



# Douglas County Master Gardeners

# Newsletter

September 2023

## Sept. 2023 Calendar

Mon., Sept. 4

**Labor Day Holiday**

Tues., Sept. 5

Fall Training Class, 8:30-4:00

Eastside GH Crew, 8/9-Noon

Thurs., Sept. 7, 8:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Fri., Sept. 8, 8/9-Noon

Eastside GH Crew

Mon., Sept. 11

Westside GH Crew (9:00-Noon)

Victory Garden Crew (8:00-Noon)

Insect Committee (10:00-Noon)

Tues., Sept. 12

Fall Training Class, 8:30-4:00

Eastside GH Crew, 8/9-Noon

Wed., Sept. 13, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting, Annex

Thurs., Sept. 14, 8:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Fri., Sept. 15, 8/9-Noon

Eastside GH Crew

Mon., Sept. 18

Westside GH Crew, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew, 8:00-Noon

Tues., Sept. 19

Fall Training Class, 8:30-4:00

Eastside GH Crew, 8/9-Noon

Thurs., Sept. 21, 8:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Fri., Sept. 22, 8/9-Noon

Eastside GH Crew

Mon., Sept. 25

Westside GH Crew (9:00-Noon)

Victory Garden Crew (8:00-Noon)

Insect Committee (10:00-Noon)

Tues., Sept. 26

Fall Training Class, 8:30-4:00

Eastside GH Crew 8/9-Noon

Thurs., Sept. 28, 10:00

Chapter Meeting/Potluck @ DG

**MG Fall Plant Sale, Noon-2:00**

Fri., Sept. 29, 8/9-Noon

Eastside GH Crew

## Welcome from the Chapter President



Class of 2023: Hello and welcome to your new adventure! I hope you will find your time with us both fulfilling and filled with fun.

I sometimes hear folks outside of our group refer to us as a "garden club". Being a Douglas County Master Gardener is so much more than *clubbing*. Our mission is education for ourselves to better share current, researched-based information with our community. Assisting home gardeners in all aspects of sustainable gardening enriches us all in so many ways. Becoming good stewards of the land, water

and air can only improve the quality of our lives.

As a Master Gardener volunteer you are asked to contribute to the many varied programs we use as outreach activities to the people in Douglas County. Some of you will be adding to your horticultural knowledge while others will be new learners. No one is expected to be encyclopedic on any topic. We learn to use resources to find good answers to garden questions, and over time you do indeed broaden your knowledge base.

Volunteering in the Plant Clinic, in the Discovery Garden, the Victory Garden or in the greenhouses will give you many opportunities to experience gardening in our county and climate. After the first 60 hours of volunteer payback, many of our Master Gardeners find a niche where they prefer to spend their time. Options abound, as you will discover, over the coming year.

Our chapter holds two meetings a month which all members are invited to attend. **September 28 is our general membership meeting** held each September in the Discovery Garden pavilion. The meeting begins at 10:00 am. Following the meeting, students will be our guests for potluck lunch, and our fall **MG only plant sale** will take place at 12:00 pm.

All of our veteran volunteers are excellent mentors, eager to help you through this journey. Please rely on them, ask lots of questions, and welcome to the "club"??!

Julie Stanbery  
Chapter President  
541-672-7175



## MG & Small Farms Program Coordinator

Logan Bennett

Hello, and welcome Class of 2023! The Master Gardener program is excited for the fall training! This program strives to combine classroom and hands-on learning. You are joining a program with over 200 members. This year's class has 30 trainees, each of whom is paired with a veteran Master Gardener. Your mentor will introduce you to all that our program has to offer, including continuing education seminars, organizational meetings and many varied avenues of community outreach. The most important component of our program consists of communicating our Sustainable Gardening mission to other groups in Douglas County. The Master Gardener program is heavily involved in community outreach, including giving presentations and providing demonstrations wherever we can. Our Plant Clinic is open year-round in the Extension office where home gardeners can come for help with their garden problems or questions. We use our training to provide research-based information to the public. We advocate for sustainable practices such as wise use of water, integrated pest management, and building healthy landscapes. We have an excellent informational library, both digitally and on paper. Our dedicated veteran volunteers will also guide you during your first volunteer year.

