



## Jan. 2024 Calendar

Mon., January 1

**Happy New Year!**

Tues., January 2, 9-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Fri., January 5

**Fruit tree pruning class, DG, 1-4**

Last day to turn in 2023 time sheets

Tues., January 8, 9-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Wed., January 10, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting, Annex

Tues., January 16, 9-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Wed., January 17, 1:00-4:00

**Pruning ornamentals, DG**

Sat., January 20, Noon-2:00

Blueberry Pruning Clinic @ ECEC

Tues., January 23, 9-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., January 25

Continuing Education (9:00)

Chapter Meeting (10:00)

Tues., January 30, 9-Noon

Greenhouse Crews

Sun., February 4, 1:00-4:00

**"Celebrate 2024" @ Sutherlin**

Community Center

Fri., February 9, 1:00-4:00

**Pruning ornamentals, DG**

Mon., February 19, 1:00-4:00

**Pruning roses & hydrangeas**



## The Prez Sez...



Each morning I look at the weather app to see how many extra minutes of sunlight we are getting after the winter solstice. Every sunbeam, each break in the fog and clouds brings us a bit closer to the new growing season. I have daffodils about a foot high among my other little bulbs that are poking through the cold soil. It may be too soon to work the soil, but it's never too soon to get

together to celebrate the new year with our volunteer friends.

Thanks to Patrice Glasscock and Gloria Cettina, we have a great start to the year. After a stellar job of co-ordinating the fall MG training, these two had time on their hands and decided to plan a party. And we do love a good party!

## CELEBRATE 2024 !!!!!

Gloria, Patrice and their minions, (Logan, Julie, Andrea and Patrice Sipos) invite you to join us to welcome the new year and reconnect with our DCMG friends.

The event is a social with small bite appetizers and a special advanced continuing education presentation by John Panches whose new position at OSU is Associate Professor in the Department of Forest Engineering, Resources and Management. John is a special friend to Douglas County Extension. His energetic talks are always entertaining and educational!

Join us Sunday, February 4, 2024 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the Sutherlin Community Center to renew acquaintances and jump start our new year of volunteer fun.

See you in the garden, and at the celebration!  
Julie

## Treasurer's Report

Dawnetta Loomis  
11/17/23 - 12/28/23



### INCOME

Soil Testing	\$30.00
Interest	\$48.33
Plant Sale Post	\$112.00
Soil Compost	\$94.00

### TOTAL INCOME

**\$284.33**

### EXPENSES

Management & General	\$16.00
Discovery Garden	\$959.46
HLC	\$701.56
Not Budgeted-Soil Sifter	\$415.20
Plant Sale	\$1,262.08
Utilities	\$824.35
Propane	\$763.69

### TOTAL EXPENSES

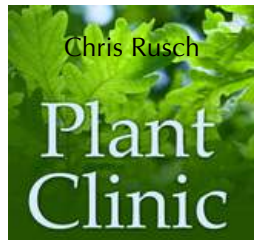
**\$4,942.34**

### Breakdown of our accounts at 12/26/23

NWCC - Checking	\$937.96
NWCC - Reserve	\$5,014.07
NWCC - MMK Savings	\$67,250.94
NWCC - 6 Month CD	\$17,916.66
Charles Schwab	\$69,854.46

### Ending Balance

**\$160,974.09**



The Plant Clinic was not very busy in December; however, interesting garden questions continue to come in.

I want to thank everyone who worked this past year 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. We are lucky to have had a great team this year with Leo Grass, Gerry Crane, Barbara Horst, Linda Estep, Chris Rusch, Ken Parry, Diane Smith-Lewsadder and Doralee Hayden. Our training for the new class began in October. Class members can still sign up for their volunteer hours. There are many openings available.

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

## Plant Sale

Joy Keeling & Karin Seder

We are starting the New Year off with a bang, getting plants in the East and Westside Greenhouses ready for the Plant Sale & Expo in May. It is so nice to see the Class of 2023 jump into action – we need your help, along with our veterans to have another successful fundraiser.

If you have never been to our Plant Sale, it is quite an event. It is the first Saturday in May at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. We turn the 4-H building into a Plant Expo, including dozens of local vendors who join us. We bring thousands - and I mean thousands - of plants from our greenhouses to the Fairgrounds on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> for our 1-day sale on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

This is the largest fundraiser of the year and, along with the Trash to Treasures Sale, provides most of the funds to pay for all the wonderful things the Master Gardeners do for the community.

