



Dec. 2023 Calendar

Tues., December 5, 9-12

Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., December 7, 9-12

Westside Greenhouse

Tues., December 12, 9-12

Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., December 14

Westside Greenhouse, 9-12

Discovery Garden Workday, 1-3

Friday, December 15

Deadline to turn in expense forms to Dawnetta

Tues., December 19, 9-12

Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., December 21, 9-12

Westside Greenhouse

Mon., December 25

Merry Christmas!

Tues., December 26, 9-12

Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., December 28, 9-12

Westside Greenhouse

Friday, December 29

January Newsletter Deadline

Mon., January 1

Membership Dues Deadline

Fri., January 5, 1:00-4:00

Fruit Tree Pruning, DG



The Prez Sez...

It's been a very good year for our MG volunteer program. "Auld lang syne" marks times gone by and reminds us to look ahead to the New Year. We've had many comings and goings in 2023, all which should be recognized with sincere appreciation.

Douglas County Extension hit the jackpot when Logan Bennett joined the staff. No matter how precarious his position, he has stood by DCMG as a valued friend and fount of research-based information. We have great hopes for his continued career with DC Extension.

Under Logan's direction, we had a most successful training class. Kudos to Patrice Glasscock and Gloria Cettina for making the coordinator job look so easy! The graduated class has been active in all areas of our program, giving us a much-needed boost of enthusiasm.

Sometimes we have volunteers who step up to take responsibility so willingly, with admirable work ethics and great skills, that we just assume they will be with us eternally. Sadly, this is the year that Dave and Sharon Hopkins have decided to move to new adventures outside of our Master Gardener world. For over a decade, Dave has been our go-to-guy for every broken pipe, every maintenance task and anything else that needed attention in the Discovery Garden. Sharon is an accomplished artist and illustrator who has donated her talents to our eye-catching T-shirts and Plant Sale posters as well as teaming up with Betty Bean to revise and update our Children's Garden to the showpiece it is today. Together they spearheaded the Waddington Memorial bench and garden. We will miss their volunteer spirit!



These are some of the other "comings and goings" this year:

Barbie Hamby, our charming hostess, stepped down, and the team of Dawnetta Loomis and Diane Smith-Lewsadder are now in charge of all things food and beverage.

Larry Rich is now formally the HLC/DG lead maintenance guy. Good luck!

Veteran MG Nathan Baily, who wrangled our worms for almost a decade, has passed his lasso to Dawn Shumack. Dawn is also taking over responsibility for compost tea making from Elva Sellens. But I didn't let Elva go far...she has graciously agreed to take on the iris beds to complement her dahlia and lily beds.

Our friendly Linda Thames with her handmade greeting cards has retired from Hallmark, and - *surprise* - it's Miss Dawn who has also taken on this job!

Garry Gerlach has obligations that led him to letting go of the Entry Garden lead position. Veteran rose guru, Lynn Foster, will unofficially take the lead with the help of two new MG's, Sky Stefanich and Jan Polka. The three of them have spent many hours cleaning and putting their garden to bed for the winter.

Our two chambermaids (Mugsy Kolb and Rebecca Taylor) have decided enough is enough! Before I had to actually pick up a toilet brush, Jennifer Broskey (class of 2023) offered to take on this task. Happy-happy me!!!!

Ed Barrett has a brand new Compost Crew to sift and work the piles. They are Ernie Amabisca, Ivor Chapman, Rob Burns, Dawn Shumack, Sarah Davis and Elva Sellens.

This year we are very fortunate to have Debby Finley join the Insect Committee. Her ability with spreadsheets and data management are to be admired.

After multiple years tending to our plants, Roselle Benesh is leaving the Westside Greenhouse Management Team.

