

September, 2016



THE MASTER GARDENER™



Josephine County OSU Master Gardener™ Association Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

By Terry Ruitter, President



It's amazing how quickly time moves on. Just the other day we were fretting about whether it was too soon to plant tomatoes and the combination of flowers that would be the perfect accent for our homes. And now, the Perseus meteor shower is out of sight for another year, the Fair is in the past and students are gearing up for school. The river has more water than last year, but fire is still a possibility. It must be fall!

Thanks to Charlie Newsom and his crew for all their work to set up the Horticulture Building at the Fair, get all of the contestants and their entries signed up and placed, help with the judging, be there during the Fair to answer questions and then to take it all down and pack it away for next year. Thanks also to Wilma Christian and her plant clinic crew for being at the Fair to answer the public's questions related to their gardens. Master Gardener teamwork really is a boon to the community.

The fall brings with it some opportunities for fun. On 18 September, we will have a tour of Master Gardener gardens for Master Gardeners. We have six gardens with a variety of styles, characteristics and solutions. Because of limited parking at some of them, we are considering meeting at the OSU Extension office and carpooling to the gardens. A signup sheet will be available at the Board meeting on 6 September or you can let me (tlruiter@msn.com) or Jeffrey Bellamy (jandibellamy@msn.com) know you will attend. The last garden on the tour will be Hank Smith's where there will be food and drink as well as garden appreciation. All attendees should bring hors d'ouvres or salads or desserts and a beverage of choice to Hank's. We hope to see you there. On 14 October, we will take a Wine Hopper tour of Applegate Valley wineries.

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SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Phil Damewood (6), Cindy Low (7), Jim Porter (10), Carol Anne Durante (11), Susan Morrison (12), Phylis McIntosh (15), Katy Dalke (17), Lilly Radbourne (19), Trish Hepburn (22), Carolyn Farias (23), Cindy Gilliland/Noah Barnett (27), Joan Seward/Judy Epperly (29).



Special points of interest:

- 2016 Elected Officers
- 2016 Appointed Coordinators
- Calendar
- Editor Notes
- Birthdays

PERENNIAL MUSINGS

On Saturday, September 10th, we will hold our final community plant sale from 9 - 2, of the 2016 season. As the end of the second quarter our combined sales have totaled \$5,757. All of these monies go to support our Master Gardener Association.

We have done a little re-arranging of our area to maximize the space and allow for better overhead watering coverage. Are you aware that someone comes almost every day to do additional hand watering? We have a core group of dedicated volunteers who help with this task.

We especially want to recognize and thank Leslie Orr, Charlie Newsom, Hank Smith, Fred Broccardo and David Coon for supplying the manpower of pick up, and unload, 1 yard of gravel and 2 yards of compost on a miserably hot morning. Another shout out to Leslie and Charlie who physically moved the metal shelves to the back of the cold frame, prior to the delivery. Of course, this was all done under the watchful eye of our redesign superintendent, Jean Kitchen.

As our season winds down, we will continue to work on Tuesdays throughout November and continue to sell plants during those hours. So, if you have perennials that you are thinning out and you think they would be good for us to sell, please bring them to us early on Tuesday mornings.

STUDENTS, if you need a few more hours to complete your volunteer hours, please come and join us. This invitation extends to one and all. Not sure? Come and see.

Please stop by our plant sale on September 10th, just to say hello and maybe take home a plant or two.

See you then, *Jean and Joan, aka J&J*

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Information provided by the Josephine County Master Gardener Newsletter is accurate to the best of our knowledge. However, readers must assume all responsibility for their own actions based on information found in this publication. If, and when, a company or product is named in an article, it is not an endorsement from the Master Gardeners, Josephine County, or the OSU Extension Service. Alternate gardening methods are sometimes presented for your information and consideration, but they are not necessarily the only approach to gardening problems.

Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities and materials without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, disability and disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran status. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer. OSU Extension programs will provide reasonable accommodations to persons with physical or mental disabilities. If you need particular accommodations, please call our Extension Office at (541) 476-6613 at least 3 weeks prior to the event.

EDITOR NOTES

Please submit notices and articles to the editor, Ruth Reel.

You can always e-mail to the editor:

reelsox9@gmail.com

Or mail to: 3990 Galice Rd., Merlin, OR 97532.

Or call at: 541-479-7702

Please let the editor know if you have changed your address, phone # or e-mail address.

New phone #'s: **Jean Kitchen**, Home 541-295-8134, Cell # 541-218-8660.

Jan McBride: New email mjanice098@gmail.com, & Cell # 541-261-3231.

