



Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter

May 2023

May 2023 Calendar

Mon., May 1, 10:00

Insect Committee

Tues., May 2, 9-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Fri., May 5, 8:00-?

Plant Sale setup day

Sat., May 6, 9:00-4:00

Plant Sale

Tues., May 9, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Discovery Garden Workday

Victory Garden Crew

Wed., May 10, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting, Annex

Mon., May 15, 10:00

Insect Committee

Tues., May 16, 9-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Discovery Garden Workday

Victory Garden Crew

Tues., May 23, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Discovery Garden Workday

Victory Garden Workday

Thurs., May 25, 10:00

Chapter Meeting/Potluck at home

of Dave Clark & Iva GreyWolf

Mon., May 29

Memorial Day Holiday 🇺🇸

Tues., May 30, 9:00-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Discovery Garden Workday

Victory Garden Crew

Fri., June 2

Trash to Treasures setup, Winston

Community Center

Sat., June 3, 9:00-3:00

Trash to Treasures Sale

The Prez Sez...

Hi folks, Katie here, still waiting for Mom to get back from her "shopping trip" up north. You know how Mom is always pressed to find a topic for her monthly articles? Well, I've read some of the stories she's written about other Master Gardeners and I thought you'd like to learn a bit more about my Mom.

My Mom joined the DCMG in 1992. She told me she had moved to Douglas County in 1991 and was looking to meet a few nice people. A tiny 2" blurb in the Umpqua section of the News-Review mentioned a class starting January 1992. For the cost of \$25 which included her handbook, Mom became an Extension volunteer. She becomes really nostalgic telling me about the many friends she has made over the years.

I am the 4th dog Mom has rescued from Saving Grace. I have my two cat brothers, Benny and Buddy, whom she found at Cleveland Rapids 14 years ago. I really enjoy wrestling and sleeping with Benny - Buddy, not so much!

Mom "retired" as a health care worker, but never really retired till this year. With her Master Gardener training she was able to work for 22 years gardening and landscaping. Her favorite chore is fall and winter pruning.

Mom has had many different jobs in her life, beginning with picking strawberries in Banks, Oregon, at the age of 10. Her first "real" job paid her 25 cents an hour cleaning up the beauty salon. She has done babysitting, pet sitting, house cleaning, had laundry ironing for customers (age 13), was a library aide, nursing home aide, short order cook at the bowling alley and gas station attendant. She worked at Gold's Gym for seven years and has traveled as a personal assistant to a 96-year-old couple on their honeymoon!

Mom's more professional life included 15 years as a medical assistant, X-ray technician and a Level One EMT. She moved to more administrative work where she managed 3 medical practices and a radiology department in Washington.

Mom is proud to be a native Oregonian. In fact, she and her 3 siblings all graduated from Lincoln High School in Portland that her grandmother and mother both attended. Julie and her mom both had the same high school counselor! Being a leap-year baby keeps her young enough to enjoy her hobbies that include bowling, reading and finding a great estate sale!

Well, I think I'll close now and send this to that Bonnie lady that Mom is always talking about. Won't Mom be surprised when she gets home tonight and finds her work all done?!

Look for me in the garden, Katie



Vice-President's Report

Diana Woodward

Our next Chapter meeting will be May 25, 2023 at David Clark and Iva GreyWolf's home, located at 821 Wilson-Collins Road, Roseburg. No class before, so the meeting begins at 10am. This is a potluck meeting. When we are done with business, we have a big picnic with all the goodies MG's have cooked for all of us. Be sure to bring your favorite dish, a chair, plate and utensils. Water and other drinks will be provided.

You won't want to miss this visit to a couple of our Master Gardeners' own yard they have built from raw land. Artistic, detailed, gorgeous views, it has an outdoor shower and sauna, a Japanese tea house, and a covered Koi pond with waterfall. Come early and take a walk around, it is awesome and will bless you. Come and enjoy this day with us!

Directions:

Take exit 123, the Fairgrounds exit, heading N or S on I-5. At the south exit, take a right onto Heritage Rd - north exit, take a left, under the freeway, then straight to Heritage Rd. Stay on Heritage until Wilson Collins Rd. Take a right, head up the hill past the pavement. When it turns into gravel, there is a sharp left turn you must take to continue on the main road to 821. Dave and Iva's place is on the right, enter their driveway through two big dark stained wooded posts, with the number 821 on the post. Our plan is to have you all drive up to the house, drop off your things and then park. See you there!