Volunteers are fluttering around the Butterfly Garden hither and yon. Last year Laura Corder took over the honeysuckle garden complete with new signage and not a bittercress to be seen! Janet Bitter took on the Butterfly log cabin area from Patrice Glasscock (who had her hands full with soils and new students!) and Terry Christenson has the coreopsis and day lily area. Julie Burchstead is not only reviving the milkweed garden, but is using her artistic skills to completely remake the educational posters in the pavilion.

Our newest addition to the Discovery Garden is to the west of the Waddington Memorial where Sharon Bordeaux is whacking down the old shrubs to be

replaced with native plants - a work in progress and with a plant menu greatly needed in our educational garden.

With a lot of down time between now and the first of the year, we have decided to have a party to re-ignite our volunteer corps!! Join us for **CELEBRATE 2024** on Sunday, February 4, at the Sutherlin Community Center. This will be an afternoon event with a guest speaker on a topic worthy of continuing education hours. So come renew your friendships with all our Master Gardener friends and get a start on recertification. Details to be announced next month. Thanks to Logan, Patrice Glasscock, Gloria Cettina, Andrea Collins and Patrice Sipos for spearheading this plan.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year!
Julie Stanbery, Chapter President

Treasurer's Report

Dawnetta Loomis
10/26/23-11/28/2023



INCOME

Soil Compost	\$301.00
Soil Testing	\$20.00
Interest	\$50.11

TOTAL INCOME

\$371.11

EXPENSES

Management & General	\$125.53
Community Outreach	\$40.96
HLC	\$61.85
Clinic & Office	\$151.94
Utilities	\$521.27
Class Deposit Return	\$200.00
Black Apparel	\$697.00
Propane	\$48.00
Port-a-John	\$435.00

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$2,281.55

Breakdown of our accounts at 11/28/23

NWCC - Checking	\$590.95
NWCC - Reserve	\$5,013.86
NWCC - MMK Savings	\$72,221.11
NWCC - 6 Month CD	\$17,898.37
Charles Schwab	\$69,854.46

Ending Balance

\$165,578.75



Fred Meyer Community Rewards program is another way we can generate funds for our program by shopping at Fred Meyer. Here's how to enroll:

Visit www.fredmeyer.com. Log into your account, look up Douglas County Master Gardener Association or IR390 and then click "Enroll". New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a Rewards Card. If you don't have a Rewards Card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Fred Meyer. When shopping, swipe your registered Fred Meyer Rewards Card or use the phone number that's related to your Rewards Card for each purchase to count.

Plant Sale & Expo Preparations The Race is On!

Karin Seder & Joy Keeling

Believe it or not, our largest fundraiser of the year will be here before you know it. The actual date of the sale is **May 4, 2024**, but there are many tasks that need to be started right now, and many tasks that are already in the works.

Everyone can collect boxes for the Plant Sale. Ken Hayes is in charge of boxes, and the ones he likes the best are the easy-to-handle fruit boxes from Costco. Next time you are in Costco, look around and snag a couple to add to your cart – no charge! Bring them to the gardens or drop them off in the Plant Clinic office.

Another before-the-sale activity that happens year-round takes place in the East and Westside Greenhouses. Typical volunteer days are Tuesdays from 9-noon, but oftentimes we might be there on Thursdays as well. Check the weekly email for any changes in the volunteer work schedule.

The Plant Sale also includes a wonderful array of raffle items. Plant-related or not, we need your donations to fill our raffle tables – you can start collecting now, and Diana Circle and Toni Rudolph will put them together and create a delightful collection of prizes. Diana and Toni have chaired the Plant Sale raffle for a number of years and are looking to retire after this year – now

would be the perfect opportunity for you to step up and learn from the masters for this fun job! Contact Diana, Toni, Joy or Karin and we can get you started.

All of us can be thinking about what specific area we might want to be a part of on May 3 & 4: we need folks for food/kitchen help (we have a fabulous potluck lunch on Friday and Saturday); security – just to help with parking and directions; set-up/take-down of all those tables; transportation – getting the plants to and from the Fairgrounds; sorting plants at the Fairgrounds on Friday; cashiers and checkers; customer service to direct folks to specific areas (annuals, natives, veggies, trees, etc.); someone to direct our youth volunteers; clean-up; and a new position - an assistant runner for Joy & Karin at the event.

