

May, 2017



# THE MASTER GARDENER™



Josephine County OSU Master Gardener™ Association Newsletter

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

By Terry Ruitter, President



Spring is amazing. One day there is a light haze of yellow-green over the landscape. A few days (and some sun!). Later and the whole world is vibrantly, throbbingly green. Peas clamber up trellises, flowers open up and the debate over the appropriate date to plant those closely guarded tomato and pepper seedlings begins. It seems like everything is livelier and brighter...a wonderful time of year.

The May Board meeting will be on the 2nd at 9:30 in the OSU Extension Auditorium. All Josephine County Master Gardener Association members (including class of 2017) are welcome. It is an opportunity to see what is going on in the organization...and the time spent at the board and general meetings every month can be recorded as volunteer service time.

May is also the time the Plant Clinic gets REALLY busy. This is a wonderful resource for the organization and community and provides a point of conversation about gardening and garden-related research. The insect Working Group is also providing support for some of the gnarly, insect-identification questions.

Josephine County Master Gardeners expect to up the ante on our demonstration gardens this month. The Krull Memorial Garden will be revamped (two weather forced work-party cancellations so far notwithstanding) and replanted with more focus on perennial fruits. This will expand on the table grapes, columnar apples and espaliered apples and pears already planted along the fenceline.

In addition, a new demonstration garden will be developed in front of the (Continued on page 4)

### Inside this issue:

<i>Project Review Comm.</i>	2
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	3
<i>Garden Ponderings</i>	3
<i>Add to Directory</i>	4
<i>Social Event</i>	5
<i>Greenhouse Comments</i>	6
<i>Perennial Musings</i>	6
<i>Food Pres. Mini Series</i>	6
<i>May Classes</i>	8

## MENTORS

Congratulations to all the Master Gardener trainees who completed their studies on April 6th. As mentors, we will be following their progress throughout the summer and communicating with our team on a monthly basis or more frequently as needed. We will be available to answer their questions and appraise them of volunteer opportunities. The trainees have already begun to participate in the plant clinic and many happy faces were seen at Fred Meyer Fuchsia Day, and we expect a good representation at the Spring Garden Fair.

A special thank you to the 9 mentors (Barbara Reavis, Denny Bruno, Linda Price, Carol Graper, Carolanne Durante, Jan McBride, Laurel DeWolf, Joan Foley, Kathy Schuller) and 3 mentor alternates (Nancy Pyle, Cheryl Holt, Barry Burnsides) who gave their time and talents to the 2017 class and to Karen Pleasant for her leadership and passion for education.

*Joan Foley, Mentor Coordinator*

### Special points of interest:

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

## PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Project Review Committee has approved four new projects so far in 2017.

1. Six volunteers from the Master Gardener Insect Working Group will prepare a presentation and handouts informing members of the Grants Pass Garden Club of common insects they are likely to encounter in their gardens and homes - and information on how to control pests using the most environmentally sound methods. This will take place the first Wednesday of the month six times this year.
2. Master Gardeners will assist OSU Snap-Ed staff teaching gardening sessions with third-grade students using OSU-developed Growing Healthy Kids curriculum. Six Master Gardeners have signed up as volunteers for the project, which will take place March 1 - June 15 at Grants Pass elementary schools.
3. Master Gardeners will help three fifth-grade science classes at Redwood Elementary School to prepare a current garden area to grow vegetables and flowers. MGs will provide one-hour courses on topics such as garden planning, plant selection and maintaining a garden. This activity took place on March 15 (and possibly a few more dates).
4. Master Gardeners will teach children to plant and care for a marigold at AAUW's Frog O'Faire on June 17th. Two shifts of four volunteers will teach some 500-1,000 children to plant a plant at this yearly children's festival held at Riverside Park.

*By Sybil Longinotti and Joan Seward*

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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**

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.**

Correct email address for Georgia Moulton:  
syringa@q.com

Correct email address for Cathy Stevens-Hernandez:  
cstevenshernandez@yahoo.com

**Check on page 4 for additional more to enclose in 2017 Directory.**

## TREASURER'S REPORT

By John Etchells, Treasurer

Cash & Savings totals as of 03/31/17

Checking: \$8,394.49

Savings: \$31,386.77

CD: \$3,620.51

Total Assets: \$43,401.77\*\*

Total Income \$1,314. This comes from: Member Sales (\$531), Perennial Sales (\$253), Dues (\$240), Seeds of Spring (food) (\$140), Plant Clinic Sales (\$95), SGF (\$50), Interest (\$5).