Shared by Kish Doyle

Swinger Bar Report

Kay Livermore



Members who have swinger bar updates for March 2023:

Four 2022 trainees completed their 60 payback hours:
60 hours: Julie Burchstead, Laura Corder, Curt McCracken, Dawn Shumack
100 hours: Colleen Baida
200 hours: Gloria Cettina, Ed Cole
300 hours: Cheryl Caplan, Jan Turley
500 hours: Janet Bitter
3500 hours: Vicki McAlister
5000 hours: Chris Rusch

QUOTABLE QUOTES



(Shared by **Kay Livermore**):

"Volunteers are not paid - not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless."
Sherry Anderson

(Shared by **Jack Finney**):

"I often keep a single flower in a small bottle on my desk, where I can enjoy it. I learn a lot from studying that flower's cycle..... That single flower invites me to study every detail more deeply. Even over just a few days, the changes are breathtaking. I've witnessed the magic of a peony going from hot pink to pale coral, watched a tulip's petals double in size and seen a rose clinging to the last glimmers of its fading bloom. Over time, studying these flowers has helped me acquire what other gardeners have referred to as "gardener's eyes.".... Gardening can reshape what you notice.... The physical world has a new eloquence."
Catie Marron

How Gardening Can Sharpen Your Power of Attention
Washington Post, March 22, 2023

Plant Sale

Karin Seder & Joy Keeling



THE PLANT SALE IS FINALLY HERE!!!

The Plant Sale is just around the corner – in case you have been living in a cave without internet – the sale is **May 6**. But we have more to do to get ready, and not just on May 6. See below for additional dates where we can still use more help! Contact Karin (707-322-6672) by phone

or text if you haven't already signed up – we have a job for you!

Here is the list of events and some do's and don'ts to keep in mind.

Thursday, May 4 a team will be meeting at the Extension building at 1:30 to start loading stuff from the building and then go out to the HLC to load up the rest of the carts, tables, etc.

Friday, May 5 is setup day at the Fairgrounds.

- The majority of people need to arrive around 8:00. Your team leader will contact you if you need to be there at a different time.
- U-Haul trucks will be going to the greenhouses and loading plants, then heading to the Fairgrounds and back again.
- Potluck both Friday and Saturday – bring something great to share. We have electricity to plug in crock pots and refrigerators for things that need to be kept cold. Serving spoons will be available.
- **Do not park in front of the Exhibit Building.** We need to have room for the vendors to park to unload their stuff.

- If it is a cold day, dress accordingly as there is no heat in the building on setup day.
- Wear comfortable shoes since you will be walking on hard concrete.
- There isn't a secure place to keep purses or backpacks in the building, so keep them in your locked trunk. We cannot be responsible for stolen items.
- Wear your glasses! The plant tags seem to get smaller each year. 😞

Saturday, May 6 – the big day is finally here!

- Park across the street near the museum.
- Wear your Master Gardener name tag – a must!
- Wear your Master Gardener garb if you have some.
- Please be at the Fairgrounds by 8:00 if you are working in the morning or an all-day shift.
- Vendors can shop starting at 8:30 and must purchase their items at that time – vendors are not allowed to keep items in our holding area.
- Don't forget – potluck again.
- MG's can shop at the sale after 2:30 – not before, because we need you on the floor, not shopping.
- Thank you for all your support in getting this sale ready. Be ready to have a busy, but fun day. We expect to see even more plant-loving people come through the doors than in previous years – this could be our biggest sale yet and we hope to see you there!



The *Rhipsalis Baccifera* has many crazy fun names from Mistletoe Cactus, Spaghetti Cactus and Chain Cactus. It is native to South America, Mexico and Florida.

Most of us love to have houseplants of some kind and know that with having houseplants we need sunlight. Well, the Rhipsalis is one that doesn't require that much sun. It would be happy in a house with little light and temperatures of 60-80 degrees. It will do best in a west or northern window. (The two that I have are in the west windows.)