The greenhouses work year around to get ready for this huge event. We are weeding and dividing plants and will soon begin seeding and propagation. For the Class of 2023, this is a great learning opportunity and a great way to work off some of the payback hours. Veteran MG's will also find they learn something new (or re-learn something) each time they volunteer in the greenhouses. It is very rewarding to see the plants and seeds come to life and thrive under your care!

The success of the May 4<sup>th</sup> Plant Sale & Expo is due to the hard work of all of us, and we hope we can count on your help. There are all kinds of volunteer opportunities – something for everyone!





## In Memorium



Our friend, **Jackie Carpenter**, passed away Dec. 19 after a long struggle with cancer. We remember her for her “can-do” attitude, bright smile, and as a happy and hard worker in the greenhouses and many other MG activities. We will miss her!



### Hallmark

Dawn Shumack

Cards sent out for the month of December went to:

- John Thran: hospitalization. Sent “thinking of you” card.
- Gary Gerlach: Sent “thinking of you” card for an upcoming surgery.
- Sarah Davis: Sent “thinking of you/speedy recovery” card for recent surgery.
- Family of Jackie Carpenter: sympathy card for Jackie’s passing.

Please keep your ears and eyes open for anyone that could use a card! And remind me if I have overlooked anybody. Thanks for your help!



**Spring into Gardening**

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 Chris Rusch: [crusch3837@gmail.com](mailto:crusch3837@gmail.com)

### Time Sheets Due

Vicki McAlister

**You will have until January 5th, 2024, to submit time for 2023.** If you would rather not drop your time sheets off at either the clinic or greenhouse, you can mail them to me at the address on the roster so that I receive them no later than January 5th. Once I do the final posting in mid-January, I will not make further changes or updates to our 2023 time file.



I last picked up time sheets on 11/16/2023 so if you've submitted time after that I will not have posted it yet.

Please review your posted time out on our website. A recap of the data by Master Gardener can be found at this link - [http://douglascountymg.org/docs/other/2023\\_Hours\\_Recap.pdf](http://douglascountymg.org/docs/other/2023_Hours_Recap.pdf) If there are any corrections that I need to make for you, please send me an email with the details.

Also, for those MGs who are in the process of recertifying, there is a report of recertification hours and current status at - [http://douglascountymg.org/docs/other/2023\\_Recert\\_Status.pdf](http://douglascountymg.org/docs/other/2023_Recert_Status.pdf)

You can also get to these documents, along with many other good things, from our Documents and Forms page at - [http://douglascountymg.org/mg\\_documents\\_forms.html](http://douglascountymg.org/mg_documents_forms.html) Questions, please let me know.



To help clear up some misinformation about succulents, this article will help clarify a few things hopefully.

What are **succulents**? The first thing to know is that “succulent”

means juicy and fleshy. The leaves of the plants are able to hold water in their leaves or flesh. Succulents have the ability to go for an extended period of time before watering them. The fleshy leaves help sustain them until the time that they might be watered. In the late fall and winter months many do not require much water as they have gone dormant and the water in their leaves will provide what they need for those months. And if you read my last article on my least favorite succulent, cacti are succulents too. Still not my favorite.



Autumn Joy

What is **sedum**? To make this easier to understand, as I get people who believe every succulent is a sedum or every sedum is a succulent. Okay, here we go. Sedums are succulents, but not

all succulents are sedums. Very different to say the least. Sedums are usually always an outside plant and do very well, with little or no care. They come in a vast array of sizes and colors, with over 600 species. This specie is also known as a stone-crop, having usually five flower petals. In the late fall, the stalks of the sedums need to be cut back to the ground to be ready for the new growth of the sedum for spring. There is not much need to water them as they get most of their water in the morning from the dew. Any yard would be great to have a few of these plants.

What is a **sempervivum**? Every one should know this one. It's our favorite, Hens and Chicks. Sempervivum means always living. Hens and Chicks grow in clusters or dense rosettes. They take little or no care and can take cold to hot temperatures. These plants do have what many people call, the death bloom. When they bloom, they die. It might take many, many years to ever see this. The sempervivum, Hens and Chicks, should never be a house plant as they need sunlight to survive.