Total Expenses \$4,431. These expenses come from: OMGA State Dues (\$1,596) Class t-shirt Expense (\$1,170) Seeds of Spring (\$539), Annual Copying Expense (\$400), Plant Clinic (\$278), Newsletter (\$138), Member Purchases (Vest & Aprons) (\$135), SGF Flyers (\$93), Display Gardens (\$33), Greenhouse (\$20), Treasurer Misc (Stamps) (\$19), Admin.

Items (Plaque) (\$9), Square Credit Card Square Fees (\$1).

\*\* These figures are based on reconciling checks and deposits to the 02/28/17 bank statements.

\*\*\*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. Also, if you shop using Amazon on-line, please go to Amazon Smiles and select "Master Gardener Association - Grants Pass" as a charity. Then every purchase you make will be credited to us. Amazon is a company that makes it charitable donations based upon the percentage of Smile sales from an organization. This is similar to the Fred Meyer Reward Program.

(Continued on page 5)

## GARDEN PONDERINGS BY KAREN PLEASANT, MG COORDINATOR

### ASK A MASTER GARDENER

The Plant Clinics at both the OSU Extension Office from Monday through Thursday, often referred to as the Plant Clinic/Hotline, and at the Growers' Market on Saturdays are just getting under way. The Josephine County Fair will also be a site of a Plant Clinic, as well as a few special events as they are organized. Since this is the prime season for plant clinic inquiries and many volunteers are and will be working in this wonderful venue to answer gardening questions for the public, I thought it would be a good time to review some key points to remember. Even if you won't be working in a plant clinic in the near future it is a good idea to be familiar with these points as you never know when friends or neighbors might ask you gardening questions.

### USE APPROPRIATE RESEARCH-BASED RESOURCES

\***Be objective**, informing the client of all research-supported options: cultural, biological, and chemical

(synthetic and organic). Even if you don't use those options - **do not exclude** that choice.

\*Generally **don't suggest home remedies** unless supported by research. Make it clear that one issue with home remedies - even research supported options - is that **formulations can vary from one 'batch' to another, and therefore effectiveness may vary.**

\*Do not answer questions for commercial growers, or questions related to commercial production. Refer those to the Extension agent.

Some questions received in the Plant Clinic or Growers' Market can be answered immediately, either through the volunteers' knowledge or by pulling up resources on the spot and sharing them with the client. When you provide answers to clients, you must be able to back up that information with approved resources. That is, even if you know how to treat powdery mildew on tomatoes, and can tell the client what they should do, you need to be certain

### CAN DO AND CAN'T DO QUESTIONS

the information you're sharing can also be found in a publication or book, or on a website - **and** - that you're sharing **all home-use options**: cultural, chemical, biological, etc.

### ACCEPTABLE RESOURCES:

Pacific Northwest Weed, Insect and Disease Management Handbooks:

\*[www.pnwhandbooks.org](http://www.pnwhandbooks.org)

\*OSU Extension publications:  
<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/>

\*Extension/university Extension websites:

<http://www.extension.org/horticulture>

\*Online materials produced by extension and/or university extension services

(Continued on page 5)

**2017 ELECTED OFFICERS**

President..... Terry Ruitter  
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 .....Peter Pernarelli

**APPOINTED COORDINATORS**

Treasurer.....John Etchells  
Green House Manager .....Peter 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.....Jeana Schorr  
Historian.....Nancy Pyle/Linda Price  
County Fair.....Vacant  
Growers Market.....Hank Smith  
K-12 Program.....Charlotte Hutt  
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 Burnsidés  
Membership.....Ruth Reel  
Master Gardener Coord.....Karen Pleasant

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Cheerfulness is contagious, but don't wait to catch it from others.

**BE A CARRIER!!!**

(Continued from page 1 President's Note)

OSU Extension Auditorium. Asphalt and parking-lot base materials will be removed. New topsoil has been donated to fill the emptied space as well as new raised beds. The space is pretty small, but will provide opportunity to demonstrate gardening in an urban setting. Josephine County Master Gardeners have been working toward establishing demonstration gardens for years. The opportunities this kind of garden provide for education the public can be huge. I hope you can join in this new effort. It's gonna be fun!!

I hope you were able to get to the Spring Garden Fair. Our annual sale is the culmination of the winter/spring greenhouse program. Peter Pernarelli, Joan Foley and Mark Schallheim had their crews of students and senior members working hard to have an amazing assortment of plants to offer the gardening public. As usual, it was a terrific weekend to shop for plants and move our gardens a major step from the new spring into summer.