The Rhipsalis Mistletoe Cactus is found to be in 60 degree weather in the canopies of the forest, in between the crotches of trees. It is considered a epiphytic plant, like air plants and orchids to name a few. Epiphytic means that these plants grow on trees and other plants in the wild. They do not grow on their own.



The stems of this plant have hundreds of sections which can be removed and propagated into another plant if you would like. But what is very amazing about his plant is how it grows. It might have only a few of the stems decide to grow much taller than the others in the pot. The stems grow in many different directions which adds so much charm to the Rhipsalis. Who wouldn't love to have this as a house plant? In a few years this cute, charming plant can grow as long as 6 feet or longer. Not to worry as you can trim it to the desired length you like and just start one for a friend.

In the early spring it will have a white little flower which is not very showy or spectacular to say the least. The plant itself is the gem. And many of you know that I love plants that are on the odd side. (Matches my squirrel personality.)



Make sure if you get one of these plants that is has a nice drain hole. You can use most any soil, making sure to add perlite to help with drainage. Once potted up, take it to your sink with the water on a small stream and get the Rhipsalis completely wet until you see water coming out of the bottom of the pot. Remove from the water. Let it drip until no water comes out. Do it one more time. Now

you are done for a long time. Find a nice flat rock and place it on the top of your soil of the Rhipsalis. Flip the rock over in about 10 days. Check and see if the rock is wet on the bottom of the rock. If it is, don't water it for a few more days. Place your finger in the soil, about 1- 2 inches down and see if it is wet. If not, water your plant. This method works for all succulents. This plant likes to be moist, but not wet. Do not let it sit in water as it will get root rot.

Many house plant succulents can be outside and love it in the summer months. But I might add caution for this plant. It does its best in cooler temperatures. So best to only have it as an indoor plant.

Fertilizing this plant is one's choice. I have two of them and have never used any on my plants. If yours has issues, then use a balanced fertilizer once in the spring and in the summer - never in the fall for any succulents. Cut off most watering in the winter months.

This little gem is a wonderful addition to any home. Hope you add one to your home. You'll love it like I do mine.

Until then when I see you in the garden...

SAVE THE DATE

the **JOY** of Gardening

KEYNOTE: TOM KAYE
FRIDAY JULY 7, 9-10:30 AM
Title: Coping with Climate: How our changing environment is affecting native plants and habitat restoration in the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

KEYNOTE: ANDONY MELATHOPOULOS
SATURDAY JULY 8, 9-10:30 AM
Andony Melathopoulos is an Assistant Professor of Pollinator Health Extension in the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University.

JULY 7&8, 2023
ALUMNI CENTER, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY
REGISTRATION DATE TBD



Ask the Tool Man Alley

During spring I offer my garden tool maintenance and sharpening skills to the work crews of both greenhouses at the Discovery Garden. It's a great way to donate my skills to the Master Gardener Program, and also for me to assist the greenhouse crews in preparing for our annual Plant & Garden Expo. This year I

noticed an increase in the number of hand pruners our work crews have requested to be cleaned, repaired and sharpened. The increase in numbers, I suspect, is that there are more volunteers in both the Westside and Eastside Greenhouses. I have also found the quality of the hand pruners has increased. This includes pruners with changeable cutting blades. While the crews primarily use clippers for fine work, there are two brand name hand pruning shears that are preferred. The two brand name pruners are Felco and Corona. Specifically, the Felco 8 and the Corona BP-3280. Both are heavy duty bypass 1-inch pruners and both pruners have replaceable cutting blades. (Photo 1) Surprisingly, several of our members did not realize the pruners had replaceable blades and their immediate questions were, **“how to replace the blade, how to tell if the pruner has a replaceable blade”**. Some indicated they were intimidated by taking the pruners apart.



Both are easy to disassemble, clean and sharpen the replaceable blade. There are two distinctive items to look for. First on the front side of both pruners there are two or three small holes on the cutting side of the blade. The Felco has three holes, one on each side of the pivot head and one at the top end of the cutting handle. The Corona has two holes, one at the top of the cutting handle and one at the top.