Hens and Chicks make great plants for rock gardens, entry ways, around your pond and ground covers.

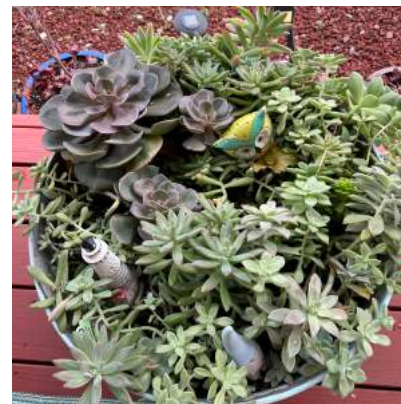
What is a **graptosedum**? This succulent is an ornamental perennial evergreen that grows in tropical climates. They have petals that are oval with a pointed tip. There are only four petals to each. The graptosedum blooms in yellow and is not ever to be a house plant as it needs hotter temperatures to survive.

What is an **echeveria**? These succulents get confused so much now as Hens and Chicks. They are considered a Mexican Hens and Chicks. They are part of the large genus family of Crassuleceae. The echeverias are hardy to a point that they don't need much care in the summer months with a little watering. As the temperatures change, they



can take some cold nights to about 28 to 32 degrees. When in doubt, use a frost cloth to protect them. I tell people the best way to describe the difference in these plants is, when Hens and Chicks bloom, they die. Echeverias do not die and when they bloom, the bloom is stunning as it can reach out several feet and have beautiful flowers that are usually pink to orange in color. Many echeverias can grow as big as a dinner plant and put off offsets. They do best in sunny locations and not ever as a house plant. Echeverias are some of my very favorite succulents. Maybe now they can be yours.

Have a great New Year and until then when I see you in the garden...



Echeveria (Perle von Nuremberg), Darly Sunshine, Ghost Plant



This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at Fred Meyer and swipe your Shopper's Card. Here's how it works:

### Create a digital account.

A digital account is needed to participate in Fred Meyer Community Rewards. You can create an account or sign in at <https://www.fredmeyer.com/signin>

If you already have a digital account, simply link your Shopper's Card to your account so that all transactions apply toward the organization you choose.

You can do this by, signing into your account; go to "My Account", Click on "Community Rewards" (which is located on the lower left side of the page), type **IR390** in the search bar. The information for Douglas County Master Gardener Association will show up. Click on the enroll button and you are done.

Douglas County Master Gardner Association will display in the Fred Meyer Community Rewards section of your account.

### Our organization earns.

Any transactions moving forward using the Shopper's Card number associated with your digital account will be applied to the program, at no added cost to you. Fred Meyer donates annually to us based on your percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending associated with all participating Fred Meyer Community Rewards organizations.

Note: Make sure you have a preferred store selected to find our organization.

A screenshot of the Fred Meyer website's "Community Rewards" page. The page shows a "Donation Summary" for the "Douglas County Master Gardener Association" with an enrollment date of 12/29/2023 and organization number IR390. There are buttons for "Change Organization" and "Cancel Enrollment". The page also features a navigation menu with categories like "COMPANY INFORMATION", "COMMUNITY", "CUSTOMER SERVICE", "SERVICES", and "GET THE CARD". At the bottom, there are links for "HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practice", "Privacy Policy", "Terms and Conditions", "TLC Terms and Conditions", "TLC Patient Bill of Rights", "Notice for California Dietitian Patients", and "Dietitian/Telemedicine Consent to Treat Form".

## “YARD CLIPPING” GATHERINGS OF THIS AND THAT

JULIE STANBERY



In my garden, the Pacific Tree Frog is my favorite find. They give me much joy each time I find one tucked into a potted plant or sitting on my rain gauge!

I read an interesting article by Wildlife Biologist Ken Bevis about the "chorus frog" that answered many of my questions regarding these adaptable amphibians.

A tree frog sings to defend their tiny territory (about 30 square inches) and to attract a mate. The adult measures only 2-3 inches in length and are *almost* one inch tall! When not mating at the water's edge, they tolerate a wide range of habitat including dry forests and upland sites. They can live five or more years.

I value them as voracious predators, eating a wide variety of insects and invertebrates including slugs. They use their long sticky tongues and strong jaws, usually swallowing their prey whole!

