, just remember the earlier Corona tools were designed with a left-hand bolt and nut. This design actually prevented the pruners from loosening while using. Later pruners were designed with square throated or threaded bolts and right-hand nuts.

I have not covered the renovation of the pruners, only the removal of the pivot bolt and nut. I have addressed the renovation process in several other tool tip articles in past Newsletters.

Happy gardening, and keep those garden tools clean, sharp, oil and properly stored.



## DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Chapter Meeting  
January 26, 2023

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:07. There were 46 in attendance, including President Julie Stanbery, Vice-President Diana Woodward, Past President Nancy Fuller, Treasurer Dawnetta Loomis, Membership Kay Livermore, OMGA Rep Barbie Hamby, and Secretary Bonnie Courter.

**Agenda Approval:** Added report from Awards Nominating Committee.

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

### OFFICER REPORTS

**Past President - Nancy Fuller:** She viewed a program on OPB about the history of Oregon State University and Extension. Very good program. She also has blanket flowers blooming all over her property.

**Membership - Kay Livermore:** 208 members presently.

### OMGA - Barbie Hamby:

The OMGA Board of Directors met in December 2022 to set goals for 2023. Some of the goals are to provide leadership and support educational events for the upcoming year, including the “Joy of Gardening” conference; partnering with OSU Extension to provide quality horticulture training for newbies and veterans; and to support the chapters in their quest to recruit and retrain volunteers.

OMGA had a successful 2022. Its Executive Board welcomed two new Board members to fill vacancies for its Vice-President and Treasurer positions. It hosted its mini-college (now called “Joy of Gardening”) which is seeking volunteers to help plan it for the upcoming summer, slated for July 7-8. It continues to support and participate in addressing diversity and inclusion as it is part of the Growing and Belonging Committee. OMGA is working to improve Master Gardener training at all levels from beginner to advanced.

They are also working with Dr. Lyles, Vice-Provost for Extension and Engagement, to develop a Needs Assessment for the program. Bylaws were updated and revisions were made to the Policies and Procedures Handbook.

OMGA’s long-time Master Gardener program leader, Gail Langellotto, has decided to devote more time to teaching and research at OSU and will step down as program leader in July 2023.

### Treasurer - Dawnetta Loomis:

- She’s been getting ready for the plant sale.
- Waddington Fund: She turned in a form for electronic funds transfer to Toni Rudolph, so that’s moving along.
- We’re getting a \$200 check from BottleDrop. Now they charge bags turned in by weight.
- Amazon Smiles is shutting down their charity program, so DCMG will no longer qualify.
- It’s time to choose what to do with our 6-month CD which matures February 8. If we simply roll it over for another 6 months, we get 1% interest. If we roll it over to a 36 month CD, we’d pay a penalty, but would earn

1.8% Discussion ensued. **Dawnetta made a motion that we leave it as is. Diana Circle seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimous to keep the 6-month CD.**

- Dawnetta may be stepping down next year, so would like to mentor someone who will take over the treasurer position.

#### **Vice-President - Diana Woodward:**

It was an excellent talk by Steve Denney this morning on restoring our oak trees in Douglas County. Perhaps we could have a field trip to USFS's Dorena site where they can show us how to raise and transplant oaks. Bruce Gravens will talk on starting peppers and tomatoes in February.



**President - Julie Stanbery:** She's happy to see some new students attending the meeting as well as some "old" faces.

#### **MG Program Coordinator - Logan Bennett:**

- The VRS update for timekeeping is coming out the first of February, so Logan will meet with Kay Livermore, Vicki McAlister and Julie Stanbery so it's a smooth transition. We will have volunteer admins to input info if an MG wishes to use paper still.
- There is an upcoming mud manure and farm direct marketing workshops coming up.
- February 24 there will be a joint collaborators meeting where reps from agencies like USFS and Natural Resource Conservation Service will give talks on what they're currently doing for the community.
- Logan is developing a need assessment for the County.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Awards Social - Ann Severson:** Please email her if planning on attending the Awards Social. There will be 3 presenters (Kay, Ann and Logan). Ann is meeting with someone at Phoenix to see how to set up. New students who want to help out will meet February 10 at 2:00 with Laura Corder at the Annex to do table decorations. The event will be held at Phoenix school, March 4 at 2:00, setup at 1:00.

**Blue Bags - Dawn Shumack:** Dawn brought blue bags to hand out. MG's can bring full bags to meetings and Dawn will deliver them - she will also can come to your house to pick up full bags.

**Community Outreach - Team:** Logan, Steve Renquist and Diana Woodward did some pruning and instruction at Cow Creek's orchard in Myrtle Creek.

#### **Discovery Garden - Julie Stanbery:**

Pruning sessions: The small amount of people who have come have done a lot of pruning. These sessions are a good refresher or training for pruning. Mentors, bring your students.

- February 1 (Wednesday) at 1:00 on ornamentals, the trident hedge and flowering trees that need shaping. Bring an electric hedger if you have one.
- February 13 (Monday) at 1:00 is rose pruning and hydrangeas in the Entry Garden.
- March 23 (Thursday) at 1:00 - Japanese Garden.