(Photo 1&2) The second sign is on the back side of the cutting blade. You will see a small hole on the upper right of the back side of the cutting blade. The replacement blade has small round “pins” on the back side

of the blade that match the round projects on the handle. It is easy to see, when you have the replacement blade in your hand. The replacement blade **MUST** be the exact replacement blade made solely for that pruner. (Photo 2 &3) The Corona pruner is designed with fewer parts, so it is the easiest to disassemble and replace the blade. That blade replacement is a Corona DP 3180. The replacement blade for Felco No 8



is Felco blade No 7 or No 8. Unfortunately, neither replacement can be purchased locally. It can be ordered from several businesses online. **DO NOT** throw the old blade away before consulting me first. In most cases the old blade can be resharpened for future use.

This article is not intended to compare the Corona DP 3180 to the Felco No 8. Both of these pruners are excellent pruners. If were to choose, I would want both pruners because they each have features that I like. The following is a brief listing of the manufacture's respective features.

Corona: “Corona Heavy Duty Bypass Pruner 1-inch capacity BP-3180. Durable high-carbon steel bypass pruner for superior cutting performance and Long-term use. Re-sharpenable bypass blade. Non-slip handle grips. Recommended for large hands.” Commonly available at local stores. Replaceable cutting blade not available locally. Cost \$38.71

Felco: “These pruning shears/secateurs have an ingenious design which makes them ideal for heavy-duty cutting tasks. The superior ergonomics are especially suitable for large hands. Robust foundation of the tool's firm and comfortable grip. With an angled cutting dead design the Felco 8 immediately becomes a natural extension of your hand, making you more efficient as you move from one pruning job to the next. Re-sharpenable bypass blade”. Available at one local store. Replaceable blades not locally available. Cost \$66.75

Because both of the bypass pruners feature a replaceable blade, you will find the need to more regularly and thoroughly clean both pruners. With a replaceable cutting blade there is more surface area between the two handles and the replaceable blade for dirt and grim to accumulate. (Photo 4)

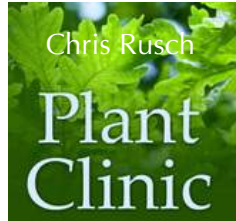


Both pruners are easy to assemble and re-assemble. The Corona BP 3180 is slightly easier, because it has fewer parts. One trick I use is to take a photo of each side of the pruners before disassembling, then you have something to review during re-assembly.

During the last several years, I have only renovated four pairs of Felco pruners, while I have renovated quite a number of Corona pruners with replaceable cutting blades. Before that time, it was rare for me to renovate any pruners with

replaceable cutting blades. By far, the most frequent pruners I have renovated are the Corona #6 and Corona #8. Both older models are single blades built into the cutting handle. They are high quality, last a lifetime and can be renovated easily even when rusty. Pruners with changeable blades are becoming very popular with today's gardeners.

Happy gardening and continue keeping those garden tools clean, sharp, oiled and properly stored



Well Spring has finally arrived to Douglas County!!

The Plant Clinic has been busy in April. We have been helping folks plan their gardens and landscapes by answering a wide range of questions. This includes diagnosing plant problems and identifying insects. We had over 70 visitors this month!

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. The Plant Clinic training program is a great opportunity for our new members to put their knowledge of Sustainable Gardening to work. We are lucky to have a terrific Plant Clinic training team this year with Leo Grass, Barbara Horst, Diane Smith-Lewsadder, Linda Estep, Doralee Hayden, Gerry Crane, and Chris Rusch.

We need veterans to help in the Plant Clinic both in continuing to help our new volunteers and keeping up with the workload of assisting our visitors to the Plant Clinic. We have plenty of openings. 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 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 it lots of FUN!!

Thank you to all our enthusiastic Plant Clinic volunteers!

If you are in town, stop by the clinic and say hi to our new students.

FUN FACTOIDS

Diane Smith-Lewsadder

Stressed plants ‘scream,’ and it sounds like popping bubble wrap! A study of tomato and tobacco plants suggests they emit ultrasonic popping sounds when dehydrated or physically damaged.

When deprived of water or snipped with scissors, plants emit a flurry of staccato “screams” that are too high-frequency for humans to hear, a study suggests. When lowered into a range that human ears can detect, these stress-induced pops sound like someone furiously tap dancing across a field of bubble wrap.

Although humans cannot hear these ultrasonic pops without technological assistance, various mammals, insects and even other plants may be able to detect these noises in the wild and respond to them, researchers reported Thursday (March 30) in the journal Cell. (The same researchers first shared their popping-plant discovery in 2019 on the preprint database bioRxiv, but the work has now been peer-reviewed.)

