

January, 2017



# THE MASTER GARDENER™



Josephine County OSU Master Gardener™ Association Newsletter

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

By Terry Ruiter, President

In Roman mythology, Janus was the god of endings and beginnings, transitions and time. He had two faces in order to look to both the past and the future - hence the conventional thought that January was named for him (although this is disputed). Regardless, January in the northern hemisphere represents the middle of winter - a time to evaluate the past year, regroup, think and plan for the new year. Gardeners are usually well into this process, aided by the plethora of catalogs for seeds, plants, tools...

Josephine County Master Gardeners can look back at a successful 2016 and forward to 2017 as new officers and committee and program chairs take over in January. Continuing and expanding programs will be the focus of the new year. As part of your planning, consider getting involved in a committee or activity. It is a great way to meet and get to know other members. Gardeners, in general, seem to be an amiable, helpful bunch and getting to know more of them can only bring worthwhile additions to your personal list of friends and associates.

Josephine County Master Gardeners also have considerable help with thinking about and planning their gardening for the year. OSU Extension Services offers classes throughout the year on a variety of topics. The new evening and weekend schedule for winter and spring 2017 is out and available online ([josephine.extension@oregonstate.edu](mailto:josephine.extension@oregonstate.edu)) or at the OSU Extension Service office at 215 Ringuette St.

The Master Gardener Program for 2017 begins on 12 January. Along with new Master Gardener trainees, there are new instructors and even some new classes. (Continued on page 4)



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## Special points of interest:

- 2017 Elected Officers
- 2017 Appointed Coordinators
- Calendar
- Editor Notes
- Birthdays

## WANTED: LARGE SERRATED KNIVES

**WANTED: LARGE SERRATED KNIVES.** The perennial greenhouse is in need of a few “old/used” serrated knives, sturdy enough for slicing through plants. If your kitchen drawer has one of these that you don’t use, please consider donating it to the perennial program. You can bring it to me at the January BOD meeting. Please remember that it has to be sturdy.

*Joan Foley, Perennial Manager*

## **GREENHOUSE**

Greenhouse Operations will begin on Saturday, January 14th with the first group of new students. Students are always amazed with the transition that takes place in just a few months, going from an empty structure to one that is crammed with plants for our annual April sale. I expect that this year will be no different.

Our December rainstorm, which was snow and ice in the northern portion of the state, caused a delay in the arrival of the OBC order coming from Canby. I am confident that all our supplies will be here by now. A majority of the seeds are on hand and a few that are on backorder should arrive shortly.

A productive meeting with the Greenhouse leaders and assistants was held in mid-December. During the meeting we discussed ideas for improving the experience for the students and methods for avoiding some of the problems that occurred last year. At the meeting I also gave notice that there would be a Greenhouse Manager vacancy after this year and anyone wanting to fill this position should contact Terry or myself so they can start learning all the aspects of the position.

We'll have a work party in early January to consider methods for dealing with the leakage problem in the seeding Greenhouse. Currently it only leaks when it rains but at this time of the year it rains way too often to ignore.

I look forward to a productive greenhouse season and no rodent, or insect issues like those that have plagued us in the past.

Also, we will have bulbs available for sale either after the January Board Meeting or during the first day of class.

*Peter Pernarelli - Greenhouse Manager*

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## **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](mailto: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.**

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash and savings totals: As of 11/30/16

Checking: \$12,717.68

Savings: \$31,378.96

CD: \$3,617.80

Total Assets: \$47,714.44\*\*

Total Income from November 1st through November 30th: \$18. This comes from Perennial Sales (\$18).

Total Expenses from November 1st through November 30th: \$1,634. These expenses come from Administrative Items (President's Mini College Exp., Plaque Exp, Banquet Exp, Swingers) (\$779) General Advertizing (\$235), Travel (\$221), Newsletter (\$208), Mini College Scholarships (\$133), Plant Clinic (\$58).

By John Etchells, Treasurer

\*\* These figures are based on reconciling checks and deposits to the 10/31/16 bank statements.

\*\*\*Reminder - 2017 dues are now due. Membership remains \$20 per person. Dues can be paid at the January meeting or dropped off at the Extension Office.

\*\*\*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 - If you shop on Amazon, please remember to use the Smiles option & designate Jo.Co. Master Gardeners! Amazon will make a donation to us based on your Smiles purchases.

\*\*\* 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.