Chad Buckingham: New email shatterachubuckingham@gmail.com

Jesse Dearing: New address, 1150 Doneen Lane, G.P. 97526

TREASURER'S REPORT

By John Etchells, Treasurer

Cash and savings totals: As of 07/31/16

Checking: \$19,120

Savings: \$31,375

CD: \$3,616

Total Assets: \$54,111**

Total Income for June: \$1,168. This comes from Summer Plant Sales (\$1,004), Plant Clinic Garden Guide Sales (\$140), Dues (\$20) and Interest (\$4).

Total Income for July: \$168. This comes from Donations (\$77), Class T-shirt Sales (\$66), Credit Card Sales (\$14), Perennial Sales (\$8) and Annual Sales (\$3).

Total June Expenses: \$1,034. These expenses comes from: Administrative Items (\$659), Social (\$125), K-12 Program

(\$118), 2015 Spring Garden Fair (\$67), 2015 Greenhouse (\$30), OMGA Dues (\$28), Credit Card Processing Fees (\$7).

Total July Expenses: \$918. These come from OMGA Mini College donation (\$250), Administrative Items (Advertising) (\$230), Newsletter Supplies (\$123), Perennials, (Soil & Stone) (\$92), Misc President's Projects (\$88), County Fair (\$76), Administrative Expense (SOS-Recycle) (\$21), Administrative Supplies (Stamps) (\$19), Credit Card Expense (\$14), Perennials-Temporary Nursery License (\$5).

**These figures are based on reconciling checks and deposits to the 7/31/16 bank statement.

***Reminder - While shopping at the Grange Co-Op and/or using the Fred Meyer Reward Program, don't forget to have them credit your (Continued on page 5)

GARDEN PONDERINGS BY KAREN PLEASANT, MG COORDINATOR

Winding up the MG Year

Change is in the air and we'll soon be seeing the beautiful fall colors everywhere we look and putting our gardens to bed. That means we're also completing this year's volunteer activities and recertification, planning a new round of activities and getting ready for the 2017 Master Gardener training to begin in January.

We've been receiving many inquiries about next year's Master Gardener training. Many of our participants join the program because they have friends like you who have already completed training and are active volunteers. Make it a point to let people know about the 2017 program and encourage your friends and colleagues to participate. Sometimes people feel shy about joining because they feel they don't know enough about gardening. Remember no prior experience is necessary to become an OSU Master Gardener. Registration begins October 1 and is limited to about 50 participants (first come, first serve), so tell interested people to sign up

early. Application materials will be available in the office and online beginning October 1. If people want to find out more about the MG program they can also drop by the public library during September and view the bulletin board display created by MG volunteers Coleen Anderson and Lillie Radbourne. Interested people can also ask questions at our booth at the Grower's Market or drop by the office anytime.

The \$150 (*for residents of Josephine County*) Master Gardening Training will run for 13 weeks in 2017 and will still be held on Thursdays from 8:30 am to 4 pm. The series of classes begin on January 12th, and continue through April 6th. Many great classes and instructors are included in the schedule, so remember as a Master Gardener you are always welcome to attend any of the training classes which count towards continuing education hours for your recertification.

Hopefully you are all thinking about completing your volunteer hour requirement. For the Class of 2016, that means 70 volunteer service hours with

WINDING UP THE MG YEAR

at least 32 of these in a plant clinic (24 of which are in the Plant Clinic/Hotline at the Extension Office). For recertifying veterans, it means at least 20 hours of volunteer time and 10 hours of continuing education. If you are in the Class of 2016, you are certified as an OSU Master Gardener through 2017, assuming you complete this year's requirements. However, you will have to begin recertifying for 2018 during 2017.

Report all of your hours, both volunteer time and continuing education at the Volunteer Reporting System website

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/yr>) or report them on paper in my office. Remember that the Master Gardener (Continued on page 4)

2016 ELECTED OFFICERS

- President Terry Ruitter
- 1st Vice President Jeffery Bellamy
- 2nd Vice President.....Diane Wickstrom
- Secretary Pat Etchells
- OMGA State Rep..... Linda Dean
- OMGA Alt. State Rep..... Jim Porter
- Past President.....John Farias