Established in 2000, our chapter has developed an educational garden and training center at the Discovery Garden near River Forks Park. You may be familiar with our complex, called the Horticultural Learning Center (HLC). You will have many opportunities to work and attend classes at the HLC. The last Thursday of each month is our DCMG membership meeting. Our next meeting will be scheduled for **September 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM** at the Discovery Garden Pavilion. This meeting will be a potluck, so bring your appetite! As a trainee, you are not required to bring a dish, just yourself! We'd love to see you there, and it is a great opportunity to meet with other trainees and Master Gardeners.

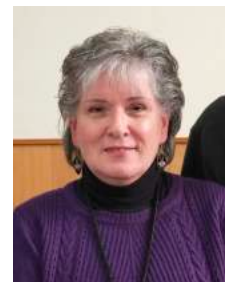
After graduation on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, you have until November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, to complete your 60 hour payback

obligation. There are many opportunities for service that apply to your volunteer hours. Each volunteer is required to spend time in the Plant Clinic, but you also have opportunities to spend time at the Farmers Market, in our soils lab, volunteering at the Horticultural Learning Center, and taking more classes through the Extension Service. Our chapter Newsletter is the primary source of information about monthly activities and updates about coming events. Peruse it monthly - it's worth the read! 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. We look forward to sharing our gardening knowledge with you so you can in turn share your knowledge with others in our county. You will soon see that the energy and enthusiasm of our veteran Master Gardeners is infectious! During the next 8 weeks you will have the opportunity to learn about many horticultural topics. Remember to have fun, meet the other new trainees, and always feel welcome to reach out to your mentors, me, or any veteran Master Gardener. See you in class!

## 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 (OMGA). 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.



## Vice-President Andrea Collins

Welcome, new students, to the Master Gardener program.

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 also providing the Continuing Education program.

At our monthly Chapter meetings, the last Thursday of every month, January-May, October-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 with what's happening in our program and get your 10 hours of certified education for your next year's recertification as a Master Gardener.

Our next Chapter Meeting will be Thursday, September 28, at 10:00, under the pavilion at the Discovery Garden. Veteran MG's will provide a potluck lunch after the meeting, inviting all the new students to come and join us to celebrate the new 2023 class and get acquainted.



My hobbies include gardening, sewing, knitting, crocheting and genealogy. I look forward to getting to know the Master Gardener Class of 2023.

## 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.



## Membership Kay Livermore

Becoming a Master Gardener in 2016 is one of the best things I have ever done. I only wish I had done it 20 years ago. I have learned so much and have met some of the most wonderful, caring people in the world!

I enjoy volunteering with the Master Gardeners, but being Membership Director for the past 5 years is my forever Dream Job! I have made it known that in order to get rid of me, the members will actually have to vote me out of this job!

As Membership Director, I collect annual dues and keep an updated roster of DCMG members' contact information: phone numbers, mailing and e-mail addresses. Send contact information changes to [kay.livmr@gmail.com](mailto:kay.livmr@gmail.com).



### Treasurer's Report

Dawnetta Loomis  
07/28/23-08/31/23

#### INCOME

Membership (class fee/badge)	\$3,003.00
Soil Testing	\$340.00
Interest	\$47.63
Plant Sale Post	\$16.00
Donations	\$249.29
Compost Tea	\$319.00

#### TOTAL INCOME

**\$4,374.92**

#### EXPENSES

Grants/Scholarships	\$240.00
Administration	\$512.75
Discovery Garden	\$829.68
HLC	\$925.88
Plant Sale	\$3,955.00
Class Deposit	\$300.00
Utilities	\$840.02