## GARDEN PONDERINGS BY KAREN PLEASANT, MG COORDINATOR

The Master Gardener Training for the Class of 2017 will begin on Thursday, January 12th and run through April 6th. An enthusiastic group of students and mentors are anxiously awaiting the start of the training! I have enjoyed meeting all of the new students during the orientations and getting to know them a bit. Collectively they have such interesting backgrounds and represent quite the wealth of knowledge and experience, and I know they are going to be a great group of volunteers. Please note that the training day is starting at 8:30 am again this year to accommodate a variety of hands-on learning experiences throughout the day and the announcements and reminders will be right before lunch (11:45 am to noon). Please refer to the daily schedule for more information. Also please let me know if you have any information that you need to share with the trainees so I can add you to the daily line-up of announcements. You can come and make the announcements yourself if desired or let me know the informa-

tion so I can share it. If you email me information by Tuesday each week I will list also it on the morning welcome screen. As in the past, veterans can attend most of the training classes and count the continuing education hours towards recertification. See the attached schedule to training classes to decide which ones you would like to attend. You'll notice that there are several new presenters and topics this year as well as many of our favorite standbys. One new activity this year is that the trainees will be participating in an all-day field trip adventure near the end of the thirteen weeks of training.

Please come on down and participate in the potluck during lunch from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm on the first day of class and meet some of the new trainees. Don't forget to bring some food to share and car pool if you can as parking can be a problem. Also please label the ingredients of the food you bring to share as several people have food allergies (dairy, eggs, nuts & gluten). I hope to see you January 12th: Let's give the Class of 2017 a hearty Master

### MASTER GARDENER TRAINING

Gardener welcome!

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## **2017 ELECTED OFFICERS**

President ..... Terry Ruiter  
1st Vice President ..... Mark Schallheim  
2nd Vice President ..... Phylis McIntosh  
Secretary ..... Cynthia Low  
OMGA State Rep ..... Candace Bartow  
OMGA Alt. State Rep ..... David Coon  
Past President ..... John Farias

## **APPOINTED COORDINATORS**

Treasurer ..... John Etchells  
Green House Manager ..... Peter Pernarelli  
Plant Clinic ..... Wilma Christian  
SOS Garden Seminar ..... Terry Ruiter  
Communications ..... Schallheim/Etchells  
Spring Garden Fair ..... Sybil Longinotti  
Newsletter Editor ..... Ruth Reel  
Hospitality Chairman ..... Breezy/Mark  
..... Schallheim  
Special Projects ..... Sybil Longinotti  
Publicity ..... Jeana Schorr  
Historian ..... Nancy Pyle/Linda Price  
County Fair ..... Charlie Newsom  
Growers Market ..... Hank Smith  
K-12 Program ..... Vacant  
Mentor Committee ..... Joan Foley  
Volunteer Hours ..... Karen Pleasant  
Computer Coordinator ..... Steve Schoen  
Webmaster ..... Pat Etchells/Darcy Heater  
Perennials ..... Joan Foley  
Young Master Gardeners ..... Sayaka Lean/  
..... Barry Burnsides  
Membership ..... Ruth Reel  
Master Gardener Coord ..... Karen Pleasant

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(Continued from page 1 President's Note)

They are worth checking out. Master Gardeners with their badges can sit in the back of the classes and catch up on things they may have forgotten or learn altogether new things. Two days of Program classes provide enough time to meet the education criterion for recertification. Remember that senior Master Gardeners provide lunch for students on the first day of class, which always sets a great example as well as providing some fabulous food.

To continue your garden planning, the brochure for Seeds of Spring 2017 will be in your mailboxes the first week of January. The schedule offers 34 classes over four sessions to be held on 11 March for \$25. This continues to be a terrific opportunity for Master Gardeners and the community to shake off the winter doldrums and learn something new. In February, we will also be looking for volunteers to help with registration, getting instructors and their materials to their classrooms and serving as hosts in classrooms.

As winter continues through toward spring, I hope you can take advantage of the time it offers to think about your garden for 2017. Do you want to add planting areas? Do you want to add seed-starting space or maybe even a greenhouse (!) to your gardening regime? What do you want to grow next spring, summer and fall...and what did or did not work in 2016 spring, summer and fall? Is there something you really want to try, but fear failing? Remember that gardening is one continuous experiment and all those plants and crops you now consider fail-safe started as scary beginnings. Peruse the catalogs and make lists and plan and remember that gardening is enjoyable, creative, problem-solving fun.

