

October, 2016



THE MASTER GARDENER™



Josephine County OSU Master Gardener™ Association Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

By Terry Ruiter, President



After a summer that seemed blistering hot at times, it's amazing how comfortable 80-85° feels! Cool nights are especially welcome! The perennial parts of the garden also seem to welcome the cooler weather. Roses look happy again, herbs are perky and flowering plants look relaxed as they get ready for the winter break.

My summer vegetable garden is scrambling to finish producing tomatoes, peppers (a Habanero has peeked out from a leaf this morning!) and squash (time for ratatouille!). The chard, however, succumbed to a huge infestation of aphids that were a complete surprise, especially since there were several perfectly good cabbage family plants (my usual aphid attractors) 3 feet away! While the winter garden is a slower, more mellow pace, it still provides many of the joys of the summer garden.

October is the end of the Josephine County Master Gardener year. Volunteer and education hours should be entered in the Volunteer Reporting System (VRS) by 31 October. This year, designation of recertified Master Gardeners will change from the traditional plastic swingers that were attached to the bottom of the Oregon-shaped badge to a sticker that will be placed over the flower on the badge. Recertified Master Gardeners will receive a sticker when their hours have been recorded and the volunteer service forms required to be recognized as volunteers by Oregon State University and covered by the university insurance have been received. It will reduce the length of swinger chains but also reduce the weight.

October will also bring a new set of officers and other board members for 2017. One of the first duties for that new team will be identifying activities and establishing a budget for next year. All of our committees could use more volunteers, (Continued on page 4)

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Special points of interest:

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

IMPORTANT! COMING SOON

I will be mailing to all current Master Gardeners two forms: the **OSU Volunteer Service Form** which is required by OSU for every volunteer for the following year. This is for your protection in case of injury. A signed form is mandatory whether or not you accept the insurance. The second form will be the **Code of Conduct Form**. Please turn in both at the Extension Office by **November 1, 2016**.

Ruth Reel, Editor

COUNTY FAIR

I wish to thank all the Master Gardeners who helped during the JoCo County Fair.

We had a very successful Fair. Peggy Anderson (the new fair manager) told me she was very pleased with the building and decorations.

I also would like to thank the school gardens for their participation, along with the local Granges...The Plant Clinic along with the SOBA, Southern Oregon Bee Association, were very helpful with information.

A special thank you to the following people is needed...Ida, Pam, Lesley, Lori, Peter, Carolyn, John. Without their help this event could not happen.

All though our exhibits were done in numbers (No entries from Master Gardener students) we gave away more money than before. A portion of which was returned to the Master Gardener Association. Thanks to our many sponsors. A total of in excess of \$1500 was awarded. A large part of that is the JoCo Master Gardener Association.

I want to make a few more awards at this time.

For the best school garden, Highland, \$30.

For second place, Madrone, \$20.

And for so so close, St. Anne, \$20.

I look forward to another successful year next year...I hope with the continued support of the JoCo Master Gardeners, the Josephine County Fair will flourish. The is a great community event we all need to support.

Charlie Newsom, Josephine County Fair Supervisor

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.

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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.

Wanda Babcock: New email
wmbabcock151@gmail.com

Joan Foley: New email, joanfoleygp@gmail.com

Hank Smith: New phone #, 541-660-4486

Cheryl Long Riffle: New email & address:
long.riffle@gmail.com

16880 Highway 238, G.P. 97527

TREASURER'S REPORT

By John Etchells, Treasurer

Cash and savings totals: As of 08/26/16

Checking: \$16,590.74

Savings: \$31,375.02

CD: \$3,614.93

Total Assets: \$51,580.69**

Total Income for August 1 through August 26th: \$142. This comes from Plant Clinic Garden Guide Sales (\$80), Perennial Sales (\$37), Donations (\$14), Member Purchases (last of the class t-shirt sales) (\$11).

Total Expenses for August 1 through August 26th: \$2,686.

These expenses comes from: County Fair Prizes (\$1,287), OMGA Rep Travel & Meetings (\$710), Plant Guide Purchases & Expenses (\$555), Display Garden Planning (\$81), Newsletter (\$43), Perennial Supplies (\$10).

**These figures are based upon on-line balances as of 8/26/16. Last bank reconciliation 7/31/16.

***Reminder - While shopping at the Grange Co-Op and/or using the Fred Meyer Reward Program, don't forget to have them credit your purchases to 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.



CLEAN UP AND CUT BACK BEFORE WINTER SETS IN

By Carol Savonen

Before cold weather sets in, autumn clean up in your yard and garden will help protect your landscape from the ravages of winter. There are several tasks best initiated in October and November.

