

September, 2015



THE MASTER GARDENER™



Josephine County OSU Master Gardener™ Association Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

By John Farias, President



In August I attended OMGA Mini College for the first time. I was fortunate to be able to interact with other OMGA chapters who all have similar programs, successes and setbacks. The one common theme is that we all have the same mission to extend horticulture education to our communities. The classes were excellent, however, they were a lot shorter than we typically provide and often they left you wishing there was a part two of the topic. On the other hand you were never bored because a class went too long. The most beneficial activities were the break-out sessions and roundtables. I was involved in the leadership sessions because I wanted to see how other chapters are run and share some best practices. In many cases we are more advanced than other chapters in offering structured education. However, there are some very successful programs that are working in other chapters that we could implement such as a formal mentor training program. Fortunately everyone wants to share their programs to give us tips on installing them quickly without a lot of false starts. It was interesting that the Leadership Forum's main topic was retention. OMGA and many chapters are losing membership while we have been continuing to grow over the last decade. Retention is a major priority within OMGA and we will be part of upcoming sessions to address this topic via scheduled surveys and workshops.

A concern surfaced that some chapters are experiencing more regulations from OSU and some of these regulations will affect us over time. I believe the intent is to standardize all chapters but that can cause conflict since we are all different...different sized communities, number of members, cultures, economies and of course, local climates. Before we make snap decisions we need to understand them and work with OSU to

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PERENNIAL MUSINGS

Before you know it, the hot weather will be behind us and we will begin to ponder fall planting. Lucky you, your "Perennial People" are here to help.

The next Perennial Sale is scheduled for Saturday, September 12th from 9 am to 2 pm. Our volunteers have been busy propagating, watering and fussing over the perennials, trees and shrubs getting them ready for you and your yard. If, for some crazy reason, you can not make it to the sale feel free to drop by any Tuesday morning between 9 am and 11 am. Just look and listen for the happy and giggling Master Gardeners running around the cold frame area.

Joan and Jean, aka J/J

Special points of interest:

- 2015 Elected Officers
- 2015 Appointed Coordinators
- Calendar
- Editor Notes
- Birthdays

ITALIAN CRISP DESSERT

8 cups cubed peeled zucchini (large/seeded, 18" - 24" size) Anything smaller will end up mushy.

3/4 cup lemon juice

1/2 to 3/4 cup sugar

2 tsp. ground cinnamon

1 tsp. ground nutmeg

TOPPING:

1 1/3 cups packed brown sugar, 1 cup old-fashioned oats, 1 cup all-purpose flour, 2/3 cup cold butter or margarine

In a bowl, combine the zucchini, lemon juice, sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg; mix well. Pour into greased 13" x 9" x 2" dish. For topping, combine brown sugar, oats and flour in a bowl; cut in butter until crumbly. Sprinkle over the zucchini mixture. Bake at 375° for 45-50 minutes or until bubbly and the zucchini is tender.

YIELD: 12-15 servings.

Enjoy! *Submitted by Nancy Pyle (2015 trainee)*

P.S. There is a rumor that is going around that this recipe will be served at the September 1st MG Meeting!!

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:

reelsox@grantspass.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

By Julie Kaszuba, Treasurer

Cash and savings totals: As of 7/31/15

Checking: \$27,049

Savings: \$21,361

CD: \$3,613

Total Assets: \$52,023

Total Income: \$309. This comes from Garden Guide Sales (\$125), Dues (\$20), Perennial Plant Sales (\$164).

Total Expenses: \$1,027. This comes from Plant Clinic supplies (\$75), G.H.: Perennial Soil (\$35), Supplies (\$63), County Fair Supplies (\$325), Election Nomination letters/postage (\$159), 6/20 Perennial Ad (\$231), Donation to community garden post wire (\$88), Newsletter: Postage (\$34), Printing (\$17).

**These figures are based on reconciling checks and deposits to the 7/31/15 bank statements.

**Reminder - When shopping at the Grange Co-op & Fred Meyer Reward Programs, don't forget to have them credit your purchases to Jo.Co. MGA.



GARDEN PONDERINGS BY KAREN PLEASANT, MG COORDINATOR

I have always enjoyed unusual words and I recently discovered a new one. This month I am offering you a *sal-magundi** of Master Gardener information.

Mini College

The beautiful campus at Linfield College in McMinnville was the setting of this year's Mini College in early August. The variety of classes was exceptional, the food and fellowship outstanding, and the weather warm and sunny. If you haven't ever been to Mini College mark it on your calendar for next year. I believe it will be in early August in McMinnville same as this year. It is a real treat to meet Master Gardeners from around the state and partake in classes presented by a variety of knowledgeable people. Remember that there are scholarships to help offset the costs, so please don't let the expense stop you from going.