So, as you can see (and as we will be reminding you now through May) we need all hands on deck to make this event a success!

Please call or email with any questions.

Joy Keeling (970) 560-6446 or jl.keeling27@gmail.com

Karin Seder (707) 322-6672 or karinseder@gmail.com

Swinger Bar Report

Kay Livermore



November 2023 Report:

Members who have swinger bar updates for October:

100 hours: Scott Damschen, Jewels Reeves

200 hours: Julie Burchstead, Diana Campbell, Andrea Collins, Laura Corder, Kenneth Parry

300 hours: Robin Oki,

500 hours: Debby Finley

750 hours: Barbara Zastrow

1,000 hours: Jean DeCato, Doralee Hayden

2,500 hours: Bonnie Durick

3,000 hours: Sharon Hopkins

4,000 hours: Leo Grass

4,500 hours: Carol Bolt

13,000 hours: Julie Stanbery



I want to thank everyone who worked in November 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. Questions for November were

diverse including orchard management and pruning, cover crops, lawns, and a few plant and insect identifications. All the questions were challenging and fun to research with our new volunteers.

The Plant Clinic will continue our winter hours for December. We will staff the clinic on Monday and Wednesdays from 1-4 PM.

Our training for the new class began in October. Class members can still sign up for their initial orientation. We are lucky to have had a great team this year with Leo Grass, Doralee Hayden, Kenneth Parry, Diane Smith-Lewsadder, and Chris Rusch.

Spring into Gardening Chris Rusch

Mark your Calendars for **March 9, 2024!** This is a terrific community education event where we can bring our OSU Extension program on sustainable gardening to our greater community. It is also an opportunity for MG's to get recertification hours by attending classes. If you want to help with the planning, please contact me.



Shared by Kish Doyle

Happenings in the Garden: Discovery Garden Updates Julie Stanbery

Doesn't seem possible that we are already planning the pruning classes for 2024 in the garden!



Before we get to those dates, we have one more **work day** planned at the HLC/DG. We have a small area that still needs chips and we are aiming to eradicate the equisetum (look it up!) along the fence line of the ESG.

Also we need 2 weed-eaters who can take a swipe at the neglected garden in front of Helleck Hall. Please join us **Thursday, December 14, from 1-3pm**. Seven of our new volunteers put in some really good hours last time. Let's see if we can get more of our newbies to join the fun! And mentors, too!

FACTOID: Last session Ed ran the tractor for 2.5 hours and he figured the turn around time for each scoop of chips we spread was less than 5 minutes. You do the math! Well over 100 wheelbarrow loads of chips spread!

Logan will be working with us for the following pruning days:

Friday, **January 5**, 1-4pm Fruit Trees
 Wednesday, **January 17**, 1-4pm Ornamentals
 Friday, **February 9**, 1-4 pm Roses & Hydrangeas
 Wednesday, **March 6**, 1-4 pm Japanese

These sessions count as volunteer hours if you work - if you observe only, it's continuing education.

Take a look at our "new" trailer parked behind the green shed. Having a second loading station should save us extra steps! Thanks to Ed for honchoing the purchase and for all the work he does keeping our equipment in good running order.

See you in the garden! *Julie*



Just recently while working at the gardens, where several of us were busy cleaning and weeding the succulents. As we were working on a row of succulents, I was asked about the name of

this succulent. Well, now she went and got me started talking all about this beautiful succulent. And you know that I can talk a spell about them. She then asked me, "Are there any succulents that you don't like?"

Just so happens that there is one that I do not like at all. Now let me tell you a true account of why I don't like this succulent.