Mulch your empty garden beds for the winter if they don't have a cover crop on them yet. Mulch will protect from erosion. Even flat beds experience soil erosion and heavy compaction from rainwater. Mulching will add organic matter to the soil. And it will encourage earthworm activity. Plus it will keep weed germination down.

Control the weeds that have recently germinated from early fall rains. It is a much easier job now than in the spring. A hoe or hand pulling will do it. This is not a good time of year to use herbicides. The damp soil makes it easy to hoe or pull weeds, big or little.

Apply slow-release nitrogen fertilizer to lawns, if needed. Use just enough to keep the lawn green, but not enough to cause need for additional

mowing. Don't use quick-release fertilizer, as it will just leach away in fall rains. Don't apply fertilizer to trees, flowers or shrubs this time of year, as it may reduce their cold tolerance.

Cut back late flowering perennials like asters and chrysanthemums to a few inches. Peonies can be cut back all the way to the ground. Mulch the crowns with compost to protect them from hard freezes.

Prune late summer and fall flowering shrubs like butterfly bush (Buddleia) abelia, clethra and hydrangea several weeks before icy winter weather or hold off until mid-February to do your pruning. Trim back roses to knee height so winter winds won't cause damage.

Keep your perennial gardens free of wind-blown plant refuse. Continue to rake your lawn, as more leaves fly. Add the leaves to your compost pile to turn them into humus.

Pull up spent summer annuals like snapdragons, marigolds, zinnias, cosmos and nasturtiums that have dried

CUT BACK LATE FLOWERING PERENNIALS

back.

WHY, WHY, WHY???

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are getting dead?

Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough money?

Why doesn't glue stick to the bottle?

Why do they use sterilized needles for death by lethal injection?

Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?

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
- Communications Schallheim/Etchells
- Spring Garden Fair.....Sybil Longinotti
- Newsletter Editor.....Ruth 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.....Sayaka Lean/
.....Barry Burnsid
- Membership.....Ruth Reel
- Master Gardener Coord.....Karen Pleasant

(Continued from page 1 President's Note)

especially the K-12/school garden program. Think about something you could do to add new skills to our programs...I think you will find you really enjoy it!

The class of 2016 graduation and awards banquet will be on 22 October. Because the event at the OSU Extension auditorium has been so crowded the last couple of years, the planning committee searched for a new venue. The result is the banquet will be at the Taprock Event Center (across 7th Street from the Taprock Restaurant). The theme will be Green Acres from the television show with Eddie Albert and Eva Gabor about a couple from Manhattan taking up life on a farm. It definitely allows a variety of options from costumes! The event will cost \$10 for Master Gardeners and \$20 for their guests with a cash bar. The tradition of potluck will continue with Master Gardeners bringing desserts. Find your elegant threads or your overalls and come out to celebrate the class of 2016 and the Josephine County Master Gardener Association award winners! It should be a terrific evening.

Many thanks to David and Cherie Coon, Lilly and Tom Pattee, Carolyn McCord, Jan and Frank Quintens, and Hank and Linda Smith for allowing (actually welcoming) a herd of Master Gardeners into their gardens on 18 September. The diversity of space and approaches to filling those spaces was wonderful to see. Shady and sunlit spaces were full of plants, art and other things that make gardens such wonderful places to be in. Thanks for sharing those spaces...and thanks to Jeffrey Bellamy for putting together the maps and directions that got us there!

So, enjoy autumn as you take down your summer garden and plant your winter one. Appreciate the cooler days as you rake leaves and get things set for winter. The cycle continues...



LOOKING FOR DONATIONS

The Social Events Committee is preparing for the 2016 Josephine County Master Gardener Graduation Ceremony/Awards Event. We are currently putting together baskets for a Raffle at the event. We are looking for donations from current Master Gardeners to help make these baskets a great gift. If you can provide any of the items below, please bring the item(s) to the OSU Extension office by no later than October 14th. Thank you for any support you can provide.

1. Trowels
2. Garden gloves
3. Moisture meter
4. pH meter
5. Potted plants
6. Garden books
7. Pruners/nippers
8. Bulbs
9. Metal plant ID tags
10. Seeds
11. Fertilizer
12. Plastic plant labels/plants stakes
13. Magazine subscription
14. Art work

If you have any questions, please contact Jeffrey Bellamy, Breezy Schallheim, or leave a message at the Josephine County OSU Extension office.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Terri Woodruff (2), Sue George (6), Bev McCartan, (9), Candace Bartow (10), John Farias (12), Rita Day (14), Mary Rust (16), Rachelle Gundersen/Gene Crane/Anna Demeduk (18), Nathan Tanner (24), Eric Lundberg (25), Jean Kitchen/Tom Elliott (27), Barry Burnside (31).