...On average, healthy plants let out less than one pop per hour, but the stressed plants emitted about 11 to 35, depending on the plant species and stressor. Drought-stressed tomato plants were noisiest, with some plants emitting more than 40 pops per hour.

...Although the researchers gathered these recordings by setting microphones about 4 inches (10 centimeters) away from the plants, they suggest that these ultrasonic sounds could potentially be heard by mammals and insects with great hearing from 9.8 to 16.4 feet away.

[GraniteGrok.com](https://www.granitegrok.com)

Gardening has taken off. Here's why the popular activity can replace your gym workout

Gardening has become an increasingly popular way to improve fitness. The CDC says the activity is great exercise, and it's as effective as a gym workout. What's more, the outdoor connection helps boost physical and mental health, studies have shown.

Read in CNN: <https://apple.news/AwnfX3kdTbiObTWnDntjbg>

Treasurer's Report

Dawnetta Loomis
03/30/2023-04/27/2023

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$65.41
Soil Testing	\$190.00
Membership Dues	\$20.00
Badge	\$6.00
Pre-Plant Sale	<u>\$492.00</u>

TOTAL INCOME **\$773.41**

EXPENSES

Banquet & Awards	\$42.00
Gifts	\$20.00
OMGA Dues	\$1,065.00
Discovery Garden	\$65.71
Soil Testing	\$176.41
HLC	\$981.59
Administration	\$62.75
Spring Into Gardening	\$171.66
Class Fee	\$200.00
Propane Tanks	\$1,816.83
Plant Sale	\$2,246.81
Utilities	<u>\$688.58</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$7,537.34**

Breakdown of our accounts at 04/27/2023

NWCC - Checking	\$1,143.79
NWCC - Reserve	\$5,012.39
NWCC - MMK Savings	\$40,704.12
NWCC - Waddington Fund	\$72,043.87
NWCC - 6 Month CD	<u>\$17,783.91</u>

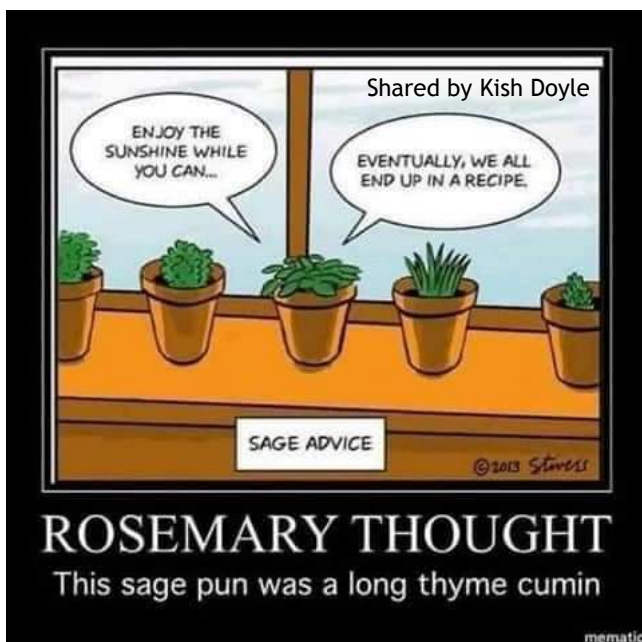
Ending Balance **\$136,688.08**

MAY GARDENING CALENDAR

Some Garden tips for May:



- Write in your garden journal throughout the growing season.
- Prepare garden soil for spring planting. Incorporate generous amounts of organic materials and other amendments, using the results of a soil analysis as a guide.
- Prepare raised beds in areas where cold soils and poor drainage are a continuing problem. Incorporate generous amounts (at least 2") of organic materials.
- Use a soil thermometer to help you know when to plant vegetables. When the soil is consistently above 60°F, some warm season vegetables (beans, sweet corn) can be planted.
- Allow foliage of spring-flowering bulbs to brown and die down before removing.
- Apply commercial fertilizers, manure, or compost to cane, bush (gooseberries, currants, and blueberries), and trailing berries.
- Place compost or well decomposed manure around perennial vegetables, such as asparagus and rhubarb.
- Cut back ornamental grasses to a few inches above the ground, in early spring.
- Cover transplants to protect against late spring frosts.
- Optimum time to fertilize lawns. Apply 1 lb. nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of lawn. Reduce risks of run-off into local waterways by not fertilizing just prior to rain, and not over-irrigating so that water runs off of lawn and onto sidewalk or street.
- Optimum time of year to dethatch and renovate lawns. If moss was a problem, scratch surface prior to seeding with perennial ryegrass.
- Prune and shape or thin spring-blooming shrubs and trees after blossoms fade.
- Plant broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, chives, endive, leeks, lettuce, peas, radishes, rhubarb, rutabagas, spinach, and turnips.



DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Chapter Meeting
April 27, 2023

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by VP Diana Woodward in Julie Stanbery's absence at 10:05. There were 33 in attendance, including Vice-President Diana Woodward, Past President Nancy Fuller, Membership Kay Livermore, OMGA Reps Barbie Hamby and Patrice Sipos, and Secretary Bonnie Courter.

Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved as posted.

Minutes Approval: The minutes were approved as posted.

OFFICER REPORTS

Past President - Nancy Fuller: Nothing to report, though she has noticed that Spring is in full swing at her house by the presence of a family of grosbeaks as well as seeing white-crowned sparrows and yellow crowned warblers.

Membership - Kay Livermore: Nothing to report.

OMGA - Barbie Hamby: The "Joy of Gardening Conference" is July 7-8 at OSU campus. Registration opens on May 15th. MG chapters are asked to donate items to equal \$300 for the Silent Auction. Bring any donations to the Plant Clinic for Barbie by June 23. Donations can be garden-related items or gently used items. Keynote speakers: Tom Kaye on coping with climate change on Friday and for Saturday Antony Melathopoulos on pollinator health and increasing bee habitat. Check out the website at: <https://omga.org/mini-college-2023>

Treasurer - Dawnetta Loomis: Not present - financials will be posted on the website.

Vice-President - Diana Woodward: We enjoyed an informative and interactive talk by Ann Severson on succulents this morning. Arbor Day is coming up so plant a tree! Next chapter meeting/potluck will be at



Dave Clark and Iva GreyWolf's home. Directions will be posted.

President - Julie Stanbery: Not present - her report:

The Executive Board met to discuss the up-coming need for nominations for officers for the year beginning September 1, 2023. Moving into our 16th month without an agent, and no action being taken probably until the budget is set by the Legislature, we considered the need for continuity of leadership. If you are willing to have us, all but one of the Board members is willing to continue for another year. Diana Woodward is stepping down from the position of Vice- President.

I have asked the Executive Board to be the search committee for Diana's replacement. The job description consists of backing the President and leading the monthly continuing education program. Diana has been a remarkably supportive VP and very creative in setting topics for our monthly meetings.

At the May meeting, the slate of nominees will be announced and posted in the Newsletter. Additional nominations can be made from the floor. We encourage anyone interested in pursuing office to do so at anytime. Please remember our continual search for the next DCMG Treasurer. Anyone who would be interested can begin shadowing Dawnetta at anytime during the year. Transition is so much easier when the incoming Treasurer can work with the current Treasurer.

Kudos to Chris Rusch who spoke before the Ways and Means Committee last Friday evening at UCC. It was a very interesting civics lesson.

PS: If anyone has something from Trader Joe's that they can only get from the big city, send me a text! (Yes, I know how odd that sounds!)

MG Program Coordinator - Logan Bennett: Thanks to the 15 MG's who attended the Ways and Means Committee at UCC to show support for Extension in the State budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Blue Bags - Dawn Shumack: Has blue bags to distribute.

Community Outreach - Dawn Shumack: Cheryl Caplan sent the following report:

"I came back from a short trip to Mexico with COVID. I'm nearly at day #7 and feeling a ton better (thank you, Paxlovid).

I'm letting the coordinator at UCC know today that I may or may not be at the Wednesday event. It's only 2 hours and I have the tubs used for the farmers' markets here at home. I've postponed the build-a-hanging-basket event at Bridgewood Rivers to the following week.

I was contacted by the Boys & Girls Club about DCMG helping out with their gardens there. I am visiting them on Monday, May 8th, at 1:30 pm to see what is needed. I'll also check with Erin Maidlow to see if this fits more into the Farms to School program."