Once upon a time ago at the Eastside greenhouse, we once grew cacti plants. It was not any of our favorite plants to have to clean and get ready for the Plant Expo. But every year we did it. Then one year, the crew who has to help load all these plants for our big Plant Expo let the Eastside know that they were not going to have anything to do with transporting this cacti to the

show anymore. They had all been poked by them countless times.

So, this cacti was now without the chance to ever have a forever home - destined to become compost or burned (most likely burned.) Instead of just tossing it out, many of us had the chance to take them home if they would like. Some were small and others were in larger pots.

Oh, I was so sad to see these have to go to the burn pile (not really!). Then I remembered that one of my granddaughters liked cacti. Crazy kid. So, I decided that I would take a small one home to her as a cute gift. I took time to pot it up in one of our small pots. Took it out to my car and put in on the floor of the car. Oh, she is going to love this little cactus. Just to see her face to get this cute little cactus would be precious.

Now for the ride home. Not too far. I finally get home and the pot has fallen over on the floor of my car. Soil

everywhere. (Note: Soil, not dirt stated here, Logan.) The little cactus is laying on the floor. Poor little thing. I gently pick it up and put it in the pocket of my apron and go into the house. I get in the house and look down at my apron. Yikes! Good grief, what have I done? The front of my apron looks like it has been attacked by a very small porcupine. There were hundreds of cactus needles sticking out all over my apron. I yelled to Fred to empty out the washing machine, not wanting any of these needles to end up anywhere else, including in me!

So, I dug out the cactus out of the pocket of my apron, fingers crossed that I don't get any needles in my hand. Not so lucky. Ouch! Literally I am thinking that I just might have to bite the bullet and get a new apron if these needles didn't come out. In the machine went the apron. La la la. The waiting is over. I pull it out of the machine. "You've got to be kidding," I thought. Now I have a wet apron with cactus needles still sticking out all over the pockets. No difference at all!



For the next two hours I removed each needle a few at a time, scraping and pulling them out. Success. Hopefully. Do I dare even try to put my hands in the pockets of my apron? Waiting to find the few needles that I might have missed. There beside me the whole time was this little cactus that started the whole problem. "You little trouble maker. Why I ought to...!" And I did. It never made it to my granddaughter's.

Now, you might like cactus plants, but oh, not me. I do not like anything that pokes me back. In my opinion they are only good for putting underneath your kid's bedroom windows. I hope you get the *point* of this story and never put a cactus in your apron pocket.

Until then when I see you in the garden.





Ask the Tool Man Alley

Many times, I don't know what my next Tool Tip article will be and I'm not even sure what the title should be. This is one of those times. The title could be, "When is it time to replace your favorite garden shears?" or thinking still of Halloween it could be, "When a garden shears is down to bare skeletal bones, is it time to replace it?" One of my favorite compact shears is the Dramm 18016. Recently, I was asked if I could clean and sharpen an identical pair.

According to Dramm, the compact shear characteristics are:

- Hydroponic Shears
- Ideal for cutting flowers and gardening
- Corrosion resistant stainless-steel blades
- Agronomically designed
- Blade lock for safe storage
- Stainless-steel blades hold a sharp edge
- Available in five different colors
- Ideal for fine trimming/cutting up to 1/4 inch cuts

In photo 1, you can see the shears meet those characteristics and more. Mine is the green handled pair on the right, the other is one someone gave me to clean and sharpen. Vastly different in appearance. Mine is just like when I purchased it several years ago and the other is missing the entire rubber finish coat on the handle, missing the lock and the locking mechanism, missing the left knob that holds the end of the spring, has a large chunk of the left handle gone and small deep rust pockets throughout.



Surprisingly, they both have retained their sharpness and in fact, when my wife walked by me as I was cleaning and sharpening both shears, she grabbed the skeleton pair from my work bench and used it to do

deadheading and pruning in the yard. "Boy", she said, "These are really sharp!!"