Our organization activities slow down considerably with summer so we can get into our own gardens...and we have the plants to do it! Enjoy your planting, gardens and summer!

\*\*\*\*\*

**ADD TO YOUR 2017 DIRECTORY**

Please add these members who paid late to your 2017 Directory as they are not in it.

Buckingham, Chad, 9234 Lower River Rd, G.P. 97526, 541-270-2280, [gravybraintoons@gmail.com](mailto:gravybraintoons@gmail.com)

Garceau, DeNise, 140 Tiffany Way, G.P. 97526, 541-660-4049, [barnbaked@msn.com](mailto:barnbaked@msn.com)

Phenix, Patti, 1985 Kelly Way, G.P. 97527, 541-471-2128, [phenixcp1985@gmail.com](mailto:phenixcp1985@gmail.com)

Schofield, Paul, 1698 Davis Creek Rd, Selma 97538, 541-597-4337, [bodhis8@outlook.com](mailto:bodhis8@outlook.com)

Thank you, *Ruth Reel, Editor*

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(Continued from page 3 Garden Ponderings)

- \*Peer-reviewed journal articles
- \*OSU Extension brochures and handouts
- \*Other resources that contain validated, research-based content

**WHAT WE CAN'T DO**

*Master Gardeners CANNOT provide recommendations for:*

- \*Commercial growers
- \*Farmers
- \*Professional landscapers
- \*Nurseries
- \*Public facilities groundskeepers
- \*Public rights-of-way groundskeepers
- \*Marijuana growers (private or commercial)
- \*Other commercial or professional operations

They also **CANNOT:**

- \*Identify mushrooms
- \*Provide medical advice for an insect or spider bite, pesticide exposure, toxic plant ingestion or medical advice of any kind.

**WHAT WE CAN DO**

*Master Gardeners CAN:*

- \*Identify plants and their pests (with the exception of mushrooms)
- \*Identify beneficial garden organism (with the exception of mushrooms)
- \*Identify spiders, lice, bedbugs or other arthropods of importance to personal and public health
- \*Provide summary of research-based recommendations - including notes on the pros and cons associated with each approach
- \*Provide referrals to poison-control centers
- \*Provide referrals to the National Pesticide Information Center

**OSU'S MARIJUANA POLICY**

Even though marijuana is now legal in Oregon, it is still illegal under federal law. Because OSU and the OSU Extension Master Gardener Program are governed by the federal...

Controlled Substance Act  
<http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/21cfr/21usc/index.html>

Drug-Free Workplace Act  
<http://www.dol.gov/elaws/asp/drugfree/screen4.htm>

Drug Free Schools and Communities Act  
<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/security/drug-free-schools-and-communities-act>

**WE CANNOT PROVIDE ADVICE OR REFERRALS ON THE CULTURE, CARE AND/OR USE OF MARIJUANA OR HEMP.**

**COMPOST TEA**

Research suggests that **compost teas** are equivalent to composts and inorganic fertilizers as a source of plant nutrients, and in their effect on plant growth. However, we are not able to make a clear recommendation on the use of compost teas as a **disease suppressant**.

<http://horticulture.oregonstate.edu/system/files/u73/Plant%20Clinic%20Policy%20on%20Compost%20Tea.pdf>

We can, however, recommend compost teas to clients for their nutritive value.

So as you go forth in the community wearing your Master Gardener badge and ready to answer gardening questions, remember the 3 R's of Master Gardeners: We are reliable, relevant, and reachable. We are **reliable** because our gardening advice and education is science-based. We are **relevant** because unlike information found online, our advice can be customized for each unique gardening situation. We are **reachable** because people can call us on the phone, email us a question, or visit with us at markets or gardens throughout our community and Josephine County.

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(Continued from page 3 Treasurer Report)

\*\*\*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.

\*\*\*\*\*

**SOCIAL EVENT**

Our next scheduled Social Event is a no host luncheon at Schmidt's Winery on Friday, May 19th starting at noon.

You may bring your own lunch or you can purchase lunch at the winery. There are many wines available for purchase either by the glass or bottle. Please join us for some wine, lunch and camaraderie with friends.

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

**GREENHOUSE COMMENTS**

I want to thank the students and leaders for all their help and support. The greenhouses were full of plants for our Spring Garden Fair Sale. The results of our sale will be included in next month's newsletter.