Dawn added the following:

- April 21 - Oakland preschool group: Approximately 18, 3-4 year-olds with parents and a few siblings attended a tour at the Discovery Garden. Leo Grass, Julie Burchstead, Dawn Shumack and Doralee Hayden gave the tours.
- April 26 - UCC Earth Day event: Cheryl Caplan had 21 people stop by the MG Outreach display. It was an outside event. She promoted the Plant Sale and other MG activities.
- The hanging basket class at Bridgewood Rivers Assisted Living is rescheduled for next week, and will be taught by Cheryl.

Discovery Garden - Julie Stanbery: Not present - her report: Julie Burchstead is the "Bittercress Queen"! She made great inroads to clearing out the ground under the kiosk signs. Thanks!!!!

Facebook - Barbara Horst: For the last 28 days, posts reached 19,155 with 66 new followers. The top post was the Plant Sale which reached 7,362 people. 85% of the followers are women, and the majority from Roseburg.

Greenhouse West - Joy Keeling: Not present - setting up for the pre-sale this afternoon.

Greenhouse East - Ann Severson: Pre-sale is today from 1-3 pm and again on Sunday same time.

Hallmark - Linda Thames: Not present - her report:

- Janet Bitter is caring for her mom who broke her hip.
- Nathan Baily is recovering well from his second surgery and feeling optimistic.

Dr. Bernadine Strik, a pioneer in the berry industry and who taught our berry crop classes for many years, passed away April 14. "Old Timers" will remember her.

Insect Committee - Diana Woodward: They are making great progress on identifying the first drawer of spiders.

MG Training Class - Gloria Cettina: She and Patrice Glasscock have been working with Logan to put together a schedule for the Fall Training Class. It will be an 8 week class, only on Tuesdays. We are limiting class to 27 students - 3 students per mentor. After the Plant Sale we will start asking for mentors to sign up.

Newsletter - Bonnie Courter: Submissions are due this Saturday, April 29.

Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch: Not present - her report:

First, I want to thank everyone who worked in April at our Plant Clinic! 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.

Our training for the new class of 2023 is mostly completed. We are lucky to have had a great team this year with Leo Grass, Barbara Horst, Doralee Hayden, Linda Estep, Diane Smith-Lewsadder, Gerry Crane, and Chris Rusch. The May calendar is wide open. If you want to help out, please call the Plant Clinic and get your name on the calendar.

Also I want to mention that I was honored to speak for our Master Gardener group before the Ways and Means Committee last Friday in support of SB 458, full funding for Extension. This would include funding for our Horticultural Agent position at Douglas County. It is not too late to let your voices be known. Be sure to contact the Ways and Means Committee and let them know you support SB 458, full funding for Extension.

The Glide Wildflower Show is this weekend, April 29-30, 9am-5pm, at the Glide Community Center.

Plant Sale - Karin Seder: Not present - her report.

Joy and I are being held captive at the Westside Greenhouse – come rescue us at 1 pm today and find the plants of your dreams.

May 6 is fast approaching and we are moving as quickly as we can to get everything in order for the Plant Sale.

Thanks to our great team leaders, the details are falling into place.



Got to say we still need more help – starting 1:30 pm Thursday at the Extension office all the way through bringing the last load back on Saturday following the sale.

But then, I guess we are preaching to the choir – because all of you are signed up already – right? Call or text Karin: 707-322-6672 to add your name to the list.

FYI - the electronic sign at the Fairgrounds is out of order for those traveling north and no word on when it might be fixed. I am bringing one of our vinyl signs to put on the fence. Hope it helps!

See you out at the sale today following the meeting or if you can't make it today, see you Sunday. Both sales are for MG's only, both are from 1-3 pm, and all forms of payment are accepted.

Karen Glass spoke, saying we're in desperate need of 4 more cashiers in the morning. They need to have a smart phone with a little extra data. They have 10 tables. Sign up on the website or call Karen if you can help.

Toni Rudolph said we also need more raffle items - you can bring them to the presale or contact Toni or Diana Circle.

Barbie Hamby reminded everyone to bring a potluck dish for lunch on Friday and Saturday of the sale.