I must admit, the Dramm 18016 is one of my favorite compact shears. They can be purchased locally and come in five different colors. Depending on color, the cost is between \$13.34 to \$26.00.

So, when is it time to replace your favorite Dramm 18016 Compact Shears?

For some, I suspect they will not replace the shears, but rather keep them forever. I would take the opportunity to ask how I let the shears get to this condition and what maintenance practices I could have taken to prevent losing a favorite shear in such a short period of time. It emphasizes the importance of tool maintenance, care and proper storage. Thirdly, in this case, safety is highly important. These shears are razor sharp - reaching in your apron, or tool bucket or putting them in your back pocket could end in a serious injury. If you really want to keep the skeletal bones shears, you should at least keep them in a Dramm shears sheath. See photo 2.



Lastly, don't forget to lightly coat the shears with a light coat of oil. I commonly use three different products. 1) 3 in 1 Household oil, 2) Rem Remington firearms oil or 3) Hoppe's lubricating oil. No 2 and No 3 have high viscosity and penetration qualities which provide excellent protection from rust and corrosion. An easy application is by lightly spraying the shears, front and back and then working the oil into the shears with an old toothbrush. Photo 3.



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

“YARD CLIPPINGS” GATHERINGS OF THIS AND THAT

JANET BITTER



Sometimes my favorite gardening triumphs occur without much planning or work on my part. I was given a cutting of a Thanksgiving cactus (*Schlumbergera*) about 15 years ago and stuck it in a container. It was probably in a pot about 8” diameter when I ended up with some other little succulent plant. Being the lazy gardener that I am, I didn’t want to have another pot to deal with so found some room in my Thanksgiving cactus’s container, stuck it in and forgot it!



I now have a gorgeous, huge display twice a year and recommend this combination to all you lazy gardeners! My Thanksgiving



cactus just finished blooming. It spreads out around 3’ in diameter. About May, my other little succulent (which I believe to be an Easter cactus, or *Hatiora*) will put on a show (outdoor photo). They coexist happily and I get blooms twice a year!

DIANA WOODWARD

I get the small woodland owners’ newsletter, and they always have a trivia question in its pages. This month’s trivia challenge is so appropriate for Master Gardeners:

Trivia Challenge - The High Cost of Weeds

Question: How much annual loss do invasive weeds cost Oregon’s economy?

- a. 23.5 million
- b. 43.5 million
- c. 63.5million
- d. 83.5 million

Answer: **d.** Unfortunately, according to a 2014 study, 25 of Oregon’s worst invasive weeds cause an estimated

annual loss of about \$83.5 million to the state’s economy. 95% of that is from Himalayan Blackberries and Scotch Broom alone.

Courtesy: “Shade Our Streams”, a Clackamas River Basin Council Project, 2023.

ALLEN HUFFSTUTTER

“If you build it, they will come!”

We installed a water feature in our back yard a couple of years ago (named Blue Heron Falls by one of our granddaughters), and this past Friday, the Merlin, shown below, came to visit.

Since installing the water feature, we have had a constant stream of wildlife visit our back yard. It entertains us no end!



FRED ALLEY

Dawn Shumack giving a worm farm demonstration.



DECEMBER GARDEN CALENDAR



- Do not walk on lawns until frost has melted.
- Spread wood ashes evenly on your vegetable garden. Use no more than 1.5 pounds per 100 square feet per year. Don't use if the soil pH is greater than 7.0 or if potassium levels are excessive.
- Protect new landscape plants from wind. Use stakes, guy wires or windbreaks as needed.
- Yard sanitation: rake leaves, cut and remove withered stalks of perennial flowers, mulch flowerbeds, and hoe or pull winter weeds.
- Turn the compost pile and protect from heavy rains, if necessary.
- During heavy rains, watch for drainage problems in the yard. Tilling, ditching, and French drains are possible short-term solutions. Consider rain gardens and bioswales as a longer-term solution.
- Check stored flower bulbs, fresh vegetables, and fruits for rot and fungus problems. Discard any showing signs of rot.
- Tie limbs of columnar evergreens to prevent snow or ice breakage.
- Make sure that landscape plants in protected sites receive water regularly during the winter.
- This is a good time to plant trees and landscape shrubs.