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## **MASTER GARDENER HOSTS FOR INCOMING CLASS OF 2017**

This is a reminder that it is traditional for the preceding class (2016) and senior Master Gardeners to host the lunch for the incoming (2017) students. Please bring in your food contributions on Thursday, January 12th between 8 and 8:15 in the morning or at break time about 10 am. Be sure to label your dishes if they contain nuts, dairy or if they are gluten free. Morning snacks are also acceptable and healthy choices are preferred. This is a great way to welcome our new students.

*Joan Foley, Mentor Coordinator*

2017 MG Tentative Thursday Training Schedule- JoCo	
Plant Families Introduction & Review (begins week 3)	8:30-9:00 a.m.
Let's Think! Morning Presentation	9:00-10:30 a.m.
AM Break	10:30 a.m.- 10:45 a.m.
Let's Apply! Educational activities to reinforce morning presentation	10:45 -11:45 a.m.
Announcements & Reminders	11:45 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.
LUNCH	12:00- 1:00 p.m.
Mystery Plant Challenge & Review (begins week 3)	1:00-1:15 p.m.
Let's Think! Afternoon Presentation	1:15-2:45 p.m.
PM Break	2:45-3:00 p.m.
Let's Apply! Educational activities to reinforce afternoon presentation	3:00- 4:00 p.m.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Barbara Larson (3), Leslie Orr (4), Tracy Dillard (9), Deborrah Dunham (13), Debi Ashton (14), Nan Williamson (16), Pat Siler (18), Terry Ruiter (19), Coleen Anderson (21), Wilma Christian/Jim McManus/Terry Riley (23), Rosemary Eichorn (25), Kathy Delano (26).



## INTEREST SURVEY

Veterans, please take a few moments and complete the Interest Survey Form that is on the flip side of the Annual Dues Form. All of the interest surveys will be available in a notebook in the Plant Clinic so program leads can find people who expressed interest in a variety of program areas and activities. The incoming trainees completed the form during their orientation session and their forms are already in the notebook. Please note that you're not obligated to volunteer for a specific volunteer activity just because you checked it off on your form. Your check mark shows that you are interested in finding out more about the opportunities related to the program area and serves as a cue for the program lead to contact you.

Thank you.

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## PERENNIAL MUSINGS

The perennial greenhouse will re-open on Tuesday, January 17th, as long as we are snow and ice free. Please remember to dress in layers and bring your gloves and favorite pruners. I plan some time to discuss our goals for the upcoming season, develop some educational opportunities for you to share, since many of you have areas of expertise that are valuable to this program, and to do some general brainstorming. Bring a cup of coffee or your favorite beverage for this "stand-up" session. After that, we will start with general clean up inside the greenhouse and trimming and pruning outside. This program is open to any senior Master Gardeners and students after they finish their greenhouse obligations in April. Again, no experience required, other than a desire to get hands on experience, be in the fresh air, a willingness to get dirty, earn volunteer hours, learn from one another, laugh and be with good friends.

*Joan Foley, Perennial Manager*

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OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY  
**MASTER GARDENER™**  
JOSEPHINE COUNTY - 2017 PROGRAM