Dr. Corey Straub who studied *Pseudacris regilla* for his Master's Thesis, wrote about their body color, if it changes and how it changes.

Green, gray and brown frogs often co-exist. In rare cases, blue and reddish frogs are seen. One function of body color is protection from predators by blending into the colors of nature. Tree frogs seek out deep cracks and crevices in logs or rocks, or burrow as deep as they can in leaf litter to hibernate - another good reason to have a "natural" garden with leaves and dead limbs and a bit of natural clutter. One source reported that the Pacific Tree Frog was the only vertebrate species to survive in the Mt. Saint Helen's blast zone.

For more information and some very colorful photos, "Duck Duck Go" these amazing little critters!

## REMINDER: PRUNING CLASSES IN THE DISCOVERY GARDEN

Friday, **JANUARY 5**, 1-3 PM  
FRUIT TREE PRUNING

\*\*\*\*This is a learning event AND a work day to prune the fruit trees. Logan will lead the class. Bring hand saws, loppers and hand pruners. Again, we do have some tools in the shed.

Wednesday, **JANUARY 17**, 1-3 PM  
PRUNING ORNAMENTALS

\*\*\*Rinse and repeat... same criteria as above but you get Julie showing you the tricks of the trade!!! Big area to work on with many varied shrubs that will give you a lot of information for your own garden and to share with the public.

Hands-on learning is so beneficial when working with the public. If you have actually made the cuts and had the technique explained in person, you, in turn, will be better prepared to teach the home gardener and answer Plant Clinic questions.

These hours are volunteer payback if you work. If you wish to just learn, they count as continuing education.

These are rain or shine events, so dress for the weather. Mentors, please accompany your graduates.

See you in the garden!  
Julie





## JANUARY GARDEN CALENDAR

### Planning

- Plan to replace varieties of ornamental plants that are susceptible to disease with resistant cultivars in February.
- Take hardwood cuttings of deciduous ornamental shrubs and trees for propagation.
- Order a soil test to determine your garden's nutrient needs.
- Begin planning your 2024 vegetable garden. Check with local retail garden or nursery stores for seeds and seed catalogs.
- Keep a garden journal. Consult your journal in the winter, so you can better plan for the growing season.

### Maintenance and cleanup

- Clean pruners and other small garden tools with rubbing alcohol.
- Water landscape plants underneath wide eaves and in other sites shielded from rain.

### 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.

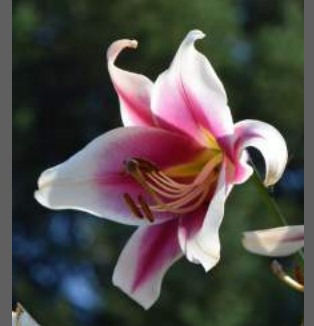
- Scout cherry trees for signs and symptoms of bacterial canker. Remove infected branches with a clean pruner or saw. Sterilize tools before each new cut. Burn or send the branches to a landfill before bloom.
- Watch for field mice damage on lower trunks of trees and shrubs. Eliminate hiding places by removing weeds. Use traps and approved baits as necessary.
- Use dormant sprays of lime sulfur or copper fungicide on roses for general disease control, or plan to replace susceptible varieties with resistant cultivars.
- **Western Oregon:** Moss in lawn may mean too much shade or poor drainage. Modify site conditions if moss is bothersome.

- **Mid-January:** Spray peach trees with approved fungicides to combat peach leaf curl and shot hole. Or plant curl-resistant cultivars such as 'Frost', 'Q1-8' or 'Creswell'.

### Houseplants and indoor gardening

- Monitor houseplants for correct water and fertilizer; guard against insect infestations; clean dust from leaves.

### Fred's Top 5 Fav's for 2023



# Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: E-mail submissions to Bonnie Courter: [rbcourter@gmail.com](mailto:rbcourter@gmail.com)

Website: [www.douglascountymg.org](http://www.douglascountymg.org)

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/douglascountymgs](http://www.facebook.com/douglascountymgs)

OSU Douglas County Extension Service: [extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas)

OSU Gardening Information: [extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening)

OSU Master Gardeners Program: [extension.oregonstate.edu/mg](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg)

Oregon Master Gardeners Association (OMGA): [omga.org](http://omga.org)



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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](mailto:rbcourter@gmail.com).

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