Horticulture Working Group

I attended the Horticulture Working Group meeting the day before Mini

College and met with other Master Gardener program staff from around Oregon. We had a lively discussion about many topics that are of concern to all Master Gardeners and program staff. I think everyone will be interested in the recommendations made by the five member Community Horticulture Advisory Panel (CHAP) regarding standards for volunteer service and guidelines for continuing education. Al Cook, the OMGA President and a Josephine County Master Gardener, was a member of the panel; the other four members were horticulture staff from various Oregon locales. A new panel with a different focus will be formed every year. Here are some of the key recommendations made by the 2015 panel (information taken from Gail Langellotto's annual report):

1. To qualify for volunteer service hours: adhere to OSU policies and procedures; be approved by OSU coordinator; be reported to OSU.
2. Volunteer service hour definitions: direct education (such as plant clinic, instructor, educational gar-

MINI COLLEGE IS VERY EDUCATIONAL

dens and greenhouses, writing articles); indirect education (such as educational event planning, mentor); support (such as plant sales, office work, MG Association). Other approved activities can fall under each category. Balance (%) requirement in these three categories still under discussion. (*More information to follow*).

3. Use less categories with the Volunteer Recordkeeping System (from 32 categories to 10 or less).
4. Continuing Education hours (CEUs): present research-based information in an objective manner; taught by qualified instructors; extend the curriculum taught during basic (Continued on page 5)

2015 ELECTED OFFICERS

President John Farias
1st Vice President Charlie Newsom
2nd Vice President John Etchells
Secretary Pat Etchells
OMGA State Rep Guy Young
OMGA Alt. State Rep Candace Bartow
Past President Peter Pernarelli

APPOINTED COORDINATORS

Treasurer Julie Kaszuba
Green House Managers Tracey Raggi/
..... Deborah Dunham
Plant Clinic Wilma Christian
SOS Garden Seminar Terry Ruitter
Communications Steve Schoen
Spring Garden Fair Charlie Newsom
Newsletter Editor Ruth Reel
Hospitality Chairman Bob Wilson
Special Projects Sybil Longinotti
Publicity Art Reel
Historian Carolyn Farias/Nancy Scheffel
County Fair Charlie Newsom
Growers Market Peter/Lori Pernarelli
K-12 Program Lilly Pattee
Mentor Committee Lori Pernarelli
Paint Your Heart Out Sybil Longinotti
Volunteer Hours Karen Pleasant
Computer Coordinator Steve Schoen
Webmaster John Farias
Perennials Jean Kitchen/Joan Foley
Young Master Gardeners Ruta Warren
Membership Ruth Reel
Master Gardener Coord Karen Pleasant

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determine what they mean to us and what options we have.

I also wanted to understand the current thinking on the Seed to Supper program and explain where we would like to take it. It is expanding throughout our state and other states have shown some interest. We have had three sessions so far this year, each consisting of 5 classes. We know at least two local gardens have been successfully planted and are being maintained. At least two more sessions have already been scheduled for this fall. Our members are reviewing our program to make improvements for the fall classes. I asked for and received approval to expand our audience and use the program's copyrighted material as long as we continued to address those in most need.

On to local business: Thanks to Anna Demeduk for organizing a very enjoyable wine tour. All participants had a wonderful time.

Thanks also to Ida Toro for once again sharing her beautiful home for the annual chili cook off. Her wonderful helpers, Lesley Orr, Charlie Newsom and Bob Wilson did a fabulous job. Not for the first time, Peter Pernarelli won first place, Mary Cotton took second place and Charlie Newsom took third. 2015 student Lynn Hon received the People's Choice award. Way to go winners!

Our plans to support the Horticultural building are in place for the Josephine County Fair. Thanks again to Charlie Newsom for the coordination of this important event. Charlie says every Master Gardener should be entering vegetables and/or flowers to show off their gardening skills. Also, this is a fun way to get volunteer hours and enjoy the Fair.

The fall Perennial Sale is September 12 at the Extension Center. Jean and Joan report we have a nice selection of plants available.

Finally, every year we have to beg individuals to run for office. This year is no different. Unfortunately we still do not have anyone running for President or First Vice President. I cannot stress enough the importance of having the positions filled for next year. If you volunteer to run for one of these positions you will not be on your own. You will have all the support you need from the board members of the last three years. I have asked the Nominating Committee to delay the ballot with the hope someone will step up.