#### TOTAL EXPENSES

**\$7,603.33**

#### Breakdown of our accounts at 08/31/23

NWCC - Checking	\$5,035.22
NWCC - Reserve	\$5,013.23
NWCC - MMK Savings	\$73,119.09
Waddington Fund	\$72,370.87
NWCC - 6 Month CD	\$17,843.13

#### Ending Balance

**\$173,381.54**

## OMGA Reps

Patrice Sipos & Chris Rusch



Patrice

Chris

As Douglas County's Oregon Master Gardener Association (OMGA) representative and alternate representative, we meet quarterly with

other representatives from Master Gardener Chapters across the state and the OMGA Executive Board. We help to develop goals and objectives and make decisions that will set OMGA policies. We share what Douglas County Master Gardeners are doing with the rest of the state and learn about projects other chapters are participating in at their local area. As representatives, we also provide information to our local chapter about OMGA news and events.

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



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Editor: Now, we'll introduce you to some of our committees and their chairpersons:

## Newsletter Editor & Writing Team

Bonnie Courter

**Newsletter:** I'm excited to welcome the Class of 2023! 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/mg\\_newsletter.html](http://douglascountymg.org/mg_newsletter.html). Past issues can be accessed on our website as well. For an additional fee of \$18.50/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. "Funnies" are also welcome!

**Writing Team:** 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 tips with Douglas County gardeners 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!

## FTC Coordinators

Gloria Cettina & Patrice Glasscock



Gloria



Patrice

As FTC (Fall Training Class) Coordinators, we are responsible to help plan and execute the Fall Training Program. This entails recruiting presenters, creating a class schedule, and equipping

mentors 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. Send any email messages to: [dcmgtraining@gmail.com](mailto:dcmgtraining@gmail.com), or reach us by phone at: Patrice: 541-817-5536; Gloria: 503-914-7170

## 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 2023 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 [crusch3837@gmail.com](mailto:crusch3837@gmail.com).

## Soils Lab

Gloria Cettina & Patrice Glasscock

Tucked into a tidy space in "Punches Palace" at the HLC (Horticulture Learning Center) is the Soils Lab where a dedicated team is available to put soil that has been provided through a battery of precise tests....a drop of this, a milliliter of that. Soil is tested for soil texture, pH, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, etc. A detailed report is then sent to the customer which enables them to see what, if any, action should be taken to enrich their soil. Soil analysis is invaluable in deciding what blends of fertilizer to use or if you're using too much of a certain fertilizer. So far this year we've tested over 100 samples of soil for the community. As you can see, it is a vital service that we provide. Fall will be a busy time for testing as gardeners prepare their soil for the spring planting season, so if you are interested in joining the team let us know!

## Insect Committee

Richard Johnstone, Roger Dejmal, Diana Woodward, & Debby Finley

Nearly 25% of the calls to the Plant Clinic concern possible plant damage from or problems with insects and other arthropods. With over 1 million identified species of insects worldwide and an estimated 15 million possible species total, this would seem an impossible task but an analysis of Plant Clinic data for Douglas County shows that 90% of the insect questions involve only about 50 insects and spiders.



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

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



## Swinger Bars Kay Livermore



My second most favorite thing to do for the Douglas County Master Gardeners besides Membership is the job of being the Swinger Bar 'Fairy'. I am passionate about getting Swinger Bars out to members as fast as possible!

The most common swinger bars attached to Master Gardener badges are hour bars and year bars.

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 announced at Chapter Meetings and are published in each DCMG Newsletter. See me at any DCMG Board Meeting or Chapter Meeting to get a new swinger bar. Note: you must have your badge with you.

I am looking forward to meeting the 2023 Trainees as I exchange their Trainee Badges for their Master Gardener Badge with their 1<sup>st</sup> swinger bar attached.

## 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.

As coordinator of the Discovery garden, you will be hearing many garden updates from me. 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 research-based information. 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 water wise gardens, dry garden (xeriscape), water collection and irrigation techniques, container and adaptive raised beds (easy access), herbs, Japanese, perennials, annuals, roses, lilies, and much more! All of our classes include ecological management practices that stress integrated methods (IPM) and low impact techniques.