Even though our greenhouse activities have come to a close, there is still work to be done. The greenhouses need to be cleaned, a new covering affixed to the big greenhouse and the shade cloths covers placed on all three structures. There are still many items (trays, pots, etc.) that need to be washed. I will send out a notice for a work party in a few weeks. Thanks again,

*Peter Pernarelli, Retiring Greenhouse Manager*

\*\*\*\*\*

**PERENNIAL MUSINGS**

Attention Trainees! I want to invite you to come and work with the perennial group on Tuesdays from 9-11 with the exception of the first Tuesday of the month when the BOD meeting is held. You can earn volunteer hours for your time spent. Please bring a pair of gloves, a pair of small scissors for trimming, and a hat and sunglasses for the times we work outside, especially as the weather warms up.

If anyone want to earn volunteer hours by committing to water one day a week, please contact me. It only takes about 1/2 hour and can be tailored to fit into your time schedule from 8am until 3pm when the gates are open.

I have also sent out a request for sturdy, one gallon pots. **NO OTHER SIZES** are needed and please do not bring anything other than one gallon pots at this time. We have an overabundance of large pots that are starting to work their way into the parking lot and this is not acceptable. Lastly, if you want to donate any large plants, please be respectful and ask permission before dropping them off. You can call me and leave a message and I will return the call. *Joan Foley, Perennial Manger 541-471-2103*

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Need a new apron? Contact Joan Foley, 541-471-2103. They are readily available and I can bring them to the office or the BOD meeting. Just let me know.

Happy Birthday to Gordon Hoefler, Angie Bifano-Sokol, Kathy Schuller, Joan Foley, Craig & Pattye Ingram, Pam Barnett, Jeana Schorr, Karren Striplin, Laurel De-Wolf, Sybil Longinotti, Drew Elam, Deborah Kaufman, Jackie Samuelson, Ruth Reel.



**FOOD PRESERVATION MINI SERIES**

Classes are \$20 each or \$70 for full series of all 4 classes. Class session dates are Saturdays: April 29, May 6, May 20, and June 3

9:00 am to 3:00 pm/Limited to first 20 participants paid.

OSU Extension Josephine County Auditorium, Grants Pass. Pre-Registration required/To Register online: <http://bit.ly/JosephineMFPMiniSeries>

This hands-on course, starting with the basics. We will cover water bath and pressure canning fruits, vegetables, meats and fish, dehydration, freezing, fermentation, and food safety.

April 29, Canning Fruits

May 6, Dehydration/Freezing/Flavored Vinegars

May 20, Yogurts/One Hour Cheese/Kombucha/Water Kefir

June 3, Tomato Safety/Pressure Canning



# May 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2 <i>9:30, MG Meeting</i>	3	4	5 <i>Cinco de Mayo</i>	6
7	8	9	10	11 <i>Trail/ Backpack De- hydration class in Kerby</i>	12	13
14 <i>Mother's Day</i>	15	16	17	18 <i>Landscaping w/Native Plants class</i>	19 <i>Social Event, <b>Schmidt's</b> Winery</i>	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline Armed Forces Day</i>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 <i>Memorial Day</i>	30	31			

## MAY CLASSES

**Landscaping with Native Plants** class on Thursday, May 18, from 6 to 8pm. Cost: \$15 per person or \$10 if Pre-Registered at least 24 hours in advance. MG up to \$10 discount available with badge & 24 hours in advance.

OSU Extension Josephine County Auditorium, Pre-Registration Required/To Register online:

[bit.ly/LandscapewNativePlants](http://bit.ly/LandscapewNativePlants)

Instructor: Tal Blankenship, Retired Horticulturist. Participants in this class will have a better understanding of how native plants reduce costs and labor for the homeowner, as well as helping conserve wildlife and natural resources. After this class, participants will have a better understanding of the value and importance of native plants in today's landscape. They will gain understanding of propagation of several native plants, as well as where to begin with their own native plant landscapes.

**Trail/Backpack Dehydration** class on Thursday, May 11, from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Cost: \$5 per person (School age Child free with Adult). Pre-registration required/24353 Redwood Hwy, Kerby, OR. To register online:

<http://bit.ly/Trail-Backpack>

Instructors: Master Food Preservers. Treats & treasures, dishes such as : Breakfast Lasagna. Get ready to enjoy your Trail/backpack adventure and you can eat healthy too!

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

Our email address is: [josephinemg@oregonstate.edu](mailto:josephinemg@oregonstate.edu)

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

THE MASTER GARDENER



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