Last but not least, make sure you are up to date on your reporting hours. For students, you will need 70 hours to acquire your Master Gardener's badge which includes 25 hours of Plant Clinic.

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Opportunities to volunteer typically wind down in the fall so work with your mentor to get those hours in!! As veteran MG seniors you must have your hours in before October 31, for re-certification.

See you at the next MG meeting, September 1st!

(Continued from page 3 Garden Ponderings)

training. Share news and information about opportunities that qualify for CEUs; develop webinar series and annual online assessment that MGs can use to see what areas they need to focus on.

5. Recognize Recertified Master Gardeners with a badge add-on (pin, sticker, swinger, etc.)

Evening & Saturday Community Classes

Planning is underway for the 2016 line-up of classes. If you are hankering to teach something please let me know right away. The plan is to offer about two classes a month, except during August and December when there will be only one class each month due to the county fair and holidays respectively. These classes are coordinated with the ones offered at Seeds of Spring to allow as much variety and as little overlap as possible.

Oregon IPM Website Project

A website is under development through Oregon State to bring together key OSU resources in an easy-to-use format and make it easier for Master Gardener volunteers, public land managers, and the public to find and understand research-based information about sustainable gardening and Integrated Pest Management. The goal is for the website to be usable on mobile devices and computers and it will highlight cultural and physical management strategies and also include a lay-friendly pesticide risk communication tool. If you would like to check out the website (still under development) go to <http://tinyurl.com/Oregon-IPM> where you can look at an interactive mock-up, take a survey and give your feedback about the website, and learn more about the background of the project. This will be an incredible resource once it is up and running. The anticipated project completion timeframe is April 2017.

That's all for now folks! As always, my door is open to you. Please come to me with your ideas, concerns, kudos, and needs. Let's work together to make the Josephine County Master Gardener program the best that it can be. You are each a critical component in that goal. You do make a difference!

*Salmagundi [sal-muh-guhn-dee] is a noun of French

origin meaning any mixture or miscellany. Master Gardeners would also probably enjoy the other definition of salmagundi: a mixed dish consisting usually of cubed poultry or fish, chopped meat, anchovies, eggs, onions, oil, etc., often served as a salad.

THE GROWERS' MARKET

After eight years of summer Saturday's, September 26th will be the last day for Peter and I at the Growers' Market. We have enjoyed the challenges that many customers bring us and we sometimes are able to help them with their problems. Oftentimes however, we must refer their questions to the Plant Clinic for research into finding solutions.

We are always amazed at the number of youngsters that are drawn to the table just to admire the rock paperweights that we gathered from the train tracks one very windy day a few years ago. Typically we are able to strike up a conversation with their parents, inquiring about their gardens and offering advice on techniques to improve their yields.

This year, one of the biggest concerns appears to be related to the many native trees that are showing signs of drought stress. Many customers tell us that they have been giving these natives supplemental water, hoping they will recover. We comment that by the time the trees start looking that bad, they have already been attacked by beetles and are frequently beyond saving no matter how much water they are given. The other concern stems from the extreme heat that we have been experiencing. So many people have commented that their tomatoes and zucchini are not producing fruit.

We have enjoyed meeting and working with all the students over the years and we will miss that interaction. We especially want to express our thanks to Phil and Marguerite Damewood, Mike and Judy Anzalone, Dan and Pam Zaklan, John and Pat Etchells and Hank Smith for the relief they provided so we could attend to family issues. Peter did mention at the last board meeting that he would be willing to work at the market during the month of June next year. I guess that means I'll be there, as well.

Lori Pernarelli

September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:30, MG Meeting 6-8, Backyard Aquaponics Class	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12 9-2, Perennial Sale
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 6:30-8:30, Home Orchards Class Fall Begins	24	25	26
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	27	28	29 6-8, Seed Saving Techniques Class			

YOUNG MASTER GARDENERS

"If you have a garden and a library you have everything you need" - Cicero

The Young Master Gardeners program strives to instill both a love of reading and a love of gardening into the children of Josephine County by offering interesting, hands-on opportunities to learn about water, soil, climate, pollinators, insects, composting and just about anything else related to the natural world as it pertains to sustainable gardening.

Every month, from September to May, we hold 3 sessions in the Grants Pass Library where the children are read to and offered the opportunity to propagate from plant divisions, cuttings and seeds. They take home what they have planted and nurture it, often until it matures. They earn new books by bringing in either the actual plant they have taken care of, or a picture, along with a report about the specifics of how they took care of their plant. There are also hands-on demonstrations and activities, art projects, exciting things to look at under the microscope, and sometimes an u-tube or two to offer even more insight on the topic that month.