Grants Pass      Thursdays 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Week	Date	Topic	Instructor	SG
1	12-Jan.	AM: OSU MG Program, Training Overview, & Introductions 11:30 a.m. Greenhouse Practicum Overview 11:45 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Luncheon hosted by Veteran MGs PM: Botany	Karen Pleasant Greenhouse Mentors Veteran MGs Rachel Werling	
2	19-Jan	AM: Plant Identification (Part 1)* PM: Sustainable Landscape Design* 3:00 p.m. JoCo Master Gardener Association	Karen Pleasant Mike Zerwer Terry Ruiter	22*
3	26-Jan	AM: Plant Identification (Part 2)* PM: Urban Tree Care & Walking Field Trip (dress for weather)	Karen Pleasant Tal Blankenship	22* 9**
4	2-Feb	AM: Soils* PM: Small Fruits (grapes & berries)*	Rhianna Simes & Scott Goode Ross Penhallegon	2, 5 11
5	9-Feb	AM: Watering & Irrigating Gardens* PM: Vegetable Gardening*	Frank Burris Marjorie Neal	6 7
6	16-Feb	AM: Roots* PM: Garden Entomology & Insect Identification*	Rhianna Simes Judi Maxwell	HOs 14***
7	23-Feb	AM: Plant Diagnostics* PM: Home Orchards/Fruit Trees*	Neil Bell Phil Damewood	15, 18 10
8	2-Mar	Fruit Tree Pruning Hands-On Workshop (1/2 group)**** Review Games (1/2 group, then alternate)****	Phil Damewood Karen Pleasant	4 19***
9	9-Mar	AM: Understanding Pesticides* PM: Home Weed Identification & Management*	Brooke Edmunds Maud Powell	17**
10	16-Mar	AM: Vertebrate Pest Management & Gardening for Wildlife* PM: Integrated Pest Management*	Dana Sanchez Judi Maxwell	18 20***
11	23-Mar	AM: Sustainable Lawns* PM: Plant Clinic Orientation	Alec Kowalewski Plant Clinic Mentors	12 HOs
12	30-Mar	AM: Field Trip Demonstration Garden & Mini-Stations**** PM: Field Trip (lunch at Pacifica/Forest Farm)****	SOREC Herb Pharm	3, 8
13	6-Apr	Take Home Exams Due AM: Plant Clinic Practice 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Celebration Potluck Luncheon 1:00-2:00 PM: Challenges of Gardening in the Rogue Valley *	Plant Clinic Mentors Class of 2017 MGs MG Panel	
		2:15 - 4:00 p.m.: Review Take Home Exam and Wrap-Up	Karen Pleasant	

\*Qualify for recertification CE hours for Veterans. \*\* Working with plants, please take precautions if you have allergies.

\*\*\* Bring your smartphone, electronic tablet, or laptop to class. \*\*\*\*for Class of 2017 trainees only

Class Location: Josephine County Extension Auditorium

215 Ringuette St, Grants Pass

541-476-6613

Breaks One hour will be allowed for lunch. Participants should bring their lunch.

There will be a mid-morning and afternoon break.

SG Refers to the applicable chapter in your Sustainable Gardening textbook. \*HO= handouts

\*Most regular class sessions are eligible for re-certification for veteran Master Gardeners.

# January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3 <i>9:30, MG Meeting</i>	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 <i>Classes Begin, Apron order</i>	13	14 <i>9-noon, Hydroponics Workshop</i>
15	16 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	17 <i>Perennial greenhouse opens</i>	18	19 <i>T-shirt project begins Class</i>	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	21 <i>Understanding &amp; Helping Local Bees Classes</i>
22	23	24 <i>9-11 Perennial Workshop</i>	25	26 <i>Present T-shirt designs Class</i>	27	28
29	30	31 <i>9-11 Perennial Workshop</i>				

## **JANUARY GARDENING CLASSES**

**All classes are held at the OSU Extension Auditorium at 215 Ringuette St., in Grants Pass**

**Saturday, January 14,** Building a Hydroponics System Workshop, Instructor Barry Burnsides, Master Gardener from 9:00 am - Noon. Cost: \$85/MG \$70. Learn basic hydroponic concepts from starting seeds to harvest. Harvest leafy crops such as lettuce or bok choi in as little as 30 days! In this workshop each student will learn how to assemble a take home reusable hydroponic plant starting system and a "floating raft" type of grow system sufficient to grow up to 15 plants at a time. Students will learn how to prepare rockwool cubes for use, germinate seeds, start, grow, care for and harvest plants. All materials provided. (Limited 30 participants)

**Saturday, January 28th,** Understanding & Helping our Local Bees (2 separate sessions - pre-register to attend one or both), Instructor Rich Little, Entomologist. Cost (includes materials & afternoon session also): \$45/MG \$35.

Session 1: 10:00 am to Noon: Building a Bee House Workshop. Pre-registration required. Morning session limit to 30 participants. Rich will discuss the different types of bee nesting systems & how to best install & support them. In the morning session you will build one yourself & learn how to attract native Mason bees. All materials provided. Bring a battery operated drill if you have one.

Session 2: 1:00 to 3:00pm: Understanding Native Bees, cost (included if attended Session 1): \$10/MG \$5. In the afternoon Rich will discuss the MG Native Bee Project where you will receive ongoing information about helping your local bees and how the nesting systems are becoming a critical part of helping the native bees.

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

Our email address is: josephinemg@oregonstate.edu

Our Web Site: <http://www.jocomastergardeners.com>

**THE MASTER GARDENER**



Grants Pass, OR 97527

215 Ringuette Street

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