We need to recruit someone to do compost tea, someone who lives close to the garden. Nathan Baily is having some health issues. It's a weekly job starting in April and runs through August.

**Facebook - Barbara Horst:** Not present. No report.

**Greenhouse West - Carol Bolt:** Busy making cuttings, transplanting and seeding. They have lots of plants, so Steve Hart is making raised tables above the heated beds for excess plants. They've had a good turnout of workers.

**Greenhouse East - Ann Severson:** Busy cleaning, dividing, and propagating. Could use more help. Have a problem with condensation in one of the greenhouses so Ann took some plants home to her greenhouse.

#### **Hallmark - Linda Thames:**

- Julie Stanbery's beloved Paul Zipp passed away in December.
- Nathan Baily is recovering from back surgery.
- Vicki McAlister had foot surgery.
- Teresa Grosenbach's father passed away.
- Bruce Gravens lost his mother.

- Diane Smith-Lewsadder had knee replacement surgery this week.

**Insect Committee - Diana Woodward:** The committee did not meet in December or January. Richard Johnstone said, "The bugs are frozen, drowned, underground, or in bed. Let's let them rest in peace until February."

**Newsletter - Bonnie Courter:** Submissions are due Saturday, the 28th.

**Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch:** We now have 2 computers in the Plant Clinic and they also did some remodeling. The training team starts February 1, training the new students. The team consists of Leo Grass, Chris Rusch, Diane Smith-Lewsadder, Linda Estep, Barbara Horst, and Doralee Hayden. The team leaders met recently to go over protocols. The clinic will be open for training Monday through Friday in February.

**Plant Sale - Joy Keeling/Karin Seder:** There will be a committee meeting right after this chapter meeting. Any expenditures for the sale have to be approved by Joy or Karin first. In February, signups will be started online. We have 58 vendors signed up so far. They applied for the Agriculture permit, contacted all chairpersons and the Fairgrounds. Bring raffle items to Diana Circle. Keep bringing boxes.

**Publicity - Cheryl Caplan:** She is starting publicity for Spring Into Gardening. Will start sending out the Plant Sale date to online calendars at news outlets.

**Soils - Patrice Glasscock:** They had 110 samples last year. They have a couple of people who have been trained to do samples. The soil dehydrator dries soil overnight, so was a great addition to the lab.

**Spring Into Gardening - Chris Rusch:** March 11, 9:00-3:30, is the date for this event. Logan will be the keynote speaker on small farms in Douglas County. Flyers were handed out. Volunteers are needed to help. Cheryl Caplan is doing publicity on it. Need helpers to setup and takedown, manning the registration table and reference table, room monitors, traffic control, and Barbie Hamby is in charge of refreshments.

**Swinger Bars - Kay Livermore:**

Members who have swinger bar updates for December 2022:

2021 Trainees who have completed their 60 payback hours:

Gerry Crane, Abigail Hotovec

100 hours: Mauro Cettina  
 300 hours: Ed Barrett, Kristin Jennings  
 500 hours: Barbara Zastrow  
 750 hours: Geoff Puryear, Joy Keeling  
 2000 hours: Ivor Chapman  
 2500 hours: Bruce Gravens  
 10,500 hours: Tasha King

Year bar report:

5 years: Earnest Amabisca, Vicki Barrett, Jackie Burt, Ellen Campbell, Linda Estep, Debby Finley, Doralee Hayden, Ron Owan, Carolyn Ruzicka, Beth Vangsness, Diana Woodward, Cheryl Yoder  
 10 years: Nathan Baily, Carol Bolt, Alixe Dancer, Roger Dejmal, Karen Glatz, JoAnn Pico, Ray Warren  
 15 years: Eloise Aguirre, Jackie Carpenter, Dave Hopkins, Lorreen Robinson, Gloria Waller, Joe Yetter  
 20 years: Gloria Amorde, Geneva Croft, Ken Hays, Patti Kowalski, Jim Leet, Elaine Moriarty, Zona Wilson  
 25 years: Marianne Major, Shirley Purcell  
 35 years: Dennis Moore

**Trash to Treasurers - Ann Severson:** Ann will take donations at the Discovery Garden or at her home. Taking holiday items now. Bring clean items and those in working order. Lenore Drake also stores items. The sale is June 3 at the Winston Community Center (the price went up \$75 this year).

**OLD BUSINESS - Awards Nomination Committee:** Kay Livermore is chairman of the Nomination Committee. The committee met and has chosen their nominees. They will be announced at the Awards Social in March.

**NEW BUSINESS - OMGA Advocacy:** OMGA established a task force for support for Extension at the State level. Toni Rudolph is representing Douglas County. It's important to get information to our State reps to support Extension. Toni will send out a sample letter that MG's can use to send out., Make sure to incorporate into your letter any stories saying how valuable Extension has been.

**SHOW AND TELL:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

February 8, 10:00 AM, Executive Board Meeting, Annex

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:31.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Bonnie Courter, Secretary

# 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)

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)



**Oregon State University**  
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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, [rbcourter@gmail.com](mailto:rbcourter@gmail.com).

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