This program is the brain-child of Ruta Warren, who sadly (for us, anyway) relocated to the cooler clime of Northern Oregon. It won the prestigious Search for Excellence award last year. Ruta left some mighty big shoes to fill, and it's taking several of us to do it! Barry Burnside (class of 2015) has agreed to take on the classroom curriculum planning and delivery for the home-schoolers and after-schoolers in Grants Pass. Cally Baker (class of 2014) will continue to lead the Very Young Master Gardeners in Grants Pass. Kimberlie Lehman (class of 2013) is at the helm for the Illinois Valley, and me, Megan Beasley (class of 2014), I'm coordinating the financial, logistical and the dozens of other "behind the scenes" activities that Ruta did so seamlessly for so long. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer...shoot any one of us an e-mail or give us a call.

In Grants Pass, the Very Young Master Gardeners (ages 2 to 5) meet from 11:15 to 12:00, the home-schoolers (ages 6 to 10) meet from 1:15 to 2:00, and the after-schoolers (ages 6 to 10) meet from 3:30 to 4:15, on the second Wednesdays of the month. Illinois Valley meet on the 1st Monday of the month from 2:30 to 3:30. We can always use help, whether it's for just one session or all 3, so feel free to come down and check us out. You

are guaranteed to have a good time.

We are also always looking for: Used or new books pertaining to the natural world (fiction is fine!) geared for kids ages 2 to 12, small plastic planting pots for the kids to plant their seedlings, etc., plastic bags (grocery and produce), egg cartons, empty two liter bottles, clam shells (like berries and greens come in at the grocery store), seed packets, any surplus plants that the kids can divide and plant (needs to be enough for at least 40 kids). We'll send out e-mail blasts from time to time when we need specific items, so please let me know if you want to be included on those e-mail blasts: megancatdancer@hotmail.com.

We're looking forward to another fun and informative year!

Top 10 Signs You have Gone Over the Garden Edge

10. Your favorite poem is "Roses are Red, Violets are Blue".
9. Your kids are named Rose, Violet, Daisy and Zucchini.
8. You have 8 X 10 family pictures of your Tomatoes and Peppers on your office shelf.
7. Your idea of Saturday Date Night is going out in the garden and hand pollinating the plants.
6. You think a cocktail is liquid fertilizer.
5. You rush home from work and go straight to the garden and hug your roses. (Ouch!) Then you go in to your house and see your family.
4. On Christmas Eve, visions of "Sugar Peas" dance in your head.
3. After the first frost, you are seen holding funeral services in your garden.
2. You take your kids multiple vitamins from them to use as a supplement to your plants fertilizer.

And, the number one sign that you have gone over the garden edge is...

1. Every Spring your family files a "Missing Person's" report. You remain missing all summer, and mysteriously re-appear in the fall.

From <http://www.gardenersnet.com/fun/topone.htm>

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Phil Damewood (6), Jim Porter/Sue Betz (10), Susan Morrison (12), Phylis McIntosh (15), Katy Dalke(17), Lilly Radbourne (19), Trish Hepburn (22), Carolyn Farias (23), Dick Strycker (24), Cindy Gilliland (27), Joan Seward/Judy Epperly (29).

SEPTEMBER CLASSES

All classes are held at the OSU Extension Auditorium at 215 Ringuette St., G.P. To register, call the Josephine County Extension Office, 541-476-6613. Pre-registration is required for all classes.

Backyard Aquaponics class will be held on Tuesday, September 1st from 6 to 8 pm. Instructor is Daric Stuckenberg, Master Gardener. Come learn about aquaponics, which is essentially a combination of aquaculture and hydroponics. Aquaponics is all about growing fish and vegetables in an attractive, productive integrated system right in your own backyard. Cost: \$5/MG free with Badge.

Home Orchards class will be held on Wednesday, September 23rd from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Instructor is Phil Damewood, Master Gardener. Learn about caring for the home orchard. Start with buying the bare-root tree, then winter and summer maintenance, and finally the harvest. Cost: \$5/MG free with Badge.

Seed Saving Techniques class will be held on Tuesday, September 29th from 6 to 8 pm. Instructor is Tal Blankenship, retired Extension Agent/Horticulturist. Upon completion of this class students will learn the importance of saving seed from their gardens. They will take home the techniques for proper collecting, drying and storing vegetable seed. A demonstration and list of common inexpensive seed saving tools will be given to the students. Cost: \$5/MG free with Badge.

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

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

THE MASTER GARDENER



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