APPOINTED COORDINATORS

- Treasurer.....John Etchells
- Green House ManagerPeter Pernarelli
- Plant Clinic Wilma Christian
- SOS Garden Seminar..... Terry Ruitter
- CommunicationsChris MacGregor
- Spring Garden Fair.....Sybil Longinotti
- Newsletter EditorRuth Reel
- Hospitality Chairman.....Breezy/Mark
.....Schallheim
- Special Projects.....Sybil Longinotti
- Publicity.....Art Reel
- Historian.....Nancy Pyle/ Linda Price
- County Fair.....Charlie Newsom
- Growers Market.....Hank Smith
- K-12 Program.....Lilly Pattee
- Mentor Committee.....Joan Foley
- Volunteer Hours..... Karen Pleasant
- Computer Coordinator..... Steve Schoen
- Webmaster Pat Etchells/Darcy Heater
- PerennialsJean Kitchen/Joan Foley
- Young Master Gardeners.....Cally Baker/
.....Barry Burnsid
- Membership.....Ruth Reel
- Master Gardener Coord.....Karen Pleasant

Plant seeds of KINDNESS and grow a
GARDEN of FRIENDSHIP.

(Continued from page 1 President’s Note)

The tour will cost \$55 per person and is limited to people who are at least 21 years old. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Board meeting on 6 September. Information on paying for the tour will be available at the meeting.

Seeds of Spring 2017 will be held 11 March. Planning for it is underway. If you would like to help with the event or have ideas for classes or instructors, let me know at tlruiter@msn.com.

The annual awards banquet will be held 22 October. The planning committee received several comments about the crowding at the last banquet. As a result, alternative locations to the OSU Extension Auditorium were investigated. The committee has developed a proposal to hold the banquet at the Taprock Event Center. Come to the September Board meeting on the 6th to hear about the plans and offer your thoughts.

And finally, you should receive a ballot to vote for officers and OMGA representatives for 2017. A ballot box will be in the plant clinic to receive your ballots. Take this opportunity to be part of one of the most important kinds of activities we do in our society and vote!

As September moves on, the daylight will get shorter and the temperatures will turn cooler again. It will be time to get serious about the winter garden or cover crop, finish harvesting this year’s crops and begin thinking about next year’s garden. The cycle continues.

(Continued from page 3 Garden Ponderings)

reporting year started on November 1, 2015 and will end October 31, 2016. Please have all your hours reported before the end of October. This is especially important for trainees so they can graduate with their class and become a certified Master Gardener and receive their official MG badge at the October 22nd banquet..

It’s been a great year for the Josephine County Master Gardeners. You’ve all accomplished an amazing amount. I am proud to be associated with such a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers. Keep up the good work...you really make a difference in our community and do a wonderful job representing OSU Extension and the Master Gardening program.



(Continued from page 3 Treasurer's Report)

purchases to the Jo.Co. Master Gardeners.

***Reminder - When you have bills for payment, please be sure to complete an Authorization for Payment/Reimbursement Form and have it signed by the committee head or officer responsible for the item. Failure to do so will delay payment of your expenses.

WANT TO BE A MENTOR?

This is a call to all of you who are interested in being a mentor for the 2017 Master Gardener Training Program. The 2017 class will begin on January 12th through April 6th.

We encourage the 2016 Class to apply, as well as any of you who are committed to the success of this program. You must be able to attend all training classes as well as being able to communicate with the students throughout the year, mostly on a monthly basis. Since most communication is done electronically, via e-mail, it is imperative that you have access to a computer.

Once I get the list of the interested applicants, I will be meeting with the selection committee, to choose the mentors and the alternates.

If you have any questions about this program, please don't hesitate to contact me. Feel free to e-mail me at grantspassgarden@yahoo.com or call me at 541-471-2103 and leave a message if I'm not available.

Thank you, Joan Foley, Mentor Coordinator



EGGPLANT AU GRATIN RECIPE

Submitted by Nancy Pyle, Master Gardener

1 small eggplant (about 1/2 pound, peeled and cut into 1/4-inch slices

2 tablespoons olive oil

3/4 cup spaghetti sauce

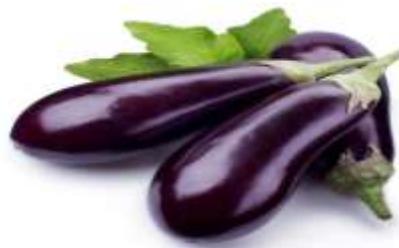
3/4 cup shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese

2 tablespoons shredded Parmesan cheese

Brush both sides of eggplant slices with oil. Place on an ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 400° for 8 minutes. Turn and bake 7-8 minutes longer or until lightly browned and tender. Cool on a wire rack.

Place one eggplant slice in each of two 10 oz. ramekins coated with nonstick cooking spray. Top each with 2 tablespoons spaghetti sauce and 2 tablespoons of mozzarella cheese. Repeat layers twice. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Bake, uncovered at 350° for 20-25 minutes or until bubbly and cheese is melted. Yield: 2 servings. Enjoy!!