Pest monitoring and management

- Use chemical controls only when necessary and only after thoroughly reading the pesticide label. First consider cultural, then physical and biological controls. Choose the least-toxic options and use them judiciously. Some examples include insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, and organic and synthetic pesticides.

- Monitor landscape plants for problems. Don't treat unless a problem is identified.
- Check for rodent damage around bases of trees and large shrubs. Remove weeds to prevent rodents from using them as hiding places. Use traps and approved baits as necessary.
- Avoid mounding mulching materials around the bases of trees and shrubs. The mulch might provide cover for rodents.
- Monitor spruce trees for spruce aphids. Treat if present in large numbers. Read and follow pesticide label directions.

Indoor gardening

- Protect poinsettias from cold. Place them in sunlight; don't let the leaves touch cold windows. Fertilize with houseplant fertilizer to maintain leaf color.
- Monitor houseplants for adequate water and fertilizer. Water and fertilizer requirements generally are less in winter.

Fred's Top Fall Fav's



Olive Tree

Fred Alley



Early this year the Discovery Garden was honored with a donation of a ten foot olive tree from River Ranch Oregon Olive located in Glide. River Ranch cultivates Arbequina and Arbosana varieties of olives along the banks of the North Umpqua River.

The tree was just a little sapling in a one gallon pot that was nurtured in the Easy Access Garden in

order for the root ball to further develop. Last week the now ten foot tall olive tree was transplanted to a well-suited site in the Herb Garden. The olive tree perfectly fits the site and is a great new addition to the Discovery Garden.

Thank You, River Ranch Oregon Olive.



There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments.



Scribblings from the Little Free Library

I LOVED it here at discovery Garden! I sketched some flowers and LOVED the rock garden!
- Lily Reed, 9 years old

This garden makes my heart happy.
Thankyou, Jena

Thank you for sharing such a beautiful garden with us! We are here having our oldest daughters senior portraits done - what a beautiful spot during the fall!
The Harbick Family

Thank you for having such a wonderful garden and keeping it clean.
- Spiderman & M.J.

I came today with my fiance and son, we all loved the garden. It's a lovely place to visit on a beautiful Sabbath day!
God bless
- Chloe

BEST DAY EVERY
FUN EXPERIENCE

THANKS

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
Chapter Meeting
November 16, 2023

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:03. There were 35 in attendance, including President Julie Stanbery, Vice-President Andrea Collins, Past President Nancy Fuller, OMGA Alt Rep Chris Rusch, Treasurer Dawnetta Loomis 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: Nancy encouraged everyone to come out to the Discovery Garden as there are flowers still blooming.

Membership - Kay Livermore: Not present. Dues can now be mailed to her new home address now: 1461 NW Moritz Ct. Roseburg, 97471. After January, dues go from \$10 to \$20.

OMGA - Chris Rusch:

- They had a Zoom meeting last week with 32 attending. Interviews for the new MG Program Coordinator ended. There are two candidates that are finalists - one from Idaho, the other from Washington state. The position should be determined in a couple of weeks. The full time position is more acting as a team builder, devoted only to Master Gardeners.
- July 12, 13 will be the 2024 Joy of Gardening conference at OSU. Lots of speakers are being lined up. Focus will be on gardening with climate change in mind.
- They are still looking for a secretary for OMGA.

Treasurer - Dawnetta Loomis:

- Fred Meyer rewards - she will put a blurb in the Newsletter on how to participate. Our account number is IR390. Once registered, DCMG will get a small donation anytime you shop at Freddy's.
- Receipts are due December 15. Bring any expense forms into the Plant Clinic, mail them to her, or put in

the box at the greenhouse. Checks will be mailed to you. Please cash your checks!