An old fashioned belief says that the number 13 is unlucky. But did you know that there were:

- 13 original colonies
- 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence
- 13 stripes on our flag
- 13 stars above the eagle on the one dollar bill
- 13 bars on his shield
- 13 arrows
- 13 letters in "Annuit Coeptis"
- 13 letters in "E Pluribus Unum"

In 1970 archaeologists excavating an ancient Egyptian tomb found the skeleton of a grave robber with his hand trapped in the coffin lid.

"People will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night" - Movie producer Darryl Zanuck in 1946, speaking about television.

The word 'deadline' originated in civil war prisons, where lines were drawn on the ground that prisoners crossed only at the risk of being shot.

You can tell the temperature by listening to a cricket chirp. Count the number of chirps in 15 seconds, then add 37.

The Earth we live on is currently hurtling through space at 156 miles per second.

Some restaurants in China lace their food with opiates to keep customers coming back.

MOLES DRIVE GARDENERS CRAZY BUT THEY DO GOOD TOO

By Carol Savonen

Do you have soft volcanoes of dirt in your yard? Chances are, you may have moles, creatures adapted totally to life underground. Autumn or early winter is a good time to control moles, if they are a problem.

But think twice before you decide to get rid of them because moles play a beneficial role in the environment. They aerate and mix the soil and feed on insects, insect larvae and other invertebrates.

Oregon has four species of moles, according to Oregon State University wildlife biologist Dan Edge: Townsend's, broad-footed, coast and the shrew mole. All dine primarily on insects and their relatives, rounded out with an occasional botanical treat - including plants and bulbs from the home garden.

Moles are insectivores, not rodents. They have rounded or cylindrical bodies, noses that are pig-like snouts, and short, bare or sparsely haired tails.

With outwardly turned palms and strong nails, moles are equipped for efficient digging. Their tiny eyes are well-concealed in short, velvety fur. They have no external ears.

Moles are rarely seen above the ground. It is their mounds of loose soil pushed to the surface that indicate their presence. Active throughout the year, they continually excavate new tunnel systems or extend old ones.

Home gardeners and farmers find moles too often to be a major nuisance because of their mounds and their vegetarian snacks. Mole mounds make ideal seedbeds for undesirable grasses and weeds. Mole excavations can expose shallow-rooted shrubs to drying and to insect pests.

Moles will sometimes eat or damage tulips, lilies, iris, carrots, potatoes, peas, beans, corn, oats, wheat and many other plants.

Many home gardeners are confused about how to tell the difference between mole and gopher mounds. And being able to identify the critters is the most important first step in controlling them.

Mole mounds are rounded and symmetrical.

"Moles dispose excess soil by digging a short lateral tunnel to the surface and shoving the soil out on top of the ground," said Edge. "The mounds are built up, volcano fashion, by repeated 'eruptions' of soil pushed up through the center of the pile."

"Pocket gophers, on the other hand, push soil out to the side, resulting in a flattened semi-circle or fan-shaped mound, with their plugged exit hole at one side of the pile," he said.



October 2016

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2	3	4 <i>9:30, MG Meeting</i>	5	6	7	8 <i>Mistakes You Don't Want to Make in Garden Class</i>
9	10 <i>Columbus Day</i>	11 <i>Perennial Tuesday</i>	12	13	14	15 <i>Home Landscape Design for Gardeners Class</i>
16	17	18 <i>Perennial Tuesday</i>	19	20	21	22 <i>Graduation/ Awards Banquet</i>
23	24	25 <i>Perennial Tuesday</i>	26	27 <i>Growing Nut Trees Class</i>	28	29
30	31 <i>Halloween</i>					

CHINESE CHICKEN SALAD

Submitted by Julie Kaszuba & Katy Dalke, Master Gardeners

Salad:

1 bag of shredded Cole slaw mix	4 oz. silvered toasted almonds (just from the bag)
1-4 green onions chopped	1 pkg. Top Ramen Noodles (Oriental flavor) blue bag
3 cups chopped cooked chicken (I use just 1 large white meat breast)	
Optional: 1 can sliced mandarin oranges or chunk pineapple	

Dressing:

Seasoning packet from top ramen	1/2 cup vegetable oil
1 T sesame seeds	1 T sesame oil
3 T sugar	4 T rice vinegar

Combine ingredients for dressing mix in mason jar, shake well. Make in the morning so all the flavors bind together. Will keep for 1 week.

Mix salad ingredients together, add dressing, and sprinkle with crushed ramen noodles.

Easy Peasy!!

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