Note: Instead of slices you can use chunks of eggplant.



- The Gateway Arch in St. Louis is exactly as wide as it is tall, 630 feet.
- Everyday 600,000 hacking attempts are made on Facebook.
- Churchill Downs, the Rose Bowl, the Roman Coliseum, and Vatican City would all fit in the infield of Indianapolis Motor Speedway with room to spare.
- The longer you concentrate on falling asleep, the less likely you are to.
- A pound of lemons contains more sugar than a pound of strawberries.
- It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.

HOW THE MORTGAGE LIFTER TOMATO GOT ITS NAME

Submitted by Nancy Pyle, Master Gardener

What a weird name for a tomato, right? Ever wonder how tomatoes get their names? Here's a true story about how one 'master gardener' developed this famous heirloom tomato.

His name was Marshall Cletis Byles, and it was in the early 1930's in his hometown of Logan, West Virginia. He owned a small repair shop at the bottom of a mountain. Climbing this mountain, trucks would overheat and would have to be rolled back down for radiator work at Byles' shop. Thus, he was nicknamed, "Radiator Charlie". With the Great Depression nipping at his heels, he had to find other ways to be earning a living.

He had started working in the North Carolina cotton fields at age 4, so wasn't able to get a very good education. Later in life, he became a pilot, a wrestler, a mechanic, and then developed one of the most popular heirloom tomatoes in the nation.

Without any experience breeding or growing tomatoes, he embarked on a mission to grow a large tomato that would feed families. He sought out tomatoes in his area that met his needs and started with four: German Johnson, Beefsteak, an unknown Italian variety and an English variety. He then grew plants from each variety, three Beefsteak, three Italian, and three of the English, in a circle. In the center of the circle, he planted the German Johnson tomato.

Using a baby syringe, he cross-pollinated the German Johnson with pollen from the other nine plants in the circle. He then saved the seeds, planting them the next year. He selected the best seedlings, and planted them in the middle of a circle, surrounded by the other seedlings. He repeated this process for six years, cross-pollinating the hardiest plants in the center with the pollen from the plants in the circle.

When he felt he had grown a tomato that met his criteria, he sold the seedlings for \$1 each, a huge sum in those days. Thus, the tomato was named after him: **Radiator Charlie's Tomato**. It was so popular, people drove hundreds of miles to purchase the seedlings. With the money he made, he was able to pay off his \$6,000 mortgage in six years. His legacy is now called **Radiator Charlie's Mortgage Lifter Tomato**.

However, another story in which the sources remain unclear, a William Estler of Barboursville, West Virginia, registered the name "Mortgage Lifter" in 1932, several years before "Radiator Charlie" and his "Radiator Charlie's Mortgage Lifter".

As gardeners, do we really care **HOW** a tomato got its name? I, for one, don't - I just enjoy planting the seeds, watching them grow and eating the sweet-flavored, as-much-as-2 lb's "Mortgage Lifter Tomato".

Note: Information gathered for this story was gleaned from resources on the Internet.



September 2016

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		I  Football		1	2	3 <i>Grower's Market</i>
4	5 <i>Labor Day</i>	6 <i>9:30, MG Meeting</i>	7	8	9	10 <i>Grower's Market</i>
11	12	13 <i>Perennial Tuesday</i>	14	15	16	17 <i>Grower's Market</i>
18	19	20 <i>Perennial Tuesday</i>	21	22 <i>Fall Begins</i>	23	24 <i>Grower's Market</i>
25	26	27 <i>Perennial Tuesday</i>	28	29	30 	

SUMMER STUFFED TOMATOES

Submitted by Ruth Reel, Editor and Master Gardener

What You'll Need:

2 pounds of tuna or other white fish	2 teaspoons lemon juice
1/2 cup thinly sliced celery	1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup sliced scallion	1/4 teaspoon black pepper
2 tablespoons sweet pickle relish	4 tomatoes, core removed
1/3 cup mayonnaise	Paprika for sprinkling

What to Do:

In a large bowl, combine tuna or white fish, celery, scallion, pickle relish, mayonnaise, lemon juice, salt, and pepper; gently mix until thoroughly combined.

Cut each tomato into 6 wedges, being careful not to cut through tomato completely. Spoon fish mixture evenly into center of each tomato, sprinkle with paprika, and serve.

Enjoy!!

OSU Extension Service, Master Gardener™ Association - Josephine County, Oregon, 541-476-6613

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THE MASTER GARDENER



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