Beginning Tuesday the 5th, some of your classes will be held in the Discovery Garden and in the greenhouses at the Horticultural Learning Center. They are OUT-OF DOORS so dress for weather, hot or cold. With these garden classes and the Discovery Garden Tour the following week, you will be introduced to the many and varied aspects of volunteer work at the HLC and the DG. 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!





## 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 2023 to come join our efforts. We are responsible for curating and propagating woody plants for the annual Plant Sale which is our major fundraiser.

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.

## 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.



## Victory Garden

Carolyn Ruzicka

Greetings to the Master Gardener Class of 2023. 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 your fall training 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 just under 8,000 pounds of vegetables in 2022 to be distributed to local pantries and community kitchens.



"Cobra" zucchini from the VG  
-Photo: Fred Alley

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!

## 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 2023! 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 2,255 people following our page. If you haven't already done so, be sure to "like" us on Facebook!

## 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.



## Publicity

Cheryl Caplan



As the Publicity chair for our group, I work on getting the word out about upcoming events, programs, and fundraisers to the newspaper, radio stations, and social media sites. But the best way to let people know about what we do is by each of us talking to people we know. You can get a handful

of the colorful bookmarks in the Plant Clinic that lists many of our programs – it makes a great tickler list during conversations. If you have an idea for an article or a TV/radio spot, let me know at [cheryl\\_caplan1@msn.com](mailto:cheryl_caplan1@msn.com) or text at 541-430-5124.

## Community Outreach

Cheryl Caplan, Leo Grass & Dawn Shumack

As the team in charge of responding to requests for gardening presentations, we are all about growing, educating and connecting with our communities. But it takes more than the three of us to meet with groups! If you are interested in helping out with presentations to gardening clubs, youth groups, community groups, and other special interest clubs, contact us. You could also help give tours of the Discovery Garden. Another way to achieve outreach with education is by creating educational Facebook posts that teach a snippet of gardening. Let's get creative with community outreach!

## Spring Into Gardening

Chris Rusch

I am also the chair of our Spring Into Gardening educational event committee. The Douglas County Master Gardeners sponsor an annual event known as Spring Into Gardening. It is a program that educates our community about the art and science of growing and caring for plants with solid training in science-based, sustainable gardening. We offer classes in practical approaches to vegetable gardening, home orchards, improving garden soil, permaculture, honeybees, lilies, succulents, irises, and so much more.

Our "Spring Into Gardening" event for 2024 will be on Saturday, March 9, 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM at the Phoenix Charter School in Roseburg.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, send an email to Chris Rusch at [crusch3837@gmail.com](mailto:crusch3837@gmail.com) THANK YOU!

## Nature Scenes from the Irrigation Crew

By Janet Bitter



Left: UFO's or "UAP'S"?



Right: A skink residing in



## Plant Sale

Joy Keeling and Karin Seder



Joy Karin

The annual Master Gardeners Plant Sale is one of the major fundraisers for our chapter. It is held the first Saturday in May at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in the Exhibit Building. Thousands of plants grown in our greenhouses at

the HLC are transported to the Fairgrounds and put on display to sell. Vendors are also part of this event, offering garden-related items for sale. Our Plant Sale requires a lot of help from a lot of people in many different capacities. We need each of our Master Gardeners to participate in order to make our sale a success – there is a spot for everyone, no matter your skill level. You will be hearing more about this in your classes and in the coming months. Work continues year around in the greenhouses - in fact, we start the week after the sale getting things started for the next sale. We encourage you to come out and help in the greenhouses on Mondays for hands-on learning. Once the fall MG classes have concluded, our workday at the greenhouses moves to Tuesdays. You will learn plant propagation, division, root pruning, seeding and the care of many different types of plants. It is also a great way to get some of the hours you need to complete your Master Gardener payback, not to mention you get to work with a great bunch of people.