- She is still looking for a shadow to replace her as Treasurer for next year. It takes about 15 hours/month.



Vice-President - Andrea Collins: Kudos to Gerry Crane on her excellent presentation on cardiac health through gardening. Our January speaker might be by Logan. We have ideas for Continuing Ed for the next couple of years, thanks to Logan.

President - Julie Stanbery:

- Photo copies: The machine at the Extension office can only turn out so many copies before it malfunctions, so we can't roll over our monthly quotas. If you're in need of copies for the Plant Sale or Community Outreach, try to parse it out, so it's not all at once - otherwise use ESD or Staples.
- Logan, Julie, Andrea Collins, Patrice Glasscock, Gloria Cettina and Patrice Sipos met to come up with ideas to stimulate MG's to stay involved, especially after the holiday break. They decided to have a February 4, 2024, gathering, which will have an educational component with a guest speaker. This will be a potluck and social time together. They are looking at venues like the Sutherlin Community Center. More information will follow.

MG Program Coordinator - Logan Bennett:

- The first MG Trivia competition took place recently. 60 MG's participated. There will be another in December, and will be Douglas County-based, presided over by Logan.
- He is working on getting participants for Spring into Gardening.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Julie asked committee heads to send their reports to Julie, Bonnie, **and** Andrea if they don't plan on attending a meeting.

Awards Social - Ann Severson: The Awards Social will be held on a Saturday afternoon the first part of October 2024, and Ann is looking at other venues - possibly at Umpqua Community Center. The theme will be "Bee Cuz of You!"

Blue Bags - Dawn Shumack: 15 bags so far in November.

Community Outreach - Dawn Shumack: Nothing to report.

Discovery Garden - Julie Stanbery:

- We had a successful work day recently. Our new MG's showed up along with lots of veterans who put out loads of mulch.
- Still need a toilet crew, one or two volunteers.
- Reversed the latch on the Tea House and made it a locking latch, using the same key.
- After today, no tractor loads of wood chips until further notice, but okay to take by the bucket or to hand fill your own trailer.
- Another work day will be in early December to put more chips out, but no regular work days during the winter months.
- January-February we will start pruning classes that will take place in the afternoons, and not on Tuesdays. We take separate parts of the garden to do each time.

Facebook - Barbara Horst: Not present - no report.

Greenhouse West - Carol Bolt: We need more volunteers as we're only halfway through cleaning. We will work Tuesdays and Thursdays after Thanksgiving til caught up. Steve Hart put up a covering over the shade plants ahead of putting in a new watering system in the expanded area.

Greenhouse East - Ann Severson: Had a lot of new students coming out, but can always use more help. Lots of weeding needs done. Succulents are looking great - many new varieties.

Hallmark - Dawn Shumack: Speedy recovery card sent to Joy Keeling for a torn meniscus, and to Roselle Benesh for foot surgery.

Insect Committee - Diana Woodward: We had a new student come last time who had some great pictures of insects to identify. No more meetings til February.

Newsletter - Bonnie Courter: Contributions for the Newsletter are due Tuesday, November 28, and for the January Newsletter, Friday, December 29.

Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch: Things have slowed down - only two calls yesterday. Training for the new MG's is continuing. We're open only 2 days a week, Monday and Wednesday, through January. Chris is working on compiling data for the year. We had about 900 contacts.

Plant Sale - Karin Seder: Please continue to collect sturdy boxes. We need someone to coordinate the raffle for the 2025 sale who could shadow the present coordinators now. They are contacting all committee heads to confirm they will work at the same position for the 2024 sale.

Publicity - Cheryl Caplan: Not present - no report.

Soils - Patrice Glasscock: We are taking care of samples we have and training students. Testing is on hold until December or January, waiting on backordered chemicals to arrive. We did 136 tests for the year.