Publicity - Cheryl Caplan: Not present - her report:



It's all about the Plant & Garden Expo until after the event. The newspaper ad is running. The radio ad is not finalized, but I should hear from them this week. It will run the week before the sale. Facebook coverage is doing well. The event will be posted on Craigslist next Monday. All the banners are in place, but the lawn signs need homes. They go up this Sunday before the event.

Soils - Gloria Cettina: Last year at this time, we did 31 tests. This year we've done 50 so far, and 6 are being processed.

Swinger Bars - Kay Livermore: Members who have swinger bar updates for March 2023:

Four 2022 trainees completed their 60 payback hours:
60 hours: Julie Burchstead, Laura Corder, Curt McCracken, Dawn Shumack
100 hours: Colleen Baida
200 hours: Gloria Cettina, Ed Cole
300 hours: Cheryl Caplan, Jan Turley
500 hours: Janet Bitter
3500 hours: Vicki McAlister
5000 hours: Chris Rusch

Trash to Treasurers - Ann Severson: She will need multiple trucks to haul items from Lenore Drake's and Ann's house and trailer the Friday of setup. Things are looking really well - may even hit \$5,000 this time. And if we do, Ann will sing a song for us. (No more jumping rope!)

Ann is in charge of the Plant Sale vendors this year. We have 55 vendors signed up!

Victory Garden - Carolyn Ruzicka: No activity this week. Watch for email for the next work day. We have radishes, carrots, beets and peas coming up. We will be planting in May for tomatoes, peppers and the other warm season crops. The cover crop was a failure this year due to poor germination. Scott McKain came out and tested the soil twice, and the pH was right on. He also added biochar in the fall.

OLD BUSINESS - Bylaws Review: The Executive Board did a review of our current Bylaws.

There were no recommendations for updates or changes. It is posted on the website that the current by-laws were reviewed April 2023.

NEW BUSINESS -

Westside Greenhouse addition: Carol Bolt made a request for an additional \$1700 at the Executive meeting for funds to expand the outside table area west of the existing patio. This would entail moving the fence 12 feet out to the west where the compost piles are - necessitating a new watering system, gravel, a trellis roof for shade and new tables. Steve Hart said he will make the tables. The Board moved to recommend to the membership that the request be approved.

Kish Doyle proposed that we approve the expenditure of \$1700 to expand the Westside Greenhouse area. Kay Livermore seconded. Membership unanimously approved the proposal (except for Ernie Amabisca who had to have the “Roger” dissent). 😊

Electricity Budget Increase: We have already spent \$3000 on electricity as rates have increased a lot. The Board recommended an increase of another \$3000 in the budget for electricity to cover the rest of the year. Toni Rudolph proposed we increase the electricity budget to \$6000. Maureen Benice seconded. The increase was approved unanimously (except for Ernie again).

SHOW AND TELL: Dawn Shumack bought a device called the “Oregon Slug Trap”. You bury it down to the rim into the soil, put cheap beer or apple cider vinegar into it, and close the lid. It works really well! Coastal Farm has them for \$4.99. She did advise putting a rock on top, however, to deter skunks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Steve Renquist and his wife Ceda sold their home and will be moving to North Carolina May 5. They are having a garage sale tomorrow (Friday) starting at 9am. Their address is 331 Thora Circle Dr. in Winchester.
- Leo Grass's wife, Barbara, recently passed away. A celebration of life will be this Friday at 2:00 at Wilson's Chapel of Roses in Roseburg.

- Cynthia Moyer is also moving to North Carolina. She is having an estate sale this Saturday, starting at 9:00. Anything not sold she will donate to Trash to Treasures. Saturday is also Cynthia's birthday! Anyone who'd like to chip in for a nice gift card, see Diane Smith-Lewsadder.
- May 10, 10:00, Executive Board Meeting

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:50.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Courter, Secretary

Fred's Fav's



Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: E-mail submissions to Bonnie Courter: rbcourter@gmail.com

Website: www.douglascountymg.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/pages/Douglas-County-Master-Gardeners/251882398200487

OSU Douglas County Extension Service: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas

OSU Gardening Information: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening

OSU Master Gardeners Program: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/mg

Oregon Master Gardeners Association (OMGA): www.oregonmastergardeners.org



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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.

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