### FALL PLANT SALE !!!

We are planning on having a Fall MG Plant Sale in conjunction with the September chapter meeting on Thursday, September 28. This is the meeting that we have out at the Discovery Garden, followed by potluck. We will be selling for a couple of hours after the potluck. More information will be coming out through Shirley on the details. Fall is often a great time to get some plants in the ground to be established during the dormant period. We will also have fall/cool weather vegetable starts. If you haven't been out to the HLC in awhile, it will also be a great time to take a look at our compost project. Be sure to put this date on your calendar, not just for the chapter meeting and potluck, but the fall sale as well.

## Trash to Treasures

Ann Severson



After being a Master Gardener for a few years, there was a need for someone to take over one of our fundraisers, Trash to Treasures and I answered the call.

Trash to Treasures is a one day HUGE yard sale that takes place the first Saturday in June at the Winston Community Center.

Our Master Gardeners are the ones who donate most of the items for our sale, along with family and friends. Donations are taken year round by me out at our gardens and also can be dropped off at my home at 501 S.E. Grape Ave. Winston. If ever dropping them off at my home, I ask that I know who is dropping them off in the event I need to ask a question. When the donations come in, I price them and box them up in storage at my home and at another Master Gardener's home in Roseburg.

The Friday before the sale, Master Gardener volunteers arrive at the Community Center to help set up tables and place the items on the tables. All volunteers get a first pick of the donations to purchase if they help set up. This is a great perk.

The other great thing about Trash to Treasures is that it is a great way to get a lot of your volunteer hours in. There is no sign-up sheet for this fundraiser - just show up. Enjoy the fun and craziness of the day.

Here is a brief list of the items that we DO NOT TAKE for donations: Baby items, clothes, shoes, broken items, old TV sets, old computers, old phones, food, exercise equipment, beds, cassettes, VHS movies. This list is subject to change. All items must be in clean and in working order.

Hope you can help volunteer at this next year's Trash to Treasure's sale.



Well, our summer months are slipping away and before you know it all the beautiful plants and flowers that we have enjoyed all springtime long until now will be dying back. Some will

hang on longer than others. But in the end it's sad to see them go.

This means a lot of work for us avid gardeners who work so hard cutting back, cleaning up our yards for the springtime season again. So, how do I prepare my succulents for the winter months?



Everyone assumes that all succulents are the same and are treated the same in regard to watering, amount of sun and that they can all be either outdoor or indoor succulents. Oh, this is so very wrong. I correct many people weekly about this on various types of succulents.

Let's start with your succulents that are outdoor varieties. These would be your sedums. For those of you who don't know, sedums are always outdoor. They can be planted right in the ground or in garden pots. They do not require much watering in the summer months. In the late fall or early spring, you will need to cut them down to the ground to allow the new growth of the sedum to grow back in the spring. It is best to do this in the fall as the stocks of the sedum become very woody and are just a bit tough to deal with.

The ground covers (stone crops) like the sedums are very hardy and take very extreme temperatures. But these plants go dormant in the beginning of the fall months. This is a great thing to know as before I was into succulents, I had bought a ground cover and it wasn't there anymore. It had gone dormant. I thought I killed it. But it reappeared again in the spring.

They usually come back bigger and bolder in the spring.



Most of the outside succulents like the sedums, stone crops, and hens and chicks need no other care than cutting them back. Others, like your Echeveria varieties, can take temperatures to 28 degrees before needing protection. Using a cardboard box or paper bag for that time of freezes will help your Echeveria plants. When in doubt cover them to protect them.



In the summer months, I have helped several dozen people along the way giving them the correct instructions of how to keep them alive - usually due to over watering and under watering. Now come the winter months. It's a new ball game all over again having to train them once again how to water them. How do you know which succulents are the ones that need little or no watering in the winter months?