Spring Into Gardening - Chris Rusch: This will be March 9 at the Phoenix Center, for MG's and the general public. Lots of new topics will be offered. Logan will be keynote speaker on garden soils. We need volunteers so let Chris know if you'd like to help.

Swinger Bars - Kay Livermore: Not present - no report. Vicki is picking up hours today. When tabulated, she will send the hours to Kay for results. Reporting our volunteer hours to OSU proves how valuable our service and our chapter is to the MG program.

Trash to Treasures - Ann Severson: We made \$4700 which is over my goal for the 2023 sale. In 2024 my goal is \$5200, and if we meet that goal, I will wear a crazy costume. I'm always taking donations. May 31 is setup, and June 1 the sale. Any used towels and blankets can be donated to Saving Grace.

Vermicomposting - Dawn Shumack: Bagged food scraps are very welcome - lift the worm bin lid and put the bag inside the box. No meat, citrus, onions, peppers or dairy.

Victory Garden - Carolyn Ruzicka: The garden was put to bed on October 31. The following week, they brain stormed about what worked well, what didn't. They've started ordering seeds already. The total poundage for the year from the Victory Garden was 8,428 pounds, 1,617 from home gardens, and 43 from

the Easy Access garden, for a grand total of 10,088 pounds donated - much more than last year's totals.

OLD BUSINESS: Budget Vote - Dawnetta made a motion to accept the proposed 2024 budget. Elva Sellens seconded. The vote was taken and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Black apparel purchase - Discussion ensued about stockpiling aprons and hats for purchase by MG's. It was suggested that instead we take orders before the Plant Sale and again during the new class in the fall.

SHOW AND TELL:

Diana Woodward: Her son's food truck, "Woodward BBQ", is on Harvard in front of the old Grocery Outlet, serving lunch only. She also brought a leaf from a big beaf maple that measured 14"X17".

Dawnetta Loomis: She brought a large, oblong orange and green squash, wondering what kind it was. It was a

volunteer. Logan looked it up and said it's an Okosin winter squash.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Julie reminded everyone that the Extension office will be closed next week, Wednesday through Friday, for the holiday.

- Executive Board Meeting, **January 10, 2024, 10:00**
- Continuing Ed (9:00) and Chapter Meeting (10:00), **January 25, 2024**

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:09.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Courter, Secretary



DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER 2024 DUES

Print ALL information EVEN if nothing has changed:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Land Line: _____ Cell Phone: _____

___ \$10.00 if paid before January 1, 2024 (50% early bird discount)

___ \$20.00 if paid after January 1, 2024

___ Please mail my newsletter: include \$18.50 to cover printing & postage.

___ \$6.00 badge order. Name: _____ Class Year: _____

Stop! Membership Director use only.

Date: _____ Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

PLEASE LEAVE THIS FORM AS IS. DO NOT CUT!

2024 Dues: \$10.00 before January 1st or \$20.00 after January 1st

Please mail dues to the Membership Director or put in the plant clinic locked drawer. Copies of the Dues Form are available in the plant clinic. Dues payment includes an E-mail copy of the Master Gardener monthly Newsletter. To have our Newsletter mailed to you, include \$18.50 with your dues payment.

Replacement Badges: Replacement badges need to be ordered by mid-January. Please provide your name as you want it to appear on the badge, class year, and include \$6.00 with your dues payment. You will be contacted when the badge arrives.

Make checks payable to DCMG. Print this form and mail with dues to:

Kay Livermore
1461 NW Moritz Ct
Roseburg, OR 97471

Kay Livermore, DCMG Membership Director
kay.livmr@gmail.com

Douglas County Master Gardeners

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

Website: www.douglascountymg.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/douglascountymgs

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

OSU Gardening Information: extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening

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

Oregon Master Gardeners Association (OMGA): omga.org



Oregon State University
Extension Service
Master Gardener

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requires special considerations in order for 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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