The easiest way for me to instruct people is to show them the succulents that have big, fleshy leaves like Aloes, Haworthia, Jade and Cacti. These leaves are full of water. If you over water your Jade plant, the leaves will start falling off. This is a big hint that you are over watering. I only water my Jade plant about 6 times a year. If you see your Jade leaves that are very wrinkled, it is a sign of needing watering. This is true for many succulents as they are struggling for water.

So, if you are watering at least twice a month in the summer months, in the winter you might not water for at least a month. But this is not the case for all varieties. Some are going dormant and they need no watering at all. One example is the Candle plant - you should cut back all watering as it goes dormant.

If your yard is like mine and a bit crazy with succulents and various other flowering plants, and you want to protect them when the freezing weather comes, just cover your yard in a huge frost cloth. Looks like a big snow blanket. In the long run it will help your plants survive.

Until then when I see you in the garden.



## Hens & Chicks

Ann Severson

About a month ago Sharon Hopkins came over to see me and asked me if I wanted any hens and chicks. She said she had some she wanted to get rid of.

In the back of my head I'm thinking, "No. I have enough of those things". But because I'm soooo nice, I said "yes".

She brought them over in a green shopping bag and I actually didn't even look, hoping they might die before I planted them.

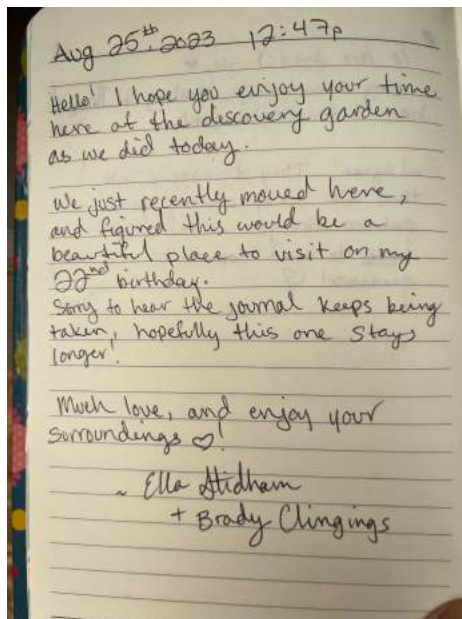
At the end of the day I grabbed the bag. Now the bag is crazy heavy for hens and chicks. I looked in the bag and was completely blown away. Here were several rusty chicks and a mother hen. I took them home, waiting for a day to bring them back to some glory.



So now they sit in the raised bed designated for Hens and Chicks. Hopefully they won't spread their wings and fly away!  
(Photo: Logan Bennett)



*Scribbblings from  
the Little Free  
Library journal*



## Ask the Tool Man Alley



Fred Alley

While I usually do not prepare a tool tip article for the September Newsletter, I want to take an opportunity to solicit your participation in donating your unused or extra garden and yard tools to our Discovery Garden tool room.

September is here and it is the perfect time to have that last garage sale for the summer to get rid of all those items you do not want to store over the winter. Better yet, consider skipping the garage sale and donating your items to our next Trash to Treasurer Sale, and your garden and yard tools to our Tool Room.



That is just what Lenore Drake did several weeks ago. She donated five hand pruners and one lopper to the Discovery Garden Tool room. While they needed renovation, that was something I could complete.

The Corona FL 3470 Compound Action Bypass lopper with extendable handles, 1-1/2 inch cut and 21-inches to 33-inch length, was a nice donation. It is worth \$40.00, and we do not have any large loppers in our Tool Room inventory.

If you would like to donate any garden or yard tool to the Discovery Garden, just leave them on the big work bench in the green storage/work shed. I do keep track of all our tools, including those donated, so please place a tag on the tool with your name, date, and phone number. Don't worry about the condition of the tool. Broken hand clippers are still useful for parts, and a shovel or rake handle can be replaced. I am always looking for shovel and rake handles, particularly garden rake handles.

Happy gardening and continue to keep those garden and yard tools clean, sharp, oiled, and properly stored.



Fred's



Fav's





# Douglas County